



GRACE & FAITH PART II

We have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

(Ephesians 2:8-10 NKJV)

Saved by the work of God's Grace – Not Ours

Grace Operates through Faith

God is preparing each of us for a work and is preparing that work for each of us

For us to walk in THE work that God is preparing for us, we must understand that Grace working through Faith is key.

In regards to this new birth:

Grace is: the Power of God, worked in us by the Spirit of God, unto Salvation, a New Birth and a New Creature.

In regards to our Christian experience
after salvation:

Grace is: the Power of God,
given to us by the Spirit of God,
to do the Will of God.

- This morning in Part II we will look at:
 - *What is Faith?*
 - What is the difference between a dead Faith and a living Faith
 - *How do we obtain Faith?*
 - *How do Faith and Grace work with each other?*

What is Faith?

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.
(Hebrews 11:1, 6 NKJV)

By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

(Hebrews 11:7 NKJV)

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

(Hebrews 11:8 NKJV)

By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised.

(Hebrews 11:11 NKJV)

By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days.

(Hebrews 11:30 NKJV)

Dead Faith vs. Living Faith

Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? ... For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

(James 2:17-20, 26 NKJV)

“...for without me ye can do nothing; nothing that is spiritually good; no, not anything at all, be it little or great, easy or difficult to be performed; cannot think a good thought, speak a good word, or do a good action; can neither begin one, nor, when it is begun, perfect it. Nothing is to be done "without Christ"; without his Spirit, grace, strength, and presence; or as "separate from" him.”

(John Gill, Exposition of the Entire Bible John 15:5)

Know you not, that to whom you yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants you are to whom you obey; whether of sin to death, or of obedience to righteousness?

But God be thanked, that you were the servants of sin, but you have ***obeyed from the heart*** that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

(Romans 6:16-17 AKJV)

To obey from our hearts means:

To desire from our inmost being to follow and live according to God's Word even when we do not see how we can do so.

When we do this, stepping out in obedience, then God's Grace enables us to continue obeying as we continue to choose to obey.

A Living Faith is:

Believing God enough to obey Him from
our hearts.

How do we obtain Faith?

For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them...

(Romans 12:3, 6a NKJV)

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

(Romans 10:17 AKJV)

And Jesus answered him,

The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel;

The Lord our God is one Lord: And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength: this is the first commandment.

(Mark 12:29-30 AKJV)

"He that has ears to hear, ***let him hear.***"

(Matthew 11:15; 13:9, 13:43, Mark 4:9, 4:23, 7:16)

"He that has an ear, ***let him hear what the Spirit says*** to the churches;"

(Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29, 3:6, 13, 22)

" Incline your ear, and come to me: ***hear,
and your soul shall live;***"

(Isaiah 55:3a AKJV)

"And your ***ears shall hear a word*** behind you, saying, This is the way, walk you in it, when you turn to the right hand, and when you turn to the left."

(Isaiah 30:21 AKJV)

“But ***the Comforter***, which is the ***Holy Ghost***, whom the Father will send in my name, ***he shall teach you*** all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatever I have said to you.

(John 14:26 AKJV)

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, ***If you continue in my word***, then are you my disciples indeed; And you ***shall know the truth***, and ***the truth shall make you free.***

(John 8:31-32 AKJV)

"It is the Spirit that makes alive, the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit and are life. "

(John 6:63 MKJV)

How do Faith & Grace work
with each other?

YIELD

1. To give up the contest; to submit.
2. To comply with;
3. To give way; not to oppose.

Likewise reckon you also yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield you your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin: but yield yourselves to God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

(Romans 6:11-13 AKJV)

For *sin shall not have dominion over you*: for you are not under the law, but *under grace*.

Know you not, that *to whom you yield yourselves* servants to obey, his servants you are to whom you obey; whether of sin to death, or of obedience to righteousness?

(Romans 6:14, 16 AKJV)

But God be thanked, that you were the servants of sin, but you have *obeyed from the heart* that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then *made free from sin*, you became the servants of righteousness. I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity (weakness) of your flesh: for as *you have yielded* your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity to iniquity; even so *now yield your members servants to righteousness* to holiness.

