



AMAZING GRACE

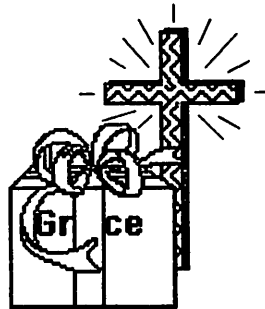
"For by Grace are you saved
through faith;
and that not of yourselves:
it is the gift of God;
not of works,
lest any man should boast."
Ephesians 2: 8 - 9

By
Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Losier

Not to be Sold

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*The Gift of God
'Eternal Life' Rgm 6:23*

**By
Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Losier
Founder and President
of
Christian Literature and Bible Center Inc.**

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PREFACE

As I think of the love of God manifested to mankind, I marvel as to the great love that God has provided at such great cost. I can only cry out, "Oh, the love that drew salvation's plan, Oh, the grace that brought it down to man, Oh, the mighty gulf that God did span at Calvary"! The Triune God had a supreme purpose in this sacrificial plan, and that was to deal with sin, once and forever at Calvary. Salvation was one phase of this great sacrifice, but the over-all plan of God was for the eradication of evil from God's great domain was being dealt as well at the cross. God's new heavens and new earth will be absolutely free from evil forces forever (Dan. 9:24). One of the outstanding hymns that is constantly sung and quoted is the following:

AMAZING GRACE

*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound; that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.*

*T'was grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed!*

*Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise, than when we'd first begun.*

It is much easier to sing such sound doctrine than to practice it in our daily Christian walk. With our human view point and natural daily affairs, grace is not a familiar terminology. The way of the world is to earn what you get, rather than receive without a debt. In this Biblical study of "Grace", we are taking into consideration the contrast between works and grace from the Divine viewpoint. In order to understand the Divine viewpoint we must turn to the Divine source, which is the Bible. To thoroughly understand "Grace Principles", we must understand "God's Principles". This requires a thorough knowledge of the character of the Godhead. I had gone into the character of God quite clearly in the Biblical Textbook, "Know Your Bible, Rightly Divided". It will greatly help you in the study of "Grace" to review the characteristics of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Unless you thoroughly understand "God's Grace", you will misunderstand "God's Salvation". That is why it is so important to know how and why God is able to provide "So Great Salvation", at no cost to the recipients. We have dealt with this important doctrinal truth from various aspects under a variety of

conditions and our conclusions are always based upon the Word of God. God's perfect holiness and His perfect righteousness are completely satisfied with the manner in which God has poured out His grace upon mankind. God's grace is without human merit whatsoever! In order for that amazing grace of God to be utilized, one must accept God's provision. Even the faith whereby we accept this grace, is a gift from God. "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." Heb. 12:2.

The study of this "Amazing Grace" is of great importance to every saint of God. Without an understanding of God's marvelous grace, one cannot get established in the Divine Christian walk through this life. The mighty work of God is manifested through grace. All that is involved in "So Great Salvation" is dependent upon God's grace. Salvation is entirely by grace, through faith which also is a gift from God. The new birth through the Holy Spirit is given by grace and without any merit of those who believe. The Holy Spirit removes the spiritual blindness by a mighty transforming power through the grace of God. This same grace will carry us through eternity.

May I remind you that just because God's grace is not of works, it does not give us a license to sin. God's grace should establish stability in our Christian life. The grace of God also should create within us a desire to be well pleasing in God's sight, by showing our individual appreciation for what God has provided. May the study of these grace principles help you in the study of the Bible.

Andrew J. Losier

DEDICATION

"The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the Name of the Lord." Job. 1:21b. As we put our trust in the Lord for providing our every need, we can rest assured that He will do exceeding abundantly above all that we could ask or think. It was not just a coincident that my late wife Dorothy and I settled in Toccoa, Georgia. God in His omniscience knew that when He called my Beloved Dorothy home to Paradise, that I needed a partner for the continuation of sending forth the Biblical textbooks to many places around the world. I was never more certain in my life than when I was led by the Holy Spirit to ask the hand in marriage of Imogene Davidson. My coming to Toccoa was part of God's plan for my latter years. Imogene and I were joined together in holy matrimony November the twenty eighth, 1992. I am convinced more now than ever before that she has been God's choice, not only as a partner in marriage, but also a partner in this tremendous work of sending forth these Bible studies, "To the Regions Beyond"!

I hereby wish to dedicate this Biblical textbook to my precious wife, Imogene Harper Losier. God has used her for over 40 years in teaching the Bible to various age groups. Her life has been filled with many activities, pleasing unto the Lord. She is a charter member of the Calvary Baptist Church, and is very active in the Lord's work. Our two lives have been brought together, not in retirement, but rather in a continuation of the work which the Lord has entrusted to both of us. Already, Imogene is a great encouragement to me, as we send forth the printed page to many places around the world. The subject of this textbook, "THE AMAZING GRACE" typifies the grace that God has poured out upon our two lives. Our lives are completely dedicated to the Lord and His work, and eternity will reveal the fruit of our labor in this sacred married life. Remember us in prayer as we finish our high calling in this life. Our life verse is- "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." Jeremiah 33:3.

FORWARD

I count it a real privilege to have Dr. Ted Ayre as a Director in our Christian Literature & Bible Center Inc. Though he has been in the business world for many years, his knowledge of the Word of God has been outstanding. I could think of no one more fitting to provide the Forward of this textbook than my brother in the Lord, Dr. Theodore P. Ayre. It is with great honor that I present to you Dr. Theodore P. Ayre.

Grace is a marvelous reality and a Divine concept. It is part of God's plan for all humanity and His expression of it has changed the lives and destiny of multitudes of Christians over the centuries since the first advent of Christ.

Grace, or unmerited favor, reflects the character of God in that He is loving, good, kind, merciful and longsuffering. His gracious dealing with mankind is without parallel in history and contrasts sharply with the way the world operates.

While God has always been gracious, the highest expression of His favor is through His Son. God's written word came to Moses as the law under the old covenant. But God's grace came through Jesus Christ, the Living Word, under the new covenant (John 1:17; 2 Corinthians 8:9).

Grace is also God's way of salvation, thus eliminating any human merit, wisdom or effort in a person's redemption (Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 2:11). Salvation is all of grace, all of God and all for His glory.

After God makes all of those who believe in Christ His children, He treats them with more grace, providing for their needs in time and a home with Him for eternity (2 Corinthians 9:8; Philippians 4:19; John 14:2-3). Grace is more than a customary form of opening salutation in seventeen epistles where the authors write "grace to you." These greetings express accomplished facts as well as future promises.

Since God deals with us in grace, we are obligated to treat others in the same way. Grace is the rule of life for Christians and it should be evident in their lives (Romans 6:14-15; Colossians 4:6; 2 Timothy 2:1). The Apostle Peter emphasized this principle when he exhorted his readers to "grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18).

It is most appropriate that Dr. Andrew J. Losier, who has demonstrated grace through four decades of ministering the Word of God in Africa, should expand on the subject in the following pages. May the Lord continue to multiply this harvest through the writing and literature distribution from this country as Dr. Losier carries on in "retirement."

Theodore P. Ayre, ThD.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1

Marvelous Grace That Brings Salvation

- A. Divine Grace with Established Confidence**
- B. Divine Grace is God's Provision**
- C. Divine Grace is Essential**

CHAPTER 2

Divine Grace Is God's Provision For Mankind

- A. Absolute Satisfaction by God the Father**
- B. The Supreme Sacrifice of the Eternal Son of God**
- C. The Divine Provision by God the Holy Spirit**

CHAPTER 3

Eternal Security Provided by the Grace of God

- A. God's Security Not Based Upon Human Works**
- B. God's standards Fully Protected and Offered Through Grace**
- C. God Totally Fulfills Every Divine Requirement**

CHAPTER 4

Living by God's Grace

- A. The Laws of God Completely Fulfilled by Christ**
- B. Believers Fully Established on a Grace Basis for Daily Life in Christ**
- C. Believers Divine Life Through the Holy Spirit**

CHAPTER 5

The Laws of God Completely Maintained by His Grace

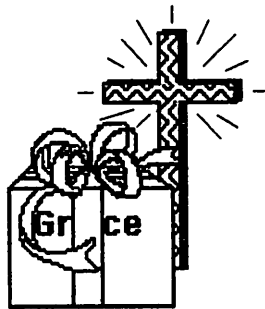
- A. The Debt for Sin Eternally Paid**
- B. The Way to God Divinely Made**
- C. God's Laws Through Grace Completely Stayed**

CHAPTER 6

God's Work of Grace Established Forever

- A. Divine Life Provided by Faith Through Grace**
- B. Divine Power Available by Grace**
- C. Divine Hope of Glory Secured with Grace**

CHAPTER ONE



*The Gift of God
'Eternal Life' Rom 6:23*

Marvelous Grace That Brings Salvation

CHAPTER ONE

MARVELOUS GRACE THAT BRINGS SALVATION.

INTRODUCTION

The natural man has a built in capacity for striving to worship someone or something. All sorts of attempts are made to satisfy that inward longing to reach out into the unknown. Paul, when in Athens waiting for Silas and Timothy to come, visited the places of worship among these learned Athenians. He discovered their all inclusive desire to worship by naming one altar, "TO THE UNKNOWN GOD". It has always been the desire of mankind to worship someone or something greater than himself. In order for the worshipper to attain the benefits from such, they feel obligated to sacrifice or deprive oneself one way or another. The natural man is on a "Survival of the Fittest" basis, rather than depending upon "Grace". They lack confidence and justly so, for we cannot attain to the requirements of the True God. "Grace Principles" are necessary and essential in procuring salvation, and this can only be provided by the Holy God who is able to remove the barrier of sin.

As Paul the Apostle challenged those of Athens, introducing them to "THE UNKNOWN GOD", by the grace of God many believed. Acts 17:16-34. Paul was chosen by God "To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me." Acts 26:18. It was my privilege to visit Athens and to stand on Mars Hill where Paul preached the Gospel. I also saw some of the remaining results of his preaching. I saw the temple of the gods with all of the heads broken off these false gods as a result of some taking heed to the Gospel. May we as we study this "Amazing Grace" reminds us that nothing short of God's perfect righteousness is required in satisfying Almighty God. "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away." Isa. 64:6. If the best that we could do is not sufficient for us to have access into the presence of God, what hope is there apart from the marvelous grace of our loving Lord?

If we are to have any communication with Almighty God, it can only be by God's provision and decision by grace alone. As we review this provision of salvation by grace, may we consider the following three aspects of Divine grace.

- A. DIVINE GRACE WITH ESTABLISHED CONFIDENCE.
- B. DIVINE GRACE IS GOD'S PROVISION.
- C. DIVINE GRACE IS ESSENTIAL.

A. DIVINE GRACE ESTABLISHES CONFIDENCE.

To have confidence in one's life affairs, is one of the most necessary attitudes for anyone to have. Without confidence, one's life is befuddled and confused and insecure. When one has sufficient funds in the bank, it is no task to sit down and write the necessary checks for one's livelihood. So it is with the spiritual realm. When we are established in the Word of God and understand our limitless resources in Christ, we have confidence as we approach our Heavenly Father. We ask what we will, as we abide in Christ, and we are confident that we are heard and that Christ has countersigned our requests, based upon His marvelous grace. "Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, because we keep His commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. And this is his commandment, that we should believe on the name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another, as He gave us commandment. And He that keepeth His commandments dwelleth in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abideth in us, by the Spirit whom He hath given us." 1 John 3:21-24.

