Doc: Grace, Part 22. The Divine Purpose For Suffering While In Super Grace.

07/23/97 Heb. 12:1-3; Rom 8:16-18; 2Ti 2:1-5; 4:7-8; 1Co 9:24-27

Summary

Living a LIFE of Freedom Through Jesus Christ!

The discussion centers on the doctrine of grace, specifically "super grace" or "greater grace," which is given to believers who make positive post-salvation decisions. Super grace is characterized by a deep relationship with Jesus Christ, freedom, appreciation of life, and the capacity to handle prosperity. McLaughlin emphasizes the importance of enduring personal afflictions, people testing, mental attitude testing, system testing, and disaster testing as part of the divine plan. Key scriptures include Hebrews 12:1, James 4:6, and 2 Timothy 2:12, highlighting the need for humility and perseverance to achieve super grace and receive eternal rewards.

• Silent Prayer and Introduction to the Study <u>0:11</u>

- McLaughlin initiates a moment of silent prayer, emphasizing the importance of examining one's life and preparing for fellowship with God through the study of His Word.
- o The prayer is directed to God, asking for guidance and direction in the study of the Word of God, specifically focusing on the doctrine of grace.
- o McLaughlin expresses gratitude for the gathering and prays for the Holy Spirit's guidance in understanding the principles of grace.
- The session begins with the seventh point in the doctrine of grace, focusing on "super grace" or "greater grace."

• Understanding Super Grace 2:56

- McLaughlin explains that super grace is given to believers who make positive volitional decisions concerning post-salvation grace.
- The Greek word "Maison" is introduced, meaning greater than what the person normally has.
- O Super grace is identified in James 4:6, which states that God gives greater grace to the humble.
- The ultimate goal of the Christian life is to reach super grace, characterized by occupation with Jesus Christ, freedom, appreciation of life, love, and handling prosperity.

• Prerequisites for Super Grace 4:51

- o McLaughlin emphasizes that reaching super grace requires accepting a biblical principle, starting with Hebrews 12:1.
- o The "cloud of witnesses" refers to visible heroes of the Old Testament, urging believers to lay aside every encumbrance and sin that easily entangles.
- Running with endurance the race set before us is essential for achieving super grace.

o Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, is crucial for concentrating on His humanity and enduring the cross.

• Enduring Hostility and Suffering 8:40

- McLaughlin discusses the hostility Jesus faced by sinners and how believers should consider Him to avoid growing weary and losing heart.
- Living the spiritual life involves facing obstacles, distractions, persecutions, trials, and difficulties.
- o McLaughlin explains that only those who suffer with Christ will reign with Him, citing 2 Timothy 2:12.
- o The early church was encouraged to continue with doctrine and endure many tribulations to enter the kingdom of God.

• The Role of the Holy Spirit and Suffering 15:11

- o McLaughlin highlights the role of the Holy Spirit in confirming believers as children of God and fellow heirs with Christ.
- o Suffering with Christ is a precondition for receiving escrow blessings in eternity.
- o The race set before believers ends when they die physically, and they should run with endurance to glorify God.
- Escrow blessings are designed for believers to glorify God in this life, which is a precondition for receiving blessings in eternity.

• Qualities of a Super Grace Believer 20:20

- McLaughlin outlines the qualities of a super grace believer, including a desire for truth, personal love for God, inner strength of character, remarkable stability, perseverance, motivation, and happiness.
- These qualities are essential for receiving escrow blessings in this life and in eternity.
- McLaughlin emphasizes the importance of sticking with doctrine and learning the rules to play by.
- The believer who is under super grace has learned to play by the rules and do things the right way.

• The Importance of Humility 40:32

- o McLaughlin stresses the importance of humility in achieving super grace, as it involves passing five tests related to spiritual self-esteem.
- The first test is accepting personal afflictions, diseases, disorders, and sicknesses as permitted by God.
- The second test is dealing with people problems, recognizing that God has permitted certain individuals to be in one's life.
- The third test is managing mental attitude testing, maintaining a positive outlook despite life's challenges.

• System and Disaster Testing 46:26

- o The fourth test is system testing, where believers face unfair treatment in systems like marriage, family, business, or church.
- o The fifth test is disaster testing, which includes national, economic, financial, or war disasters.
- McLaughlin explains that these tests are part of the divine plan and should be viewed as opportunities for spiritual growth.
- o Believers must learn to handle these tests with humility and trust in God's plan.

• Conclusion and Final Thoughts 1:00:29

- o McLaughlin concludes by emphasizing that Jesus Christ controls history and allows certain events to happen for a divine purpose.
- o Believers should trust in God's plan and not complain about the challenges they face.
- The session ends with a prayer, asking for the Holy Spirit's guidance and challenging believers to grow in grace and knowledge.
- o McLaughlin reiterates the importance of enduring with humility and trusting in God's plan for their lives.