(Romans 6:17-19 AKJV)

But *He gives more grace.*

Therefore He says: “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”

Therefore *submit to God.*

Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

(James 4:6-8a NKJV)

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have *access by faith into this grace in which we stand*, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

(Romans 5:1-2 NKJV)

Grace Flows thru Faith

On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him *come to Me and drink*. He who *believes in Me*, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will *flow rivers of living water*.”

But this He spoke *concerning the Spirit*, whom those *believing in Him would receive*; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. (John 7:37-39a NKJV)

Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and *He would have given you living water.*”

Jesus answered and said to her, “Whoever drinks of this (well) water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the *water that I shall give him* will become in him a *fountain of water* springing up into everlasting life.”
(John 4:10, 13-14 NKJV)

For *I will pour water* on him who is thirsty,
And floods on the dry ground;

I will pour My Spirit on your descendants,
And My blessing on your offspring;

(Isaiah 44:3 NKJV)

Let us know,
Let us *pursue the knowledge of the Lord.*

His going forth is established as the morning;

He will come to us like the rain,
Like the latter and former rain to the earth.

(Hosea 6:3 NKJV)

...”My people have changed their Glory For what does not profit. Be astonished, O heavens, at this, And be horribly afraid; Be very desolate,” says the Lord.

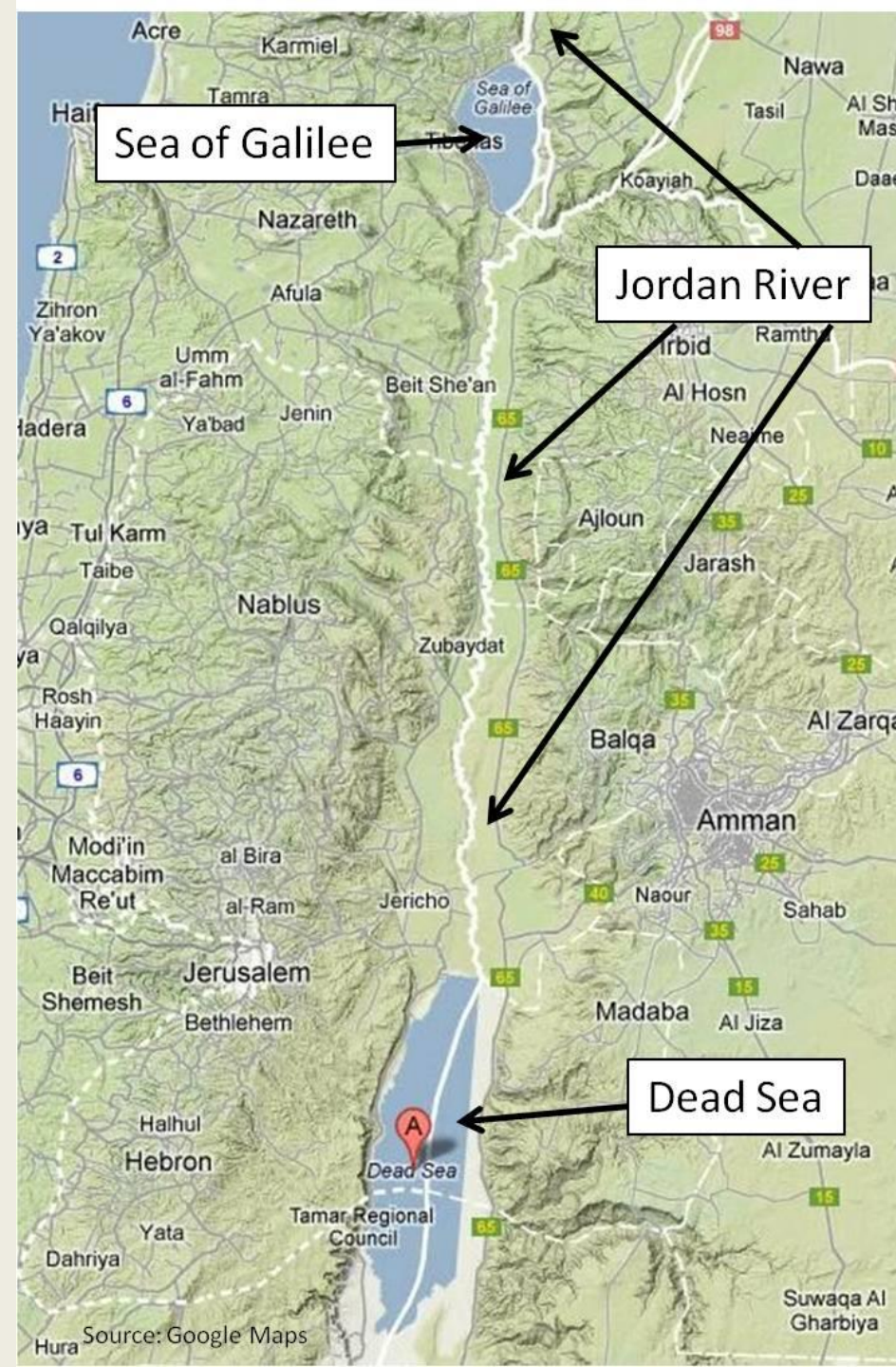
“For My people have committed two evils:
They have *forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters,*
And hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that
can hold no water.