Knowing our Heavenly Father, through the Lord Jesus Christ gives us liberty, to ask our petitions, understanding that all merit and acceptability is in the Lord, who saved us by grace alone. What we ask of our Heavenly Father is based upon God the Holy Spirit filling our lives and preventing us from asking for the wrong things. Our children may desire to play with fire, but we as parents prevent them from doing so, until they learn a little about the dangers as well as how to handle fire. So with many of our foolish requests which we ask of God, they must be refused, until we are maturely established in the Word of God. Yes, it is true that whatever God does for us is based upon the grace of God through our loving Lord. "But the anointing which ye have received of Him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you; but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, that is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in Him." 1 John 2:27. "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." John 15:7. God the Holy Spirit has been given to us, not only to provide us with Divine life, and protect us from the onslaught of the evil forces, but to establish us in the Word of God, providing us with the necessary confidence in the Almighty God, and not to lean upon the arms of flesh. "Oh the love that drew salvation's plan, Oh the grace that brought it down to man, Oh the mighty gulf that God did span at Calvary". "Nevertheless, when He, the Holy Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth; for He shall not speak of himself, but whatever He shall hear, that shall He speak; and He will show you things to come. He shall glorify me; for He shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine; therefore said I, that He shall take of mine, and shall show it unto you." John 16:13-15. This is but another indication of the perfect unity in the Godhead. This also helps establish our confidence in, "Thus Saith The Lord." The Godhead is in perfect unity and desires that eventually sin will be removed

forever. We as believers have a marvelous future ahead of us, and may we allow God's Word to have full sway in our lives. Allow God's marvelous grace to be manifested in our lives.

With our present weakness in the flesh we constantly need to depend upon Divine help to overcome the fleshly desires. Paul dealt with that problem with the Corinthian church. "And I brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?" 1 Cor. 3:1-3. This should show each of us that we must use the Divine Grace toward each other and establish confidence in the provisions that God has made. However, it is essential that we study God's word and allow God's truth to become our very life. "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep His commandments." 1 Jn. 5:2. "And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight." 1 Jn. 3:19-22. God can assure us and give us confidence in our Christian walk, if we feast upon the Word of God. We must constantly realize that there is nothing that we deserve before God through human merit, but rather we establish confidence by the Divine provision of God's grace. We should allow Almighty God to mould our lives according to His will. "And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing according to His will, He heareth us; And if we know that He hears us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him." 1 Jn. 5:14-15. God's Word gives us understanding and the Holy Spirit will use the Word of God in our lives, guiding and directing us. Confidence by the grace of God is essential in our lives as believers.

Grace is thoroughly established in the Godhead and is not dependent upon a debt that could be owed by the one receiving it. The merit is completely based upon God's credibility and not upon man's attainment or lack of attainment. It is not based upon accomplishments or lack of accomplishments of the saved or unsaved, but entirely upon the provision of the Godhead. That is why we can have absolute confidence in the Amazing Grace of our loving Lord. This brings us to the complete provision that God has arranged and manifested apart from mankind.

In order to enjoy one's circumstance, and environment, it is necessary to have an understanding of what made this enjoyment and confidence possible, thus establishing assurance in what lies ahead. In order for God to bestow upon you Divine benefits, there must also be Divine grace. "But by the grace of God I am what I am; and His grace, which was bestowed upon me, was not in vain, but I

labored more abundantly than they all; yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me." 1 Cor. 15:10. The flesh is weak and we dare not depend upon our human efforts to gain stability, but rather in our "Impeccable God". In order to enjoy peace and confidence, we must accept God's grace through the Lord Jesus Christ. It is God alone who can give you comfort and confidence. "Grace be to you, and peace, from God, our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be God, even the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort," 2 Cor. 1:2-3. Paul desired the "Thorn in the Flesh" to be removed, but God's grace became His sufficiency. "And He said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee, for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly, therefore, will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." 2 Cor. 12:9. It is not that we enjoy pain, but rather we glory in the Divine strength which is granted to us.

There is also another aspect in enjoying "Faith Rest", through God's grace and that is maintaining the right relationship with God. Grace is manifested in our lives through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, but the right relationship in the Royal family of God depends upon, whether we are walking in the Holy Spirit. "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh." Gal.5:16. This is important, if we are to be established in Christ for full confidence. God has provided us with eternal life, through Christ, and desires that, as new born creatures, "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." Gal. 5:25. The Lord Jesus Christ made this "Amazing Grace" possible, bringing light to our souls. "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation to which ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Eph. 4:1-3.

Since God the Holy Spirit provides the light to our souls, through the Bible, we then will realize the richness of God's grace in our lives. This brings us not only a continual Divine fellowship, but also the right relationship with those of like faith. "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin." 1 Jn.1:7. May we thoroughly understand that we cannot add to or take away from our salvation, which is based upon the finished work of Christ on Calvary. However, our pattern of behavior can effect our right relationship within the family of God, if we act contrary to Christ and the Word of God. "He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked." 1 Jn.2:6. We must take heed as to our daily walk before the Lord and not misuse the grace of God. "Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God; and everyone that loveth Him that begot loveth him also that is begotten of Him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep His commandments." 1 Jn. 5:1-2. As believers we do have a great responsibility in serving the Lord with all phases of our life, using God's grace for His glory and honor. God has implanted within us as believers, a new life by the Holy Spirit, which enables us to live a consistent Christian life, with confidence in the Word

of God. "And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God." 1 Jn. 3:19-21. Your confidence will only come, when your knowledge of the Bible increases. No one has ever understood all that is in the Bible, but that does not give you an excuse, to avoid the study of the Word of God. The Bible is filled with the wisdom from God, and we need to constantly study to show ourselves approved unto God.

B. DIVINE GRACE IS GOD'S PROVISION.

Our confidence is not what we think we can do, but rather in what God has already done through the Lord Jesus Christ. Divine grace never depends upon human works. We may feel that we have tremendous faith to remove mountains, but even our faith is provided for us by our Heavenly Father. "Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus; the Author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." Heb. 12:1-2. The religions of the world are based upon human merit and sacrifice, but Christianity is based upon the finished work of the Lord with countless Divine provisions. "For we ourselves also were once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. But after the kindness and love of God, our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit, which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ, our Savior, that, being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life." Titus 3:3-7. Our justification is entirely based upon the grace of God and not upon human effort. That does not mean that we just do as we please, since it is by grace and grace alone. We keep God's precious Word, because we have already been established "By Grace" but rather we should desire to live up to the standards that God has set forth in the Bible. This is the way that we can return thanks unto our all providing Father in heaven. Because of this grace we are assured of every provision for life. Phil. 4:19.

When God made His covenant with faithful Abraham, He sealed it with a vow based entirely upon His Divine character. Abram wanted a sign from God, as to his inheritance and blessings. God proved this to Abram as He passed through the divided sacrifices which God, by grace, commanded Abram to prepare. "And He said unto him, Take me an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon. And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another: but the birds divided he not." Gen.15:9-

10. It was then that God put Abram into a deep sleep, and then God passed between the carcasses by Himself, confirming the covenant with Abraham on an unconditional basis. "And when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and, lo, an horror of great darkness fell upon him.....And it came to pass that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces. In the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:" Gen.15:12-18. Here we have an absolutely "Faith Rest" promise from God on an absolutely "Grace Basis"!

This is God's provision for human beings, because they are helpless and unable to attain the position that God would like them to maintain. The laws of God demand perfection, and that is why God Himself had to fulfill the law for us on an entirely grace basis. Even our faith in God's provision is from God. Christ being the Author and Finisher of our faith. God's grace is essential to us apart from any merit or lack of merit that we might possess. Our salvation is entirely in the hands of God and for the glory of God. God is the Deliverer from the penalty of sin and the sustaining and keeping power within our lives, to bring glory and honor to His Name. Anything short of God's Divine grace is therefore insufficient, and falls short of God's requirements. Salvation is all of God, or not of God. God fully provides the way of escape from the penalty of sin, by grace through the death of the Eternal Son of God on Calvary's cross. Through Christ's death upon the cross we are partakers of God's grace, through faith.

In ourselves we fall short of the glory of God, but in the providence of God, who knows the end from the beginning, we are declared blameless in Christ Jesus. This in itself should establish confidence and assurance. "For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shone in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." 2 Cor.4:6. There is no way that we can boast of any accomplishment, as we serve the Lord, for every effort that we use should be done for the glory and honor of Almighty God. "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." 2 Cor. 3:7. We gain our strength from the Word of God, giving us God's assurance, regardless of circumstances. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." 1 Cor. 15:58. "And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have, therefore, opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Gal. 6:9-10.

C. DIVINE GRACE IS ESSENTIAL.

There is no way possible for totally depraved man to merit anything before God Almighty! It is either all of God or none of God! Natural man in himself is a total failure and totally depraved. Human error and the depraved nature of mankind, needs total dependance upon the Impeccable God. "So, then, they that are in the flesh cannot please God". Rom.8:8. The process of the impartation of eternal life must come entirely from the Eternal God. "But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also give life to your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh." Rom. 8:11-12.

Since our salvation demands "Divine Grace" apart from human works, we are utterly dependent upon the Triune God as essential for eternal life and to make possible our redemption and salvation. Our redemption from sin cannot be purchased by anything that we could offer to God. It takes the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ to redeem our souls. "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver and gold, from your vain manner of life received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot, who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, who by Him do believe in God, who raised Him up from the dead and gave Him glory, that your faith and hope might be in God." 1 Pet. 1:18-21.

All man made religions of this world are useless in attempting to approach the true and living God. We cannot earn our access into the presence of God. May we also be reminded that we are totally depraved and that someone must make possible a complete change in our life. That change came about by the grace of God. We cannot gain God's favor in whatever we do, therefore God's own righteousness must be our cloak. Our old self must be removed and by the grace of God we become new creatures in Christ Jesus. God could not declare His grace upon us, ignoring our depravity, but had to satisfy His Divine character and provide His perfection to remove our imperfection. "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." Jn. 1:29b. The grace of God is very essential and necessary to make possible our approach to God. This grace cannot be earned, and all the wealth of this world could not buy it!

Divine grace is essential in providing Divine provision in making us new creatures to be acceptable to God the Father. The Lord classifies us as His sheep. "I am the good shepherd and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep." Jn. 10:14-15. It is by God's grace that we are able to hear the voice of the good shepherd. "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my

Father are one." Jn. 10:27-30. As we continue to study this marvelous grace of our Loving Lord, may we be aware that a tremendous price was paid in order for God to manifest His grace toward us. This should cause us to do something to show our appreciation as to what God has done.

