

The Grace of Christ to You

Romans 16:20b, 24

“The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you” is repeated twice in the closing of the book of Romans. Important principles in Scripture are found through repetition of words. The grace of Jesus Christ is the most valuable gift any of us have ever received.

I. What is the grace of Jesus Christ?

The word “grace” appears nearly 300 times in its various forms in the Bible. Grace is defined as *“undeserved favor from a superior to an inferior”* (Holman Dictionary). Though this definition is good, it sometimes misses the depth of God’s favor in that He is favorable to the antagonistic, *“while we were yet sinners, Christ died”* (Rom. 5:8).

It is one thing to be favored by a man of influence, but what a wonderful thing to be favored by the God of Creation. This statement is another internal evidence from the Bible regarding the divinity of Jesus Christ. Twenty-five times Paul uses the term, *“the grace of God”* or *“the grace of Christ”* and they are synonymous (II Thess. 1:12).

II. Why do I need the grace of Jesus Christ?

Let’s look at the grace of Jesus Christ in a very pragmatic way. You need His favor:

(A). Future grace which is called saving grace . . .

“For by grace are you saved through faith” (Eph. 2:8). There is coming a day when everyone will stand before God and be judged according to His law. One group will be excluded from this judgment to come --- those with saving grace.

“Through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved” (Acts 15:11).

(B). Daily grace which is called sufficient grace. . .

“My grace is sufficient . . . for my power is made perfect in weakness” (II Cor. 12:9).

Whenever you feel weak and not ready for a task, remember that the God who has favored you has given you a promise --- the weaker you are the more powerful He is.

(C). Hidden grace which is called sovereign grace . . .

“But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, will perfect, establish, strengthen and settle you” (I Peter 5:10). Every moment of your life is purposeful and is leading you to a point God intends --- usually the building of character.

This grace of God is like the grace of King David to the cripple Mephibosheth. The King provided for him, protected him and promised him an inheritance.

III. How do I get the grace of Jesus Christ?

“God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble” (James 4:6). There is an undeniable truth that grace or favor is given to those who are sensible of their deficiencies, quick to voice their faults, and confess their dependence on God. My prayer for you this morning is that you might experience His grace in your life. The broken hearted have nothing to fear from God. Come to Christ for His favor.