(Jeremiah 11b-13 NKJV)

Faith is like a Straw...







Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

(John 15:4-5 NKJV)

If God's Grace flows to us through
Faith and then through us to others,

Then:

We have a secondary source of Grace
in one another!

There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.
There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord.
And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same
God who works all in all. But the *manifestation of the
Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:*

But one and the same Spirit works all these things,
distributing to each one individually as He wills.

(1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 11 NKJV)

For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and *have all been made to drink into one Spirit.*

For in fact the body is not one member but many...
Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.

(1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27 NKJV)

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”
(John 13:34-35 NKJV)

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. (Galatians 6:2 NKJV)

To fulfill the Law of Christ, we must be willing not only to give the Grace we have received from God, but to receive from others the Grace God has given to them.

Give, and it shall be given to you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall *men give into your bosom*. For with the same measure that you mete with it shall be measured to you again.

(Luke 6:38 AKJV)

For I long to see you, that *I may impart to you some spiritual gift*, so that you may be established— that is, that I may be encouraged together with you *by the mutual faith both of you and me*.

(Romans 1:11-12 NKJV)

Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but ***that which is good to the use of edifying***, that it may ***minister grace to the hearers***.

And ***grieve not the Holy Spirit of God***, whereby you are sealed to the day of redemption.

(Ephesians 4:29-30 AKJV)

Let your *speech be always with grace*, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer every man.

(Colossians 4:6 AKJV)

For, brothers, you have been called to liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but ***by love serve one another***. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; ***You shall love your neighbor as yourself***.

(Galatians 5:13-14 AKJV)

As we have therefore opportunity, let *us do good to all men, especially to them who are of the household of faith.*

(Galatians 6:10 AKJV)

Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) And let us ***consider one another to provoke to love and to good works:*** Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but ***exhorting one another:*** and so much the more, as you see the day approaching.

(Hebrews 10:23-25 AKJV)

Summary

- Grace is the Power of God, given to us by the Spirit of God to do the Will of God
- Grace works/flows through a Living Faith
- Faith is a gift, but grows as we spend time with God in His Word and hear His Spirit speaking to us through His word
- A Living Faith yields to the prompting of the Holy Spirit and the Word with a heart of obedience

- As we yield, Grace enables us to do what we are unable to do in our own strength
- As Faith is a conduit for the Living Water of Grace to us, so are we to be conduits of the Living Water of Grace to others
- As members of the Body of Christ, God not only asks us to receive Grace from Him and give it to others, but to also be open to receiving Grace from Him through other believers thus fulfilling the Law of Christ to love one another with His Love and Grace (We are not to do this alone)