God's grace is poured out upon those who believe in order that good works may follow under the complete control of God the Holy Spirit. The Divine grace manifested through God the Holy Spirit produces good works, not to obtain salvation but rather to show God our appreciation, being made new creatures in Christ Jesus. "But be ye doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like a man beholding his natural face in a mirror; For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and immediately forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whosoever looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth in it, he being not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." Jas. 1:22-25. This is not only a test of faith and obedience but also of appreciation as to what has been accomplished for mankind, by grace and grace alone. This will echo down through the corridors of eternity, to the praise and glory of Almighty God.

The grace of God is absolutely necessary in our lives to maintain the right relationship with God the Father. "This then is the message which we have heard of Him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth. But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." 1 Jn. 1:5-7. Our cleansing is not earned, or do we qualify for it in any human effort, but is entirely by the finished work of Christ upon Calvary's cross. "Oh, the love that drew salvation's plan, Oh, the grace that brought it down to man, Oh, the mighty gulf that God did span at Calvary"! There is no possible way for any human being to obtain access into the presence of God except through His Eternal Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord removes the barrier of sin by his atoning death, making possible access for us to come before the throne of grace. It was the marvelous grace through the Lord Jesus Christ that made possible so great salvation. We want to explore this marvelous provision that has been so Divinely provided by the Triune God. One day the silver cords will break and we will behold the glory of God. "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgements, and His ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? Or who hath been His counsellor? Or who hath first given to Him, and it shall be recompensed unto Him again? For of Him, and through Him, and to Him, are all things to whom be glory for ever. Amen." Rom. 11:33-36.

The only way that we can arrive in a heavenly home, passing through the corridors of space, is by the grace of God. With all of mankind totally depraved, what merit could we obtain before God? There is no way that we could attain our salvation by good works, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of

God." Rom. 3:23. Therefore God's 100% grace must be applied to our lives, for otherwise our eternal judgement, according to our just punishment would be the lake of fire. "For the wages of sin is death." Rom. 6:23a. Whether you have few sins or many sins, without the application of God's grace, your future would be a living death in the lake of fire forever. But thanks be to God for His marvelous and amazing grace through the loving Lord who paid the debt of sin. "But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Rom. 6:23b. God's grace is essential for obtaining eternal life. However as the Holy Spirit directed Paul to write, "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer in it? We have by believing in the Lord Jesus Christ as our personal Savior, been identified in His death by burying our sins, and rose again victory over our sins, giving us newness of life. "Know ye not that, as many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Therefore, we are buried with Him by baptism into death, that as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection; Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin." Rom.6:3-6. Since we are identified in Christ who is one, so we who make up the various members of Christ's body are one. "For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit were we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." 1 Cor. 12:12-13. This newness of life is entirely given to us by the grace of God, who alone, provided all. Only God could remove the barrier of sin so that He could bestow His love upon us by grace and grace alone!

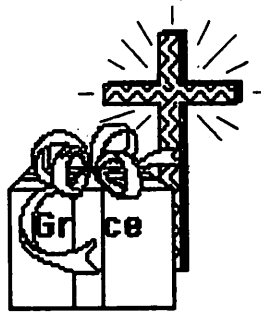
God's marvelous grace makes it possible for us to sustain good works apart from the feeble efforts of the natural man. As we study the Bible we are made aware of the all inclusive plan of God, to deal with sin and remove it completely from His future creation. God in His eternal sovereignty has dealt with total sin at the cross, for past, present and future. The sin question will never be an issue in the new creation, for Christ paid in full for the sum total of all sin. This provided salvation, making us new creatures with God providing the Holy Spirit, to give us the new and eternal spiritual birth. We patiently await that glorious day which will reveal the wonder working power of Almighty God. As so great salvation was given to those who believe, security guaranteed by that eternal seal of the Holy Spirit, we are made free from the penalty of sin forever and ever!. Since we are also kept by that mighty power of God, we will one day be delivered from the very presence of sin. In the meantime, may we continue to grow in grace, and the knowledge of the wonders of God! Get acquainted with what the Bible says, and allow this eternal truth to be part of your daily life. Don't be satisfied with only the milk from God's Word, but feast upon the meat

of the Word of God. As believers we need to stand upon the promises of God, to face the world, the flesh and the Devil. Use the whole armor of God to withstand all opposition to the grace of God. "But God forbid that I should glory, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world." Gal. 6:14.

QUESTIONS ON CHAPTER ONE

1. Does the natural man have a tendency to worship something? Explain.
2. Write briefly on Acts 17:16-34.
3. What is our witness to consist of according to Acts 26:18?
4. How do we as believers obtain confidence toward God?
5. What is necessary as we bring our petitions before God? Give Scripture.
6. How do we overcome the weakness of the flesh? Give Scripture.
7. Why is "Divine Grace" essential in our Christian walk? Quote Scripture.
8. Write briefly on Genesis 15:12-18.
9. Explain 1 Peter 1:18-21.
10. Why is "The Grace of God" necessary for us to maintain the right relationship with God? Use Scripture to verify your answer.
11. Write briefly on 1 John 1:5-7.
12. Explain Romans 8:11-12.
13. Write briefly on, "Abraham Found Grace Before Almighty God."
14. Write briefly on, "By the Grace of God, We are what We are."
15. Why is the grace of God so important in the plan of salvation?
16. Can anything be added to the Grace of God?
17. Write briefly on Romans 6:23 and 1 Corinthians 12:12-13.
18. Write an essay on "The Grace of God, Provided for Man"

CHAPTER TWO



*The Gift of God
'Eternal Life' Rom 6:23*

Divine Grace - God's Provision for Mankind

CHAPTER TWO

DIVINE GRACE.

IS

GOD'S PROVISION FOR MANKIND.

INTRODUCTION

Since God is not a God of confusion we must approach Him in an orderly fashion on His terms and through His provision. God has set down certain rules and regulations in order for us to call upon Him for help. Since God is three persons in one: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, we wish to emphasize that all three persons have contributed to the manifestation of "Grace". There was a perfect agreement within the Godhead as to how to provide a way for man to escape eternal punishment for his sins. The Bible clearly presents the total depravity of man and total provision by God. "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; how shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard Him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with diverse miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to his own will?" Heb. 2:1-4. There are a few factors which we need to deal with concerning the Triune God. God the Father must be satisfied, God the Son needs to be willing to become the sacrifice to satisfy His Father. Then, God the Holy Spirit needs to be prepared to provide the newness of life and humbly indwell the human recipients. Let us examine what the Triune God has declared in our behalf before the foundations of the world.

- A. ABSOLUTE SATISFACTION BY GOD THE FATHER.**
- B. THE SUPREME SACRIFICE OF THE ETERNAL SON OF GOD.**
- C. THE DIVINE PROVISION BY GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

- A. ABSOLUTE SATISFACTION BY GOD THE FATHER.**

The Triune God had sometime in ages past, worked out a plan to deal with the possibility of sin, since they decided to create angels and mankind, giving

them a choice between good and evil. In God's omniscience, God knew exactly what the outcome would be. Under direct knowledge from the Triune God, the angelic hosts were given their choice to serve God or themselves. A division among the angels took place with the results that one-third of them yielding to temptation in the heavenlies. Man made his choice in the garden of Eden through Adam and Eve. God the Father in His omniscience had to approve of a plan, God the Eternal Son would remove the sin barrier, and God the Holy Spirit would be willing to provide the Divine spark in preparations for the glorified body to be given to those of the new birth. We can go to the Old Testament and learn that Almighty God was going to pour out His Spirit upon all flesh. "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions; and, also, upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days I will pour out my Spirit." Joel 2:28. The beginning of this prediction began at Pentecost and is continuing down through this age of grace. Truly all flesh is benefiting from this out pouring of God the Holy Spirit for almost two thousand years, as the body of Christ is being gathered together. These New Testament saints make up the complete body of Christ. When the total body has been formed, then that trumpet will sound and the Rapture will take place. During this period of the formation of the body of Christ, there is neither Jew nor Gentile.

Israel has rejected God the Father's plan of redemption and has suffered severely because of her choice, but her eyes will be opened in that day when God the Father announces the count down for the Rapture to take place. God will have those 144 thousand young Jewish believers ready to proclaim the Gospel of the Kingdom. Ezekiel was given an insight into what God the Father was planning. "Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord God; I will even gather you from the people, and assemble you out of the countries where ye have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel. And they shall come there, and they shall take away all detestable things and all its abominations from there. And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh, that they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God". Ezekiel 11:17-20. This is all an "Amazing Grace" from the Heavens above! Being based upon the great plan of God the Father and agreed to by God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Yes, there will be a tremendous struggle during those tribulation years, but by the grace of God, there will be countless souls saved during that period, who will be called the tribulation saints.

However, there will always be those who will reject the perfect righteousness of God, being blinded by the satanic power, the world and the flesh. "But as for them whose heart walketh after the heart of their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their way upon their own heads, saith the Lord God." Ezekiel 11:21. God the Father's grace is established and the escape route

provided for redemption, but the individual has to first of all acknowledge that, "But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath made us alive together with Christ (by grace ye are saved), and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus; That in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.....Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." Eph. 2:4-10. We need to constantly remind ourselves of the holiness of our God. "But He who hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of life, because it is written, Be ye holy, for I am holy. And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear, forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver and gold, from your vain manner of life received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, who by Him do believe in God, who raised Him up from the dead and gave Him glory, that your faith and hope might be in God, Seeing that ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently, being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." 1 Peter 1:15-23.

Since we are aware of the true and living God, and understand His message to all mankind, we become entirely dependent upon "Divine Grace". Anything short of God's Divine Grace, would end in utter "Disgrace"! We all as "Homo Sapiens" fall short of the required glory of God, namely, all that God is or ever will be is absolutely Divine perfection. Anything other than God's complete provision falls short of God's requirements. In Adam, we all died spiritually and slowly die physically. In Christ, through God the Holy Spirit we are made alive spiritually with the eternal Divine life, awaiting that glorified body. The question arises, "How can this eternal status be attained"? The removal of the penalty of sin had to be made, newness of life had to be provided, and God the Father had to be satisfied that all requirements have been met.

God the Father planned, "So Great Salvation", which was evident from the above Scriptures, as well as many other proofs. The Father had to forsake His Eternal Son as He hung upon the cross, bearing the sins of the whole world and making possible the exercise of His marvelous grace toward whosoever believeth. As the Lord hung upon that cruel cross, He was constantly mindful of His Father. "And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, la'ma sabach'thani? that is to say, My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Matthew 27:46. These very words were predicted in the Psalms. "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Ps. 22:1a. This was in keeping with the whole

plan of the Triune God. Please note what Jesus said when they were about to crucify Him. "As the Father knoweth me; even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, that are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd. Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father." John 10:15-18. Here is a clear picture showing the unity with the Father and the Son in the plan and provision of redemption. What can we possibly add to what the Word of God declares. If God the Father and God the Son are satisfied with the method in bringing us into the Royal family of God, why should we question the authenticity of redemption? Let us study the supreme sacrifice of the Eternal Son of God, which has made all of this possible. Anything short of God's Divine grace would bring judgement and chaos, sending us into eternity without hope. The only possible escape route for us is to accept the grace of God, made possible by the sacrifice of the Son of God. "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He that believeth on Him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." Jn. 3:14-18.

