

PRIVILEGED *"God's Favor Is for Everyone"* October 21, 2018

*We are the privileged ones. We are privileged because of God's grace.
God's grace is His favor & God's favor is for everyone!*

1 Peter 4:16b ...Praise God for the privilege (to be deemed worthy) of being called by His name!

Romans 5:1 Since we've been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. **2** Because of *our faith*; Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand...

Privilege defined: special rights, advantages, freedom & liberties

Romans 5:2 AMP Through Him also we have our access (entrance, introduction) by faith into this grace, state of God's favor, in which we firmly & safely stand...

I believe, that because of God's favor & grace in your life:
You were born at the right time. You're in the right place. You're exactly the right age. You're the right race. You're the right gender. You have the right experiences to do exactly what God has planned for you to do.

God's grace is God's empowerment in you to live in His glory!

Romans 1:5 Through Christ, God has given us the privilege & authority as apostles to tell Gentiles everywhere what God has done for them, so that they'll believe & obey Him, bringing glory to His name.

Grace is that part of God that brings us, who are out of favor with God, into His favor!!

We are who we are, we accomplish what we do, & we reach our full potential because of & only by His grace!

Acts 11:18b They said, “We can see that God has also given the Gentiles the privilege of repenting of their sins & receiving eternal life.”

**Grace – God’s undeserved, unmerited, unearned favor; His goodness toward us; His love, His acceptance, & His kindness*

***Grace is the power given to us to become mature sons & daughters in God’s family.*

God’s grace is not something He has, it’s who He is. Grace flows out of the goodness of God. This is what God is like. Grace is His nature. Grace is His attribute. It’s a characteristic of who He is.

Ephesians 3:7 By God’s grace (undeserved favor) & mighty power, I’ve been given the privilege of serving Him by spreading this Good News. 8 Though I’m the least deserving of all God’s people, He graciously gave me the privilege (grace, favor) of telling the Gentiles about the endless treasures available to them in Christ. (in Jesus)

Many of us think that our continued acceptance with God is based on us doing everything perfectly.

We try to live this Christian life on our own strength & struggle with our flesh & we fail. We NEED Jesus. We need His grace.

Romans 5:17b AMP much more surely will those who receive [God's] overflowing grace (unmerited favor) and the free gift of righteousness [putting them into right standing with Himself] reign as kings in life through the one-Man Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

Many of us see God as angry, judgmental, & disappointed in us. We don't see God as a loving Father & Helper, but more of a faultfinder.

Grace Based Living is daily walking in His favor. More & more strength, more wisdom & joy. Old areas of fear, guilt, shame, & condemnation dropping away. That's Grace Based Living!

Romans 5:20 God's law was given so that all people could see how sinful they were. But as people sinned more & more, God's wonderful grace became more abundant. (NKJV where sin abounded, grace abounded much more) 21 So just as sin ruled over all people & brought them to death, now God's wonderful grace rules instead, giving us right standing with God & resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ.

No matter how much sin you've done, how bad you are, God's overflow of grace/favor reaches to you.

Acts 20:24 My life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God. (Gospel of Grace)...**32** I entrust you to God & the message of His grace that is able to build you up & give you an inheritance with all those He has set apart for Himself.

His grace & favor isn't just for initiating you into the Kingdom of God, but also for your continued living in the Kingdom.

Romans 8:38 I'm convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. 39 No power in the sky above or in the earth below; indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The question that the “gospel of grace” asks is: “Who can separate you from the love of God?” So, therefore, “what are you afraid of?”

Are you afraid that your weaknesses & inadequacies could separate you from the love of Christ? They can’t.

Are you afraid that your spiritual emptiness can separate you from the love of Christ? It can’t.

Difficult marriage, anxiety over children’s future, loneliness? They can’t.

Negative self-image, financial hardship, racial hatred? They can’t.

Rejection by loved ones or suffering of loved ones? Nope, they can’t.

Crime, persecution by authorities, going to jail. They can’t.

Nuclear war? It can’t. Mistakes, fears, uncertainties? They can’t.

The “Gospel of Grace” cries out, in a loud voice, “nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed (is visible) in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

2 Corinthians 4:15 All of this is for your benefit. As God’s grace reaches more & more people, there’ll be great thanksgiving, God will receive more & more glory.

God’s love; acceptance; His grace; His favor; His salvation is a free gift.

You must know that:

- 1. Eternity is real, & spending it with God is an option*
- 2. Salvation comes through Jesus only*
- 3. You need to repent of your sins*
- 4. You must confess faith in Jesus as Savior & Lord*