

Ephesians 1:2 Summary Review

“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.” (NASB)

“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.” (NKJV)

“χάρις ύμῖν καὶ εἰρήνη ἀπὸ θεοῦ πατρὸς ἡμῶν
“Grace to you and peace from God Father of us

καὶ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ.” (NA21)
and from Lord Jesus Christ.” (KMT)

Expanded translation:

“A mentality of favor toward another which is not deserved or earned and which takes responsibility for the other’s needs by providing what is necessary for them at one’s own expense and apart from any obligation or expectation placed upon the recipient, based on response, to you all and, logically related, inner tranquility of the soul as a result of mental stability derived from confidence in truth, based on response, from the source of God, the Father of us and, logically related, Lord, an Initiator, Jesus, an Initiator, Christ, based on initiation.”

Principles:

1. Grace is a mental attitude held by an individual towards another or others.
2. It is derived from an individual's characteristic of unconditional love.
3. Grace is an attitude that applies favor towards another.
4. This favor is not the result of appreciation, merit, reward, or payment for another's behavior, character, or affinity.
5. Grace takes personal responsibility for the needs of another.
6. It provides what is necessary for another's needs at the expense of one's own personal resources.
7. The resources which are supplied (grace provision) are designed to provide for the needs of the individual being shown unmerited favor.
8. The individual may choose to use or not use the grace provision which has been provided for his needs.
9. Furthermore, the individual may choose to abuse the grace provision provided to him once it is in his possession.
10. This is because grace does not place any obligation or expectation on the individual being favored for whose needs responsibility has been taken.
11. The grace provision is freely offered to those in need by one who has favor toward them.
12. God the Father graced the world with His only begotten Son, Jesus of Nazareth, whose role was to be the substitutionary sacrifice necessary to pay the debt for the sins of man.
13. Because of God's favor towards man as a result of His unconditional love for the world, He sent His Son.
14. His grace provision was the substitutionary death and righteous resurrection of His Son on behalf of man's sins.

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15. Man neither earned this, nor deserved it; it was freely given by means of God's grace (cf. Rom. 5:15-21).
16. God also provided grace provision for the believer to live the spiritual life.
17. The indwelling, sealing, teaching, convicting, exhorting, and intercessory ministries of the Holy Spirit for the believer provide a spiritual guide under whose control the believer is able to fulfill the spiritual life.
18. The human spirit generated in the believer simultaneously to his personal faith in Christ (cf. 1 John 5:1; participle grammar demands simultaneous spiritual birth to personal belief) allows the believer to communicate, to metabolize, and to understand spiritual truth.
19. The word of God revealed by the prophets and apostles under the Holy Spirit's control (cf. 2 Pet. 1:20-21) provides the mind of Christ (cf. 1 Cor. 2:16) for the believer's mental renovation and belief reconstruction (cf. Rom. 12:1-2; Rom. 6:17-18; 1 Thess. 2:13).
20. Each of these three grace provisions have their own role within the believer's spiritual life and the believer must rely upon each to accomplish God's spiritual plan for his role in the body of Christ as an ambassador on earth.
21. God also provided grace provision for eternity through His Son including a home in God's kingdom, a position of service for eternity, and an imperishable inheritance.
22. None of these things, nor any of the other grace provisions for salvation or living spiritually were given to man or the believer because of anything that man had done.
23. They were given by God's attitude of favor by which He took upon Himself the responsibility to supply what man and the believer need in order to fulfill the design for which humanity was created.
24. Peace is the result of resting confidently upon truth.
25. Reliance upon truth allows an individual to have inner tranquility within their soul despite the aggravation, turmoil, and devastation occurring externally in his circumstances or the world.
26. Spiritual truth transcends physical circumstances.
27. Consequently, as man relies upon spiritual truths he is able to have peace within his soul despite whatever is happening around him.
28. The soul of man is his unique essence that is comprised of:
 - a. Volition-the ability to make personal decisions
 - b. Mentality-the mental attitude of the mind
 - c. Emotion-the appreciators of circumstances
 - d. Conscience-the witness of the morality of personal action
 - e. World View-the frame of reference through which the world is evaluated personally
29. When there is uncertainty about reality or truth within the soul of man then he lacks the necessary mental stability to have inner tranquility of his being.
30. This uncertainty can only truly be corrected by refreshing the thought process with recalled truth or learning of truth that is then purposely relied upon by the individual.
31. Thus, a lack of peace is a lack of reliance upon truth.
32. This is due either to ignorance of truth or unwillingness to trust truth over the perceived danger or undesired circumstance.
33. Both grace and peace have God as their source.

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34. This is because grace comes from unconditional love, one of the seven attributes of God (cf. 1 John 4:19).
35. Likewise, this is because peace is derived from reliance upon truth and truth comes from God (cf. James 1:17; Psalm 119:60; John 17:17; John 16:13).
36. The Lord Jesus Christ is also a source of grace and peace.
37. It is the Lord Jesus Christ who provided what man needed by offering Himself as the propitiation for sin.
38. It is by provision of Himself that sinful man can choose to have his liability for sin removed from him forever.
39. Thus, both God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ are sources of grace and peace for mankind.
40. What God and the Lord Jesus Christ have provided to mankind must be relied upon personally (faith).
41. As man relies upon God's grace for salvation he is born spiritually from above into the grace provision necessary for living the spiritual life and with the promise of the necessary grace provision for living eternally after the end of the age of human history.

Conclusion:

Paul's statement to the Ephesian believers expresses his personal desire that God's grace and peace be a part of their lives. He identifies there are two sources from which grace and peace come, the believer's Heavenly Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Whether the Ephesian believers experience the reality of God's grace and peace will require their reliance upon God's provision and truth for living spiritually as His children.