B. THE SUPREME SACRIFICE OF THE ETERNAL SON OF GOD.

Someone had to be found who possessed all the characteristics of the Triune God, but no one could be found in all creation to meet these requirements. This meant that regardless of partial goodness found in creation, nothing or no one could satisfy the perfect requirements of God. The Triune God in their omniscience came to this conclusion before the foundation of the world. Sin had to be dealt with in its entirety and that required a perfect Divine sacrifice to meet all requirements. A meeting of the Godhead was called and God the Father planned "So Great Salvation". Someone in the Triune God had to be willing to become a human being of Divine origin and incapable of sinning. Natural man was totally depraved, so a special birth had to be supernatural; to avoid any taint of sin or falling into sin on an eternal basis. The Eternal Son of God volunteered to subject Himself to such a human life apart from sin. This required a virgin's body with the Holy Spirit's conception. The seed of man was the natural way of bringing life into this world, but the natural body had already been depraved. The first statement that we have as to the supernatural promise is Genesis chapter three and verse fifteen. "And I will put enmity between thee (The Devil) and the woman, and between thy seed (The satanic), and her seed (Divine seed), He shall

bruise thy head (the sum total of sin) and thou shalt bruise His heel (the sum total of God's provision)." "The seed of the Woman" was then predicted to handle the sin question for time and eternity. It required a "Virgin Birth" as God announced. "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel". Isaiah 7:14. A body was prepared for the Eternal Son of God before the foundation of the world. (Rev. 13:8; 1 Pet. 1:20.) "Wherefore, when He cometh into the world, He saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me." Heb. 10:5. It is true and according to the Bible that God required sacrifices for the sins of His people, but those sacrifices did not take away sins, but rather covered the sins until the perfect Lamb of God would be offered to wash away the sins of the whole world. This happened on Calvary's cross when God sent forth His Eternal Son to become the sacrifice for our sins. "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver and gold, from your vain manner of life received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot, who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, who by Him do believe in God, who raised Him up from the dead and gave Him glory, that your faith and hope might be in God." 1 Peter 1:18-21. Any other faith or hope would be in vain.

The Eternal Son of God was willing to lay down His life as both the sacrificer and sacrifice. "But this man, because He continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore, He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them. For such an high priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins and then for the people's for this He did once, when He offered up Himself. For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity, but the word of oath, which was since the law, maketh the Son, who is consecrated for evermore." Hebrew 7:24-28. This Eternal Son of God entered into the Holy of Holies once and forever on our behalf and never has to repeat this again. "For Christ is not entered into the Holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us....So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation." Hebrews 9:24-28. That will be a glorious day when Christ, our High Priest, will appear in the clouds to receive us unto Himself. That day may not be far off as the signs of the time; point to the soon coming of the Lord to rapture us home. This is but another manifestation of the Amazing Grace of our Almighty God. The Father, who knows exactly when the complete body of Christ is formed, will have that trumpet sound forth to the ends of the world. "For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first; then we who are alive and

remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore, comfort one another with these words." 1 Thess. 4:16-18. This is but another indication of the marvelous grace of our loving Lord! "Behold, I show you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." 1 Cor. 15:51-53. "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Cor. 15:55-57.

As we clearly see the great commission entrusted to the Eternal Son of God, we also know that the purpose of Christ coming to this earth in the form of a man, apart from sin, was to deal with sin; once and forever. It was sufficient grace that removed the sin barrier from our lives through Christ's death on the cross, but God has declared to those who believe; that they will have a glorified body like unto His Eternal Son. (1 John 3:1-3.) In all this that the Son of God did to remove sin; it was used to bring glory and honor to the Heavenly Father, "But I honor my Father, and ye do dishonor me. And I seek not mine own glory; there is one that seeketh and judgeth." John 8:49b-50. The Lord came to establish the glory of the Father; as he suffered, bled and died. Note what the Lord said as He talked with the Father. "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:" John 17:21-22. Christ, who came to glorify the Father, desires to share His eternal glory with those who believe. Let us list some of the illustrations that "The Grace of God" has shed upon our lives.

1. The grace of God has Given us the forgiveness of all of our sins. (Rom. 4:7; Eph. 4:32; Col. 2:13; Eph. 1:7.)
2. The grace of God makes possible the continual cleansing from all our sins, as we walk in the light if His Word. (1 John 1:7-9.)
3. The grace of God made new creatures in Christ Jesus. (2 Cor. 5:17.)
4. By God's grace we were given the new birth through the Holy Spirit. (John 3:3.)
5. By grace we have the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit forever. (John 14:16-17; 1 Cor. 3:16.)
6. The grace of God has made possible our becoming a member of the body of

Christ. (Rom. 12:5.)

7. Grace has reserved a glorified body for each saint, that will be given to us when the rapture takes place. (1 John 3:1-3; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 1 Cor. 15:52.)
8. The Lord himself is preparing a place for each saint in God, the Father's Mansions in heaven. (John 14:2.)
9. Because of grace, every believer who dies before the rapture takes place, is taken to dwell in Paradise. (Luke 23:40-4; 2 Cor. 5:6-8; Phil. 1:21.)
10. When the members of the body of Christ receive their glorified bodies, they will stand before the Judgement seat of Christ and receive rewards for faithful service. (2 Cor. 5:10; 1 Cor. 3:12-14; 1 Cor. 12:12.) These rewards are separate from the salvation of God by His matchless grace.
11. We shall be married to the Lord Jesus Christ in the heavenlies, after the rapture takes place. (Rev. 19:7-9.)
12. Grace will bless us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. (Eph. 1:3.)
13. We were chosen in the Eternal Son of God before the foundations of the world and to be presented to the Father without blame, as we are to be clothed with the righteousness of Christ. (Eph. 1:4; Col. 3:3; 2 Cor. 5:2-4.)
14. We have been adopted as sons into the Royal Family of God. (Eph. 1:5; Gal. 4:5; Rom. 8:15-17.)
15. We have been accepted by God the Father in Christ Jesus. (Eph. 1:6.)
16. Through God the Holy Spirit, we have been given wisdom and prudence in the use of the Word of God. (Eph. 1:8-9; 1 Cor. 12.)
17. Each believer; making up the body of Christ has been baptized by the Holy Spirit. (1 Cor. 12:13.)
18. According to the will of the Holy Spirit, various believers receive special gifts to be used in the work of the Lord. (1 Cor. 12:4-11.)
19. We have been made "Joint Heirs" with the Lord Jesus Christ. (Eph. 1:11-12; Rom. 8:17.)

20. We have forever been sealed by the Holy Spirit. (Eph. 1:13.)
21. We have eternal life and security in the Lord Jesus Christ. (John 10:27-30; John 3:16,18,36; Rom. 8:1.)
22. We shall spend seven years in Heaven, after being delivered from the wrath of the Great Tribulation. (1 Thess. 1:10; Rev. 5:1-9.)
23. Our seven years in Heaven will be filled with learning and with preparation that we might rule with Christ during the Thousand year reign of righteousness upon the earth. (1 Cor. 13:12.)
24. We shall rule and reign with the Lord; when he sets up his kingdom of righteousness upon this earth. (Rev. 5:10.)
25. We shall behold the great battle between Michael the archangel and Satan as the two armies of angels make battle against each other, with the evil forces thrown out of heaven forever. This will begin the "Abomination of Desolation spoken of by Daniel and confirmed by Christ. (Dan. 9:27; Matt. 24:15.) (Rev. 12:7-12; Isa. 14:12-17.)
26. We shall be by the side of Christ, when he passes the final judgement upon the unregenerate of all ages at "The Great White Throne". Rev. 20:11-15; Heb. 13:5.)
27. We shall enter into the New Heavens and the New Earth and enjoy the Eternal Paradise forever; with the Lord. (Rev. 21:1-22:5.)
28. God's work of removing all sin forever and ever will have been accomplished; when all things are made new; without the possibility of sin showing its ugly head again. (Dan. 9:27.)
29. We will have all of eternity to fellowship with those of like faith. This will include all of our relatives and friends who have put their trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the King of kings and Lord of lords. (1 Cor. 13:12.)

SUMMARY

As we close this discussion on the supreme sacrifice of the Eternal Son of God, we cannot help but rejoice in the "Amazing and Marvelous Grace of Our Loving Lord"! God, in His omniscience is looking down the corridor of time seeing the abolition of sin forever from His great domain; and the crowning of His Eternal Son as King of kings and Lord of lords. "Giving thanks unto the

Father, who hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son; In whom we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation; For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers - all things were created by Him, and for Him; And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church; who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, that in all things He might have the pre-eminence. For it pleased the Father that in Him should all fullness dwell." Col. 1:12-19. God's grace is manifested through His Eternal Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, and no human achievement can be compared with God's tremendous out pouring of His love through the Lord Jesus Christ.

C. THE DIVINE PROVISION BY GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.

INTRODUCTION

Although we do not have various names given to us in the Bible; of God the Holy Spirit, He is of equal importance to God the Father and God the Son. He is the vital link in uniting us within the Divine life. His characteristics are the same as those of God the Father and God the Son. Therefore, may we give very special attention and study concerning the third person of the Trinity. We have dealt completely with the Holy Spirit in a previous textbook that I have written. Here we will relate to some important factors, concerning the Holy Spirit in this study of God's Amazing Grace. Each person of the Godhead has manifested the unique and Divine out pouring of "The Grace of God." All of this was made possible by the sacrificial death of the Lord Jesus Christ. God the Holy Spirit is that special link between the Godhead and mankind. It is God's "Amazing Grace" shown to His created beings which were made in the likeness of God, to shine forth, to the praise and glory of God. In your study of the Word of God; make sure that you place sufficient emphasis upon the work of the Holy Spirit. One day when we receive our glorified bodies we will be made aware of the great and vital importance that God the Holy Spirit has been in bringing us into the Royal family of God. I am looking forward to that glorious day when we see our Savior face to face!

THE WORK OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. THE WHOLE BIBLE HAS BEEN BREATHED UPON FOR OUR ADMONITION

This "Amazing Grace" that we find throughout the Bible is presented to all of mankind, through God the Holy Spirit. Had it not been for the Triune God, working in unison, there would not have been the Grace of God shed abroad in our hearts. Therefore, we would not have had "So Great Salvation" offered to us and recorded in the Printed Page. "The Word of God is alive and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Heb. 4:12. In the Old Testament; the Holy Spirit would come upon men of God, for particular revelations. Today; we benefit from these communications, through the printed Word of God. To God's praise, the Holy Spirit guides us into these Divine truths. We have been made aware of the great preparations through the Holy Spirit for the grace of God to be manifested. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Tim. 3:16-17. God the Holy Spirit is very essential in understanding the Bible. The Bible is the final Words of God and we dare not add to or take away from this marvelous revelation. Spend much time in the reading of this precious Book.

We do not get an additional revelation from God; for the Bible is the Word of God, and is complete, as given to the men of God. "For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book; And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book." Rev. 22:18-19. These are strong statements made by God; with severe punishment to those who try to add to or take away from this revelation made by God the Holy Spirit.

