

The Manifold Grace of God

by Sherry Jones

The prophets of old foretold the grace that should come to us. In the New Testament, the scripture says that grace came by Jesus Christ. Grace is a free gift to us, but there was a price that was paid and Jesus paid it. God is the God of all grace. Rev Tony Cooke said, “When we were at our very worst, He gave us His very best. That’s grace.” Grace is not an insignificant subject with God. Peter talked about the manifold grace of God which refers to God’s grace being diverse and having various dimensions of expression. Just like a diamond has many facets and each facet contributes to the whole, the grace of God is the essence of who He is and what He does. Here are several facets of the grace of God.

- 1) The Word of His grace – Acts 20:32 says “And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up, and give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.” God’s Word is what makes our life different. If we are deficient in any area, it is a *word* deficiency. Kenneth E. Hagin said, “The answer to every adversity of life can be found in the pages of God’s holy, written Word.” The blessings of God are found in His Word.
- 2) The Spirit of Grace – Hebrews 10:29 says, “And have done despite to the Spirit of grace.” God wants us to know the Holy Spirit in a personal way. Knowing about the Holy Spirit and *personally* knowing Him are two very different things. Pastor B.B. Hankins said, “The Holy Spirit is a genius, and if you listen to Him, He’ll make you smart. If you don’t, you’ll be normal.” The Holy Spirit wants to teach us so that we can move from being a novice to being an expert in spiritual things. The Holy Spirit wants to show us things to come. He wants to give us glimpses of our future. The Holy Spirit wants to put Christ on display because He is in the revelation business. Our relationship with the Holy Spirit is essential.
- 3) The Gospel of the Grace of God - In Acts 20:24, Paul says, “But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have receive of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.” Gospel means *good news*. There is no bad news in the Gospel, and as a result, joy is always connected with the Gospel. The apostle Paul had a revelation of the Gospel and he was the happiest man around. It didn’t matter what circumstances he encountered. He would announce, “I think myself happy,” or declare to others “Be of good cheer,” or “Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice.”

The apostle Paul had a revelation of the manifold grace of God because he declared in 1 Corinthians 15:10, “But by the grace of God, I am what I am.” Paul knew about the Word of His grace, the Spirit of grace, and the Gospel of grace. The grace of God radically changed his life and transformed him into a fervent follower and disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ. Just as the grace of God transformed Paul’s life, it will do the same for every one of us.