

## The Super Grace Life: Total Dependence Upon God

5 Categories of Spiritual Testing:

- (1) Personal afflictions.
- (2) People Testing.
- (3) Mental Attitude Testing.
- (4) System Testing.
- (5) Disaster Testing.

Luke 22:53 While I was with you daily in the temple, you did not lay hands on Me; but this hour and the power of darkness are yours.”

If God would permit the kingdom of darkness to attack His perfect Son [TLJC], then it follows a-fortiori that God will permit the kingdom of darkness to attack us.

As a part of our spiritual growth, God has permitted personal afflictions, people testing, mental attitude testing, system testing, and disaster testing.

John 19:10 So Pilate \*said to Him, “You do not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You, and I have authority to crucify You?” 11 Jesus answered, “You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above;

When you don’t allow the pressures of life to get to you, it’s in that very exertion of that evil power against you, which become the seeds that will make you strong in the Super Grace Life.

2 Corinthians 12:9 And He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.” Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

2 Corinthians 12:10 Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ’s sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

A believer who passes the tests, is able to become a recipient of the Super Grace Life, in 2 Corinthians 12:9-10, because that’s when grace is manifested.

Unless you understand how to be strong in Super Grace, you'll never be able to live the spiritual life.

Under grace, our attitude toward God should be complete 100% dependence upon Him. Therefore, the teachings of grace must include that which will perfect and promote this dependence on God.

Hebrews 2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings.

Hebrews 5:8 Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered.

Suffering is God's method under grace for perfecting and purifying our faith and our dependence on Him.

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

1 Peter 1:4 to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

1 Peter 1:5 who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time

1 Peter 1:6 In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials,

1 Peter 1:7 so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

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Luke 22:31 “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded permission to sift you like wheat;

Luke 22:32 but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.”

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Luke 22:33 But he said to Him, “Lord, with You I am ready to go both to prison and to death!”

Luke 22:34 And He said, “I say to you, Peter, the rooster will not crow today until you have denied three times that you know Me.”

Luke 22:32 but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.”

Mark 14:29 But Peter said to Him, “Even though all may fall away, yet I will not.”

Peter's failure was not the fact that he didn't have enough faith, his failure was the fact that he was depending upon himself and not God.

Through his failure, Peter learned that his own weakness and his own inability was the fact that he could not carry out his own determination.

Out of this experience, Peter emerged with a deeper sense of need for the Lord and His grace, and having greater faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark 14:29 But Peter said to Him, “Even though all may fall away, yet I will not.”  
These were not words of faith, but words filled with self-confidence.

Words of self-confidence are not words of faith.

Through his failure, Peter learned his own weakness and his own inability to carry out his own determination.

Out of this experience, though painful and disgraceful, Peter emerged with a deeper sense of need for the Lord and His grace, having greater faith in Him than ever before.

By Peter’s faith being proven, confidence in self was burnt out, and his faith in the TLJC included dependence upon the TLJC for His grace and His strength. In permitting suffering to come upon us, God is trying to show us that we can't do it in our own power.

When we go through personal afflictions, people testing, mental attitude testing, system testing or disaster testing, God wants us to fail, because He wants us to recognize that we are weak and we need Him.

The Super Grace Life is about God putting you in a position where you realize how hopeless and helpless you are without His grace.

God permitted Peter to fail because Peter had too much confidence in himself, and God will permit us to fail because we have too much confidence in ourselves.

Grace means total dependence upon God.

Failure of the flesh “may be” God's means to bring about a greater dependence upon Him that develops into an enriched spiritual life.

The proof of your faith is not a testing as to whether or not there is faith, but it is a purifying of faith, a removal of all the impurities of dependence upon the self-life.

As in the heat of the fire, the dross is separated from the pure gold, so when we go through trials and sufferings, which challenge us, all our confidence with self is burnt away, and the only thing that remains is dependence upon God.

If you go through a great trial in your life and you do not come out with a deepened realization of your dependence on God, then you've lost something of greater value than what you lost when you went through that trial.

The purpose of a trial and suffering is so that the purified dependence upon God and His grace might be found unto praise, honor and glory at the appearing of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Why does God attach so much importance to the proof of our faith?

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

Satan was perfect in all of his ways, until iniquity was found in his heart, Ezekiel 28:12-15.

Satan's iniquity consisted of the 5 "I wills", culminating in the "I will be like the Most High", in Isaiah 14:13-14.

Satan's "I wills" was a willful refusal to remain dependent upon God for all things.

Satan is the one who originated independence from God, however he failed and 1-3<sup>rd</sup> of the angels followed him in his failure.

Later on, man was created in the perfect image of God and was given dominion over the entire Earth, until the serpent came on the scene and when man fell, he became independent from God and handed over his authority to Satan.

2 Thessalonians 2:4 who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God.

Hebrews 10:7 "Then I said, 'Behold, I have come (In the scroll of the book it is written of Me) To do Your will, O God.'"

1 John 3:8 the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.