What the Holy Spirit has revealed in the Bible is of the greatest importance to "Homo Sapien". God has given to us His word of promise; through the Printed Page, and declared it to us by the Holy Spirit. It is entirely by grace that God unfolds these marvelous things; of the past, present and future. "But it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." 1 Cor. 2:9. The question that comes before us is, "Then how does God reveal these mysterious things to us"? Read on in this same passage and you will find the answer. "But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit; for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, except the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the

Spirit who is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God." 1 Cor. 2:10-12. In this we see the "Amazing Grace", that is revealed through the eternal love that God has for all who believe. We can thoroughly depend upon, "Thus saith the Lord", which has been uttered throughout the Bible; by God the Holy Spirit. From Genesis to Revelation we have the complete coverage by the Holy Spirit of the things pertaining to the Godhead. That is why it is very important that we listen to that still small voice, so that we can be taught, led and guided into all truth. May I remind you of what the Lord had said to the woman at the well, "Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what, We know what we worship; for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is Spirit; and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." Jn. 4:21-24.

We need both the Word and the Holy Spirit as we study this living Book which we call the Bible. God used over 40 servants of His to be the "Pen Men" for the giving of His Word through the Holy Spirit. The history retained in the Bible is "His story". God assigned these servants of His to write over hundreds of years, and because it was "God Breathed" there are no errors in the original writings. With these "Pen Men" of God writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, there is a continual plan of God portrayed with no discrepancies what so ever! This is but another indication of the "Amazing Grace" of our loving God.

2. GRACE THROUGH THE CREATION AND ENERGIZING BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Christ being the Creator of all things according to the Word of God, "All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made." John 1:3. Yet, the expression and revelation concerning the Lord Jesus Christ has been recorded through the breath of God the Holy Spirit. The third person of the Trinity was given the oversight of the recorded communication of the Godhead. The Holy Spirit moved upon the face of the waters; (Gen. 1:2.) "We have also a more sure word of prophecy, unto which ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts; Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not at any time by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit." 2 Pet. 1:19-21. Therefore we must not overlook the workings of the Spirit in the manifestation of life. Without Him, the virgin birth of that body of Christ would have been impossible. The Holy Spirit came upon Mary and she conceived. (Lk. 1:30-35.) God's grace was manifested down through the ages; through God the Holy Spirit. "For the Lord God is a sun and shield; No good thing will he

withhold from them that walk uprightly." Ps. 84:11. As Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord; (Gen. 6:8.), so, this grace was offered to men of all times. Israel especially was offered the grace of God because of faithful Abraham. "At the same time, saith the Lord, will I be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people. Thus saith the Lord, The people who were left of the sword found grace in the wilderness. even Israel, when I went to cause him to rest. The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore, with loving-kindness have I drawn thee." Jer. 31:1-3. As you study the word of God; that was Spirit breathed, you cannot but realize the grace of God given to Israel. It was God the Father's way of dealing with Israel, keeping alive the promise made that the seed of the woman would bruise the head of Satan. (Gen. 3:15.) As God attempted to show Israel; that they were utterly dependant upon Him for their very life, so; through the Holy Spirit do we learn that we are utterly dependant upon the Holy Spirit for our daily walk with the Lord. "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh." Gal. 5:16. Our life has been made possible by the Holy Spirit, therefore we ought to continue in the Spirit, so that we live a life well pleasing unto God. "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." Gal. 5:25. Knowing that the Word of God says, "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." Jn. 4:23-24. It was therefore important that we become born of the Spirit, in order to worship God in spirit and in truth. Anything short of worshipping God by the spirit is of no avail.

3. BY GRACE THE INCARNATE LIFE WAS BROUGHT INTO THIS WORLD.

There was no way that God could overlook sin and merely use the grace principles in His dealing with mankind. It was God's eternal plan to deal with sin when it appeared, paying the penalty of the sum total of sin and giving sufficient grace to those who believe. This was the sign given through Isaiah by the Holy Spirit. "Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign; Behold, the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel." Isa. 7:14. This Eternal Son of God took upon His body, that was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and made possible the grace of God that was given to all who believe. At that period in time, this Son did not become the Son of God, but was merely the Eternal Son of God's entrance into this world to remove the barrier of sin. "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon His kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with justice and with righteousness from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this."

Isa.9:6-7. If the virgin birth had been the beginning of the Lord Jesus Christ, then He could not have been "The Mighty God". God's grace has been revealed to us, through the Lord Jesus Christ. He being the Creator of all things, could not be created, therefore He is the Mighty Eternal Son of God, as has been declared. The Eternal Son of God was willing to go to the cross and suffer a horrible death, so that we might live a glorious life, in the presence of God. The Triune God was the only one who could prepare and provide such a marvelous delivery from the power of sin to the power of God.

*"There was one who was willing to die in my stead,
That a soul so unworthy might live, and the path to the cross
He was willing to tread, all the sins of my life to forgive.
They are nailed to the cross, They are nailed to the cross,
O how much he was willing to bear! With what anguish and loss,
Jesus went to the cross! But he carried my sins with him there."*

May we always remind ourselves of this grace and truth which came to us from our Father in Heaven. "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth.....And of His fullness have all we received, and grace for grace. For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." John 1:14-17. God's eternal laws were given to Moses in order that we might know the perfection which God requires to come into His presence. "Moreover, the law entered, that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound; That as sin hath reign unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ, our Lord." Rom. 5:20-21. Therefore, since Christ paid the debt of sin, we should not allow sin to reign in our lives. "For sin shall not have dominion over you; for ye are not under the law but under grace." Rom.6:14. It is the finished work of the Lord that has set us free from the penalty of sin and brought us into this marvelous and amazing grace. God the Father reckons us free from the penalty of sin, because His very own Son, paid the debt and set us free from the law of sin and of death. "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard Him. God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with diverse miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?" Heb. 2:3-4.

Our salvation is based entirely upon God's grace and grace alone! We could not earn enough merit before God to remove the barrier of sin, nor do we deserve any recognition by God through our own worthiness. Paul being led by the Holy Spirit; reminds us, "But by the grace of God I am what I am; and His grace, which was bestowed upon me, was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me." 1 Cor. 15:10. Paul desired the removal of the thorn in his flesh, but God had to remind him,

"And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly, therefore, will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." 2 Cor. 12:9. There are many references in the Bible to be considered; as the grace of God is poured out upon us who believe, in the Lord Jesus Christ.

4. GRACE MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH A NEW AND ETERNAL BIRTH TO BELIEVERS.

God has made possible the exercise of His grace upon those who believe because of the virgin birth of the Eternal Son of God, who removed all barriers; "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross; And, having spoiled principalities and powers, He made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it." Col. 2:14-15. We must recognize that this grace can only come to us through the Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts. 15:11; Rom. 1:5.) We have been justified freely through the grace of the Lord. (Rom. 3:24.) This grace comes to us through the faith which has also been given unto us. (Rom. 4:16.) Let us consider some of the Bible references to God's out pouring of grace, as a further proof of God's love.

- a. The grace of God upon the Gentiles brought joy. (Acts 11:22-23.)
- b. Grace is a continual process in the life of believers. (Acts 13:43.)
- c. We commend each other as believers to the grace of God. (Acts. 15:40.)
- d. Our belief in Christ is on a grace basis. (Acts 18:27; Acts 20:24; Rom. 4:16; Rom. 5:15; Rom. 16:20,24.)
- e. We are justified by the Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Rom. 3:24.)
- f. Grace must reign in the Christian's life. (Rom. 5:21.)
- g. Grace is given apart from works. (Rom. 11:5-6.)
- h. Grace establishes peace within the believer's life. (1 Cor. 1:3-4.)
- i. The grace of God is given to us for the work that He has entrusted to us. (1 Cor. 3:9-10.)
- j. The grace of God makes possible Divine behavior, one with another. (2 Cor. 1:12-14.)

- k. The grace of God is not limited but in abundance. (2 Cor. 4:14-15; Jas. 4:6.)
- l. The grace of God is bestowed upon faithful church groups. (2 Cor. 8:1.)
- m. The grace of God is a traveling asset as we work for the Lord. (2 Cor. 8:19.)
- n. The grace of God has many ways of blessing in the Christian life. (2 Cor. 9:8,14-15.)
- o. When called to be in Christ, it is based upon the grace of God. (Gal. 1:6,15.)
- p. All the riches of grace are in Christ Jesus. (Eph. 1:6-7; Eph. 2:7.)
- q. We preach the unsearchable riches of Christ by the grace of God. (Eph. 3:8.)
- r. The grace of God can never be separated from God's truth. (Col. 1:6.)
- s. Our singing and speech should always be by the grace of God. (Col. 3:16; Col. 4:6.)
- t. Our hope is through God's grace, making it without conditions and based upon our position in Christ. (2 Thess. 2:16.)
- u. Our strength is by grace, given to us through Christ Jesus. (2 Tim. 2:1.)
- v. The grace of God is available to all. (Tit. 2:11.)
- w. We are justified before God by His grace through Christ, and made heirs of eternal life. (Tit. 3:7.)
- x. There is a Throne of Grace which we can come to with our petitions, to find help from God. (Heb. 4:16.)
- y. It is possible for believers to "Fall from Grace", therefore we need to take heed and not mix works with grace. (Heb. 4:1; Heb. 10:29; Heb. 12:15.)
- z. Our Christian life should be established upon the principles of grace from God. (Heb. 13:9.)

God has poured out His grace in so many ways upon those who will accept His Eternal Son, for the remission of their sins. The love of God the Father has

been manifested in and through His Eternal Son, even the Lord Jesus Christ. Study these various aspects of the grace of God and apply them to your Christian life for the glory of God.

We are stewards of God under the grace principles, not to add to salvation but to be well pleasing in the sight of God, using our gifts for His glory and honor. "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." 1 Pet. 4:10. As we mature by the grace of God, so does God's grace grows within the believer's life. "Ye therefore, beloved, seeing that ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever. Amen." 2 Pet. 3:17-18.

5. THE HOLY SPIRIT USES GRACE IN REVEALING THE TRUTH OF THE BIBLE.

The Holy Spirit not only indwells us, but also comes along side of us through grace to guide us in the use of the Bible. His name is "Paraclete" and is known as our ever present help, indwelling us forever. The Lord had many things to say to His disciples, mainly of the coming kingdom, but He also prepared them for the coming of the Holy Spirit. "Nevertheless, when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth; for he shall not speak of himself, but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall He speak; and He will show you things to come. He shall glorify me; for He shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine; therefore said I, that He shall take of mine, and shall show it unto you." Jn. 16:13-15. This is very important to us as believers, for we must depend upon the Holy Spirit to teach us the Grace of our loving Savior.

You have a combination of grace and truth, revealed by the Holy Spirit and these are our source of being established in the most holy faith, and also witnessing to the grace of God through the Lord Jesus Christ. The Colossian believers understood the grace of God, according to the truth of the Word. "We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus, and of the love which ye have to all the saints; For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel, which is come unto you, as it is in all the world, and bringeth forth fruit, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it and knew the grace of God in truth." Col. 1:3-6.

God the Holy Spirit, who has breathed the Word of God, has also given us the contrast between law and grace. This revelation from the Holy Spirit, makes it very clear that no one but God can keep the commandments of God, therefore God Himself had to come and fulfill His law in our stead. Before that debt was paid by death, the souls of mankind were kept in Sheol, the place of the dead.

But praise be to God, who paid the debt of the sins of the whole world, and set us free from the law of sin and of death. Since the Bible is the work of the Holy Spirit, He has also revealed to us this marvelous grace of our loving Lord. We are now partakers of God's eternal truth, through the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and no one can come to God the Father but by Him. (Jn. 14:6.) It is through the Lord Jesus Christ that the grace of God the Father has been made possible in our lives. The religions which have been invented by man are of no avail. It is a blindness which has come upon these religious people from Satan himself, convincing them that there are many ways of worshipping. Satan is constantly projecting counterfeits to God's way of showing His "Amazing Grace". Yes, it is true that Christ died for the sins of the whole world, but in order to claim redemption, one must accept Christ as the Eternal Son of God who leads the way to eternal life. "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name." Jn. 20:31. That is pure grace from the Triune God!

The Holy Spirit uses grace principles in proclaiming, through the Bible, "So Great Salvation". It is amazing to read through the Bible, especially in the New Testament in the way that the Holy Spirit leads and guides into all truth, as well as providing wisdom in the use of the Bible. For example, Paul the apostle was forbidden by the Holy Spirit to go up to Jerusalem. (Acts 21:4-5.) Our newness of life has been made possible by the Holy Spirit and will continue by the Holy Spirit. We need to constantly refer to the Scriptures. "O Foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been openly set forth, crucified among you? This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Are ye so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?" Gal. 3:1-3. God the Holy Spirit is very essential in the newness of life and our continual walk by faith can only be possible by Him. That is why it is so necessary for us, as believers, to walk in the light of God the Holy Spirit. The Bible which has been "God Breathed" cannot be set aside. It is God's complete revelation and communication with mankind.

There is one precautionary measure that we as believers need to take in our Christian life, and that is, to be able to differentiate from strange voices that may mislead us. "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but test the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world." 1 Jn. 4:1. How do we test our understanding in doing the will of the Lord? One important truth concerning this is found in Romans chapter 12 and verse 2. "And be not conformed to this world (system), but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Then we may also test these strange voices that may come to us by using the Word of God in which we are established. The very important truth that we get from the Word of God is concerning the incarnation of the Lord Jesus Christ. This becomes an acid test to apply to any situation. "By this know ye the Spirit

of God; every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God." 1 Jn. 4:2. This is an important factor in our discernment. There are many voices that are heard and if we are not tuned into the wavelength of Almighty God, we can be misled by these false religious leaders. That is why we must study God's Word, rightly dividing it, with direct guidance through the Holy Spirit. The Word of God is to become part of our daily walk with the Lord, not grieving the Holy Spirit, but allowing Him to keep on filling your life with Himself.

CONCLUSION

The grace of God is provided and secured through God the Holy Spirit. He is our Divine source of life, making us new creatures in Christ Jesus. We are saved by grace through the new birth provided by the Holy Spirit. He convicts us of sin and causes us to understand the word of God according to the grace of God. The Holy Spirit speaks to us of the Lord Jesus Christ who has paid the price of sin for us. We are accepted in the Beloved by the grace of God and our sins are cast as far as the East is from the West. He will guide us into all truth as we study the Bible and establish our new life by the grace of God. We are not given a license to continue in sin, but rather convictions when we sin. "But if we walk in the Light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 Jn. 1:7-9. This is extremely revealing to the believer and reminds us that the Triune God is involved in providing salvation on a grace basis. God is satisfied with the provision of His Son Who paid the debt of our sins. God the Holy Spirit is willing to give a new birth to those who will believe. Christ is the author and finisher of our faith, who makes salvation available to all by the grace of God. The Holy Spirit is our security for eternity, not only giving us the new birth, but sustaining us by the very indwelling. By doing this, God has absolutely guaranteed our Divine relationship in His royal family.

There is no one who could possibly earn salvation, even if it were possible to refrain from sin the remainder of our life. Our lives are totally depraved and the Triune God must do the complete job, and we must accept this grace by faith. The best that we could do is, no more than filthy rags, before God as we compare these with the perfect righteousness of God. When we accept the Grace of God, through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; our lives become sealed by God the Holy Spirit. "To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He has made us accepted in the Beloved; In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace...." Eph. 1:6-7. "That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God- Not of works, lest any man should boast. For

we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." Eph. 2:7-10. As I close this chapter; may I remind you that nothing can be added to or taken away from God's provision of salvation; to "Whosoever Believeth"! God has laid our foundation in Christ Jesus and we are living spiritual stones partaking of God's grace. "Ye also, as living stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." 1 Pet. 2:5. We do not live a selfish life of our own; since we are a holy priesthood. "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." 1 Cor. 6:19-20.

God the Holy Spirit has energized us by Himself; giving us the Divine spark of life. It would have been impossible for us to be joint heirs with the Eternal Son of God without God the Holy Spirit bringing Divine eternal life to us. God the Holy Spirit has also prepared us for becoming the "Bride of Christ" when the Rapture occurs. "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the children of God, therefore, the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the children of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we see Him as He is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself even as He is pure." 1 Jn. 3:1-3.

Our positional purity is established in Christ Jesus; and because of this we, by the power and filling of the Holy Spirit, ought to live our lives well pleasing to God. We need a continual cleansing, keeping short accounts with God, by confessing our sins. (1 Jn. 1:9.) One day we shall stand before the judgement seat of Christ (2 Cor. 5:10.) and we certainly do not want the purifying fire of God to destroy our works. The wood, hay, and stubble in our lives should be removed during our life upon planet earth. (1 Cor. 3:15.); therefore we need to constantly confess our sins when they occur. It is important that we keep short accounts with the Lord.

There are many Christians confused about the eternal life that God has provided for those who believe. They think that God has placed certain conditions upon, obtaining this eternal life, after one believes. If this were the case, then there would be personal merit attached to salvation and this would demand certain conditions that must constantly be required. It would make salvation conditional and insecure if it would be based upon works rather than the Grace of God. We now want to let the Bible tell us clearly what God demands. It is important for us to remember that in order for us to even come into the presence of God, we must have the righteousness of God to cover us. That righteousness is entirely provided by the Lord Jesus Christ. In order to be positionally covered throughout eternity, our new birth is provided for by God the Holy Spirit. We are indwelt by the Holy Spirit forever; with His personal seal on our lives. (Jn. 3:3-7; Jn. 16:7; Jn. 14:16-17; Eph. 1:13-14; Eph. 4:30; 2 Cor. 1:22.) This excludes all

human merit and causes us to depend entirely upon the grace of God. "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present age, looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a people of His own, zealous of good works." Tit. 2:11-14. Yes, our works have a place in the Christian life, not for or toward salvation, but rather the results of salvation.

In no way could totally depraved creatures like human beings attain any merit before our Holy God. We not only have a sin nature, but also sin by choice. God in His omniscience knows the end of time from the beginning of time and saw our great need and prepared through His "Amazing Grace" a way to not only dwell with mankind but to provide the Divine spark, through the Holy Spirit, to make new creatures out of those who believe. God the Father had to send God the Son to pay the debt of sin. Then God the Son asked God the Father to send the Holy Spirit to provide the new birth to all who would believe. "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgements, and His ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? Or who hath been His counselor? Or who hath first given to Him, and it shall be recompensed unto Him again? For of Him, and through Him, and to Him, are all things: to whom be glory forever. Amen." Rom. 11:33-36. By grace through faith, we accept God's provision because He always make the right decision. We are now new creatures and are awaiting that glorified body like unto the Eternal Son of God.

How thankful we should be that God did not mingle religion with this wonderful relationship that He has provided. God's great power and sovereignty made possible His overflow of love through the Lord Jesus Christ. God the Father's Eternal Son is always heard by the Father and we have record of some of the prayers of Christ in our behalf. These prayers are continuing in the heavenlies as Christ is our Advocate with the Father, interceding in our behalf. There is nothing that we can add to or take away from the grace of God shed abroad in our hearts. The eternal laws of God have not been overlooked or by passed in God's grace toward man, for God Himself fulfilled every requirement that His laws demanded. Christ has necessarily attained everything for us, even unto perfection by the grace of God. "Let us, therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded; and if in anything ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. Nevertheless, as to that which we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing." Phil. 3:15-16. God has given us the Holy Spirit and we need to listen to His voice as He reveals the Holy Scripture to us. If your life is cluttered up with the affairs of this life, you will have very little time to listen to that still small voice of the Holy Spirit. The cares of the world will so fill your life, leaving very little room for the Holy Spirit to fill your life with Himself. There is also the fact that your prayer life will suffer

and your prayers will be in vain. Many times the reason that your prayers are not answered in your favor is because you are not filled by the Holy Spirit. Also, our prayers are so selfish and for personal gain that we have no time to pray for others.

Prayer for one another is essential

In regard to our obedience unto God for the greatest of blessings, it is important that we pray for one another. "Wherefore, also, we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness, and the work of faith with power, that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ." 2 Thess.1:11-12. As we draw upon the Divine power of the Holy Spirit may we be established in God's Word. "But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth, unto which He called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word or our epistle. Now our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and God, even our Father, who hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts, and establish you in every good word and work." 2 Thess. 2:13-17.

Prayer for one another establishes the bond of Christ as members of the body of Christ. Our talents and gifts differ one from another, but we are all important in the forming of the body of Christ. We are told from the Bible that our bodies are also the temple of God. "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." 1 Cor.6:19-20. Since we are all of the body of Christ, we are Divinely related to each other and certainly should pray for each other. We, as Christians, are fully dependent upon Christ, "And He is the head of the body, the church; who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, that in all things He might have the pre-eminence." Col.1:18.

Keeping the right company

There is another important factor in our daily walk with the Lord and that is, "What kind of company do we keep"? "Now we command you, brethren, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly and not after the tradition which he received of us." 2 Thess.3:6. "This, then, is the message which we have heard of Him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the

truth; But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin." 1 Jn.1:5-8. This is but another indication of God's wonderful and "Amazing Grace" toward those who believe. There are many examples from the Scripture, concerning keeping the right company, and I wish to just mention a few of them.

- a. Enoch walked with God. (Gen.5:24.)
- b. Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. (Gen.6:8.)
- c. Abram got out from idolatry. (Gen.12:1-4.)
- d. Isaac equally yoked in marriage with kindred. (Gen.24:1-67.)
- e. David & Jonathan. (1 Sam.18:1-5.)
- f. Ruth & Niomi. Ruth 1:16-17.)
- g. Esther (Esther 2:15-20.)
- h. Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego. (Dan.1:8-21;Dan.3:12-28.)
- i. Keeping fruitful for God. (Ps.1:1-6.)
- j. Stay away from the wicked. (Prov.4:14-19.)
- k. Choose those of like faith. (2 Cor.6:14.)
- l. Abiding in the truth. (Jn.15:7-14.)
- m. Avoid the friendship of the evil world. (Jas.1:1-4.)
- n. Assemble together with believers. (Heb.10:22-25.)

In closing may I turn your attention to that marvelous prayer of the Lord. "While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Thy Name; those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition, that the scripture might be fulfilled. And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. I have given them Thy Word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through Thy Truth; Thy Word is truth." Jn.17:12-17.

This gives us another glimpse of the grace of God, through the Creator of the Heavens and the Earth. The Lord in His Omniscience understands the problems that we face, with a world full of deceptions. We are left in this world for a mission and commission to perform. We have been sent into this world with a message. Here is what the Eternal Son of God has said. "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age. Amen" Matt.28:19-20. That is why Christ prayed, "Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also who shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one, as thou, Father, are in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them, that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me. Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am, that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me; for thou lovest me before the foundation of the world." Jn.17:17-24.

This unity is not regardless of doctrinal beliefs, but is to be based upon "Thus saith the Lord". The ecumenical crowd desire to bring a unity at all cost, will accept all religions and all sorts of forms of worship, regardless of what they believe. They base everything upon sincerity rather than what the Bible teaches. Well, they are sincerely wrong, for the Eternal Son of God is the only way, the truth and the life, and no one, regardless of how religious they may be, can even approach the Heavenly Father, apart from the Lord Jesus Christ. (Jn.14:6.) There are those who even have cried out before the Lord, performing great miracles, but will be told, to depart from the Lord's presence. "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father, who is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out demons? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you; depart from me, ye that work iniquity. Therefore, whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto as wise man, who built his house upon a rock. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house, and it fell not; for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, who built his house upon the sand. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house, and it fell; and great was the fall of it." Matt. 7:21-27. There are many counterfeit evangelists and con-christians who are deceiving many with false teachings, and great will be their condemnation. God

is not a God of confusion or of many beliefs, but by His grace He has set forth His eternal truth through the Lord Jesus Christ. "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Prov.14:12. Take heed as to how you use the grace of God, for there is nothing hidden from the eyes of God!

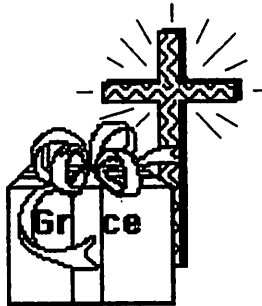
The Triune God wishes to share with all believers the unity which they have always had throughout eternity past. This is an amazing and again portrays the grace of God to His creation. God has accomplished the judgement against sin through the human race, and eventually will eradicate sin forever from the new creation, which has been promised. The marvel is, we who are the beneficiaries of so great salvation are granted a blameless position before God. Who can fathom the depths of God's love toward us? This in itself should cause every believer to give Christ the pre-eminence in their lives. Christ not only prayed for His own before going to the cross, but He continually prays for us before the Throne of God. Christ is at present, at the right Hand of God the Father, as our Advocate, making intercessory prayer in our behalf. As you study the grace of God, as revealed in the Bible, let it also become part of your life, manifesting this same grace toward others. You and I have been left here upon earth as a witness to the saving grace of our loving Lord.

QUESTIONS ON CHAPTER TWO

1. How does one receive Divine grace? Does Divine grace involve the three persons of the Godhead?
2. Give a definition of "Divine Grace".
3. What was provided so that we could be partakers of Divine Grace?
4. What alternative did God have for providing Divine Grace, rather than His Son becoming the sacrifice for sin? Explain.
5. Write briefly on Joel 2:28.
6. Explain Ezekiel 11:17-21.
7. As Israel is being gathered into her home land, what will happen? What is the purpose of the 144,000 young Jews?
8. Why should we be holy, since salvation is by grace. (1 Peter 1:15-23.)
9. What would happen if God did not manifest His grace to us?
10. Why was the supreme sacrifice of the Eternal Son of God necessary to activate Divine Grace?
11. Name 10 acts of Grace in the Christian's life.
12. Will sin ever be eradicated from God's creation? Scripture.
13. How does the Holy Spirit enter into Divine Grace? Scripture.
14. Which of the Godhead is responsible for the Bible? Scripture.
15. How does the Holy Spirit energize creation, bringing grace?
16. What part did the Holy Spirit have in the incarnation of Christ?
17. How did Grace and Truth come to us? (John 1:14.)
18. Explain Romans 5:20-21; Romans 6:14.
19. How is a believer's strength made perfect in weakness? (2 Cor.12:9.)

20. How is grace used in salvation of precious souls?
21. Name 10 acts of grace which can be found in the Bible.
22. Write an essay on "Divine Grace" in your life.
23. What conditions are included for you to benefit from God's Divine Grace?
24. What benefits do we receive as we choose the right friends?
25. Name as many Biblical friendships as possible with the Scripture verses.

CHAPTER THREE



*The Gift of God
'Eternal Life' Rom 6:23*

Eternal Security by the Grace of God

CHAPTER THREE

ETERNAL SECURITY PROVIDED BY THE GRACE OF GOD

INTRODUCTION

Apart from the grace of God, it is absolutely impossible to maintain our salvation, for our works of righteousness are as filthy rags compared to God's perfect righteousness. There is no way that we, as totally depraved human beings, could attain such righteous standards of God. God in His omniscience has prepared for this before He created man. We must constantly remember that God does not by pass His eternal laws of righteousness and holiness but, as has been discussed, Almighty God provided a perfect way in manifesting His grace toward all who will believe. When God looks upon us as believers, He beholds the eternal and perfect righteousness of His Beloved Son. "For ye are dead, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory." Col.3:3-4. In that special prayer of the Son of God to His Father which is found in John 17, the Lord made special mention of sharing His glory with the believers. "That they all may be one, as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them, that they may be one, even as we are one; I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou has loved me. Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am, that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me; for thou lovest me before the foundation of the world." Jn.17:21-24.

God the Holy Spirit who provided the new spiritual birth, indwells and seals the believers with Himself fulfilling all the requirements necessary throughout eternity. God never lets anything to chance and always is aware of all the circumstances. We have been approved by God the Father, through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. God the Father is always well pleased with His Son. Because if His Eternal Son, God the Father has had the stamp of the Holy Spirit placed upon our destiny. "Let us, therefore, come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we might obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Heb.4:16. This is all part of God's "Amazing Grace". God's Divine spark of life has been established in the believer's life, forever and ever! Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Let us now consider why we are completely secure in God's provision.

- A. GOD'S SECURITY NOT BASED UPON HUMAN WORKS.**
- B. GOD'S STANDARDS FULLY PROTECTED AND OFFERED THROUGH GRACE.**

C. GOD TOTALLY FULFILLS EVERY DIVINE REQUIREMENT.

A. GOD'S SECURITY IS NOT BASED UPON HUMAN WORKS.

The very meaning of Grace is, unmerited favor which certainly indicates that it is not earned by any personal merit. Many carnal and unestablished believers are puzzled over Christianity and their direct relationship with the Living God. Our physical life is so controlled by "You get what you pay for", that it is difficult for us to understand that we have no merit in ourselves in order to obtain salvation. God provides all in redemption, or one remains in condemnation. The thief on the cross was in that helpless condition when "he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom." Lk. 23:42. Christ's answer was, "And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in Paradise." Lk. 23:43. Tell me, what works could the thief on the cross do in order to obtain a place in Paradise? He is a clear case of God's "Amazing Grace"! God the Father has put His seal of approval upon His Son. "Labor not for food which perisheth, but for that food which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you; for him hath God the Father sealed. Then said they unto Him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? Jesus answered, and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent," Jn. 6:27-29. This may seem strange to an unbeliever, but to the informed Christian, it is the greatest act of God upon the believer. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him." Jn.3:36. When God says "Eternal Life" it never can be "Temporary Life". Take God at His Word!

There is no way that human works could be a part of procuring eternal life on an eternal security basis. The arm of flesh is weak through the total depravity of all of mankind. Also, the grace principles of Almighty God could not be applied if God was partially dependent upon man's works in His provision of salvation. God's absolute perfect character must be maintained in God's judgements and grants. If there was the least possibility of sin entering into God's provisional sacrifice in removing sin, then his grace would become void. The Old Testament offerings were to be made with animals without spot or blemish to cover sin until the supreme sacrifice from God himself would appear. The Lord Jesus Christ became that perfect sacrifice and the one who sacrificed in order that grace could be established toward salvation of precious souls. Human works could not attain this status before God and therefore God had to perform every phase in saving those who believed.

As we discuss "Eternal Security", we must realize that such a term demands an absolutely impeccable approach. God could not risk applying grace principles to something that was insecure. If man had any part in believers being offered

eternal life with the results would end in failure. The very words "Eternal Life" could not be used in our salvation if there were pending circumstances. Christ said, "I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, who gave them to me, is greater than all, and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one." Jn.10:28-30. Because of the tight security in the Godhead and being sealed by the Holy Spirit, there is no room whatsoever for human works.

There is still another aspect to this eternal security if we could consider a hypothetical case or that it were possible that one could be lost after being saved? The question would be, "If this were the case, can that person be saved again?" The answer is a clear cut "NO". Why do I conclude with that? Well, let's go to the Word of God for our answer. "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good Word of God, and the powers of the age to come, if they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance, seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put Him to an open shame." Heb.6:4-6. There are a few important principles mentioned in this statement from the Holy Spirit, that we may just briefly mention. God's grace is fully protected by Divine provision and without conditions. The important issue in being partaker of God's Divine Grace is to feast upon it. Let us list some of these important facts, for further study of this important passage.

1. "Enlightened by the gospel" is merely being exposed to it,
2. "Tasted of heavenly things" is in no way feasting on heavenly things. It involves sampling without accepting it. They have merely tasted the good Word of God, without allowing their actions to make a decision. Or they have adopted some of the bi-products of Christianity in contrast to some heathen practices.
3. "Partakers of the Holy Spirit", stopping short of allowing him to provide a new birth. The Holy Spirit strives with the unregenerate, bringing convictions which can change their lives or callous their intents of the heart.
4. "Tasted of the power of the age to come", can come under the category of going so far as to study prophesy, just as a special study and without an intent of doing anything about it.
5. "Falling away", if that would be a possibility, but it isn't. You have to be within that which you believe before you could fall away. These would be of those who were pretending to be Christians and when it became too personal, they drifted away, not having been born of God the Holy Spirit.

6. "Crucifying the Son of God afresh", would cause Christ to be exposed to an open shame, for he was crucified once and forever, and not to be crucified again. Christ has suffered once upon the cruel cross and this cannot be repeated again. Some religions would have Christ still hanging upon the cross.

In conclusion of this truth, I want to refer also to another section of the Word of God. "For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; Nor yet that He should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; For then must He often have suffered since the foundation of the world. But now once, in the end of the ages, hath He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself." Heb.9:24-26. Let us analyze this very important Scripture.

1. Christ has entered into the heavenly and eternal realm.
2. Christ appeared in the presence of God the Father for us.
3. Christ only had to offer Himself once and forever in our behalf as the high priest entering the Holy of Hollies.
4. He did not present the blood of others, but sacrificed Himself once for the sins of the whole world.
5. This could and will not be repeated again, for we cannot have Christ crucified over and over again.
6. However Christ continually makes intercession for all believers before the throne of grace. (Heb.7:25.)

The difference between Christianity and all religions is the difference between two words. The religions of the world say, "DO"! But Christianity which is an established relationship says, "DONE". When Christ paid the debt of the sins of the whole world, He said, "It is Finished"! Nothing can be added to that finished work, nor can anything be taken away.

THE SOLID ROCK

*My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

*When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.*

*His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.*

*When He shall come with trumpet sound, O yes in Him I am found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.*

*On Christ the solid rock, I stand - all other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.*

CHRISTIAN WORKS HAVE A PLACE

BY THE GRACE OF GOD.

There is a place for Christian work, but not to be added to the Divine redemption plan of the Triune God. We have been commissioned by the Lord to go forth into all the world and preach the Gospel. "As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I sent them into the world." Jn.17:18. The great commission is for every believer. "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age. Amen." Matt. 28:19-20. Note also what the Lord said concerning witnessing of his saving grace. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do, because I go unto my Father." Jn.14:12. That seems to be a very strong statement by the Creator. What could Christ possibly have meant? You see, God the Holy Spirit hadn't been poured out upon and within the believers at the time that Christ was with the disciples. However, when Pentecost took place, then, were the believers empowered by the Holy Spirit to witness, and the results were the new birth upon all who believed. Here are some of the works that believers may do, not toward or added to their salvation, but rather fulfilling the great commission, being obedient unto the Lord.

1. The ministry of prayer. (Matt. 21:13,22; Acts 1:14; Acts 6:4; Acts 12:5; Rom.12:12; 1 Cor.7:5; Eph.6:18; Phil. 4:6; Col.4:2; 1 Pet.4:7.)
2. Witnessing of the saving grace of our loving Lord. (Matt.28:19-20; Matt.24:14; Jn.1:7,8,15; Jn.15:27; Acts 1:22; Acts 4:33; 1 Thess.2:10.)
3. Preaching and teaching the Gospel to all. (Rom.1:15-17; 1 Cor.15:1-7;)
4. Going forth as missionaries. Isa.6:1-8; Rom.10:14.)
5. Presenting our bodies as a living sacrifice. (Rom.12:1-2.)

6. We as believers provide funds to speed the Gospel light. (Rom.10:15.)

With these facts from the Bible, we discover a two fold solution to this problem of whether we are secure or not. We must remember that it is by grace alone that salvation is provided and you are saved through faith and that not of yourself, but is entirely a gift from God and not of works, lest anyone should boast. Here are these two Divine view points which we must accept, as from the written Word of God. They are very important as to God's dealing with man, as salvation is offered to all who believe.

1. Christ could only be crucified once to remove the sins of the whole world.

When Christ hung on the Cross and uttered, "It is finished", that was it, as He paid the sins of the whole world past, present and future. With the purpose of dying once, as the Eternal Son of God entered this world to remove the barrier of sin, and it was so complete and sufficient, to cast our sins as far as the East is from the West. God the Father will not remember them anymore, and they will be blotted out of God's memory forever and ever. This is God's "Amazing Grace", reaching down to the total depravity of man, and lifting him up to the highest heights in the heavenlies. It was so effective that it will never be necessary to repeat the process, removing sin once and forever. "For Christ is not entered into the holy place made by hands....Nor yet should He offer Himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; For then must He often have suffered since the foundation of the world. But now once, in the end of the ages, hath He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself." Heb. 9:24-26.

2. Christ has entered into the Holy of Holies in the heavenlies once to the satisfaction of God the Father, and will never have to be repeated. Christ our great High Priest in all of His impeccability has pleaded our case before the ark of the covenant, presenting His blood once and forever. That becomes our all sufficiency before the Father forever.

Since the earthly high priest had to make atonement for his own personal sins, and then make them for the congregation, he had to repeat this annually. However with Christ the Eternal Son of God this will never have to be repeated again, because He is impeccable and without sin, and is very God and very man. God the Father is well pleased with His Son, who is both King and Priest after the order of Melchizedek. Now the Lord Jesus Christ is at the right hand of God the Father, making intercession for the saints. "For those priests were made without an oath, but this with an oath by him that said unto him, The Lord swore and will not repent, Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek, by so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament. And they, truly, were many priests, because they were not allowed to continue by reason of death; But

this man, because He continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore, he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." Heb. 7:21-25. What "Marvelous Grace" of our loving Lord!

B. GOD'S STANDARDS FULLY PROTECTED AND OFFERED THROUGH GRACE.

When God makes an unconditional covenant, as He did to Abraham and to David, He makes it entirely by Himself to assure that it will never fail. It is in this manner that God fully protects His plan of salvation under his "Amazing Grace"! When the Lord Jesus Christ removed the barrier of sin, it was then that God the Father could give us the gift of eternal life by His grace. Every law of God was fully protected as well as fulfilled, when Christ died on the Cross. "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, should taste death for every man. For it became Him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings." Heb. 2:9-10. God the Father has called us with His heavenly calling through Christ, by grace. "Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus, who was faithful to Him that appointed Him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house. For this man was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as he who hath built the house hath more honor than the house." Heb. 3:1-4. This certainly confirms Christ as the Creator of all things and has become our High Priest forever, continually making intercession for us before the Father. The grace of God has been manifested through the Eternal Son of God. It cost God the sacrifice of His Only Begotten Son, to bring us into His royal family, by the grace of our loving Heavenly Father.

Each member of the Triune God will always be absolute holy and righteous from eternity past and on into eternity to come. "Do not err, my beloved brethren, every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of his own will begot he us with the word of truth, that we should be kind of first fruits of his creatures. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God." Jas. 1:16-20. God is immutable and from His eternal past on into the eternal future, God has never had to or ever will have to change His wonder working powerful plan! You and I as brethren in the Lord Jesus Christ have been partakers of the "Amazing Grace" of Almighty God. Every law of God has been vindicated in His provision for us in removing the barrier of sin. The Eternal Son of God has fully paid the wages of sin through His death, making possible the gift of God to all who believe. Eternal life is something we could not earn, but had to be granted entirely by the grace of God.

It certainly would have been sufficient for the Triune God to have acquitted us of our sins and then restore us to the original position of Adam and Eve, but instead He has made us "Joint Heirs" with Christ Jesus, through the new birth. This was made possible by the new birth by God the Holy Spirit. We might also mention, that we were given the Holy Spirit to indwell us forever. This all adds up to a total of a multiplicity of Divine grace. God always does exceeding abundantly above all that we could ask or think. That Divine spark, through God the Holy Spirit, will be an eternal possession, bringing us into a close relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom we are to be married as members of the body of Christ. This will all be in preparations for us to be a kingdom of priests, during the kingdom age. All of this is evidence of the "Amazing Grace" of our loving Lord.

As I conclude this portion may I remind you that God's principles and character are fully protected and his supreme justice has been accomplished.

*For nothing good have I Where-by thy grace to claim
I'll wash my garments white In the blood of Calvary's Lamb,
And when before the throne I stand in Him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save", My lips shall still re-peat,
Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.*

The Triune God has provided our all in all for time and eternity, with all praise and glory to His Matchless Name. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God." Rom. 5:1-2. We who were dead in trespasses and sins through our total depravement, are now alive in Christ Jesus. "For if by one man's offense death reigned by one, much more they who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ." Rom. 5:17. As we were once totally dead in trespasses and sin, now we are made alive by the grace of God through the Lord Jesus Christ. We deserved eternal punishment, and eternally separated from God, but now, by grace, we are given eternal life and made joint heirs with Christ. "The Spirit Himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God; And if children, then heirs - heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ - if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. Rom. 8:16-17. God's provision by grace is far beyond any desire that we might have thought possible. "Christ in us the hope of glory"!

C. GOD TOTALLY FULFILLS EVERY DIVINE REQUIREMENT

In the exercise of "Grace", God fully meets every requirement to satisfy every characteristic in the Godhead. When God declared that His gift of eternal life would be given without any other condition but belief, He was fully justified

to pronounce such a statement based upon the finished work of Calvary. The character of God was never manipulated in any way and all requirements were met in Christ Jesus. God revealed His commandments and perfect law, to remind all that absolute perfection is required to find favor with God. If we would be able to keep 90% of God's commandments, which we can't, that would fall short of the glory of God. That was why it was necessary for God the Father to send His Eternal Son, to fulfill the complete law for us. The punishment for sin is death, and Christ came to die, in our stead, paying the penalty for our sins. It was then and then only that God could show mercy toward us who believe. The old covenant required animal sacrifices, as a covering until the new covenant was made manifest through Christ who became both the sacrifice and the Sacrificer. "The Holy Spirit thus signifying that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while the first tabernacle was yet standing; Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience; Which stood only in foods and drinks, and various washings, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation. But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building, neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us." Heb. 9:8-12.

CHRIST MADE POSSIBLE THE GRACE OF GOD.

The Old Covenant was but an example of what was necessary to be a partaker of God's "Amazing Grace". We must always remember that God is "Immutable" and never needs to change, being the same, "Yesterday, Today, and Forever". The first covenant revealed what was necessary to approach the Living God. The second covenant made possible, grace, mercy and peace to those who would believe. "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood, and without shedding of blood is no remission. It was therefore, necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us." Heb. 9:22-24. Christ did not come to destroy the law, but that the law might be fulfilled in Him. "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets; I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill." Matt. 5:17. This is of the most utmost importance in God's plan for redemption of totally depraved mankind. The Lord Jesus Christ spent those three years teaching heavenly principles. The religions of the world attempt to justify themselves before men, with their various forms of idol worship, but remain condemned before God. "And He said unto them, Ye are they who justify yourselves before men, but God knoweth your hearts; for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God."

Lk.16:15. The scribes and pharisees placed great emphasis on the letter of the laws which they chose, rather than every phase of God's laws. "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth. John bore witness of Him, and cried, saying, This was He of whom I spoke, He that cometh after me is preferred before me; for He was before me. And of His fullness have all we received, and grace for grace. For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." Jn.1:14-17.

The grace of God is not accomplished in our lives through personal merit or achievements in the work of the Lord. It is purely based upon the finished work of Christ, with nothing added. Christ alone has made possible the out pouring of God's grace upon our lives. Christ has done all the necessary work, and we accept it by the grace of God. Having God's grace and receiving God's mercy and forgiveness, we joyfully accept the truth of the law. There is nothing in ourselves that we can boast of, in order to get God's approval. "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one." Rom.3:10-12. This certainly is not a commendable condition in which the best of human beings find themselves. This does not mean that we should become discouraged and think that there is no hope. God has made a way by which we are approved before God, through the Lord Jesus Christ, in whom God is well pleased. Christ has set us free from the law of sin and of death. (Rom. 6:14-18.) Once we recognize that we are nothing in ourselves, and realize that we are all things in Christ Jesus, we then begin to understand the "Amazing Grace" of God. "There is, therefore, now no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus, for the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son, in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Rom. 8:1-4. The Lord Jesus Christ has removed every barrier between us as human beings and God, and has provided us with God the Holy Spirit, who has given us eternal life. It is marvelous to realize that God has not only provided forgiveness but also has made available an abundant life through the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit. It was Christ Himself that asked God the Father to provide us with the Comforter. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit Himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are children of God;" Rom. 8:14-16. Make full use of God the Holy Spirit in your Christian life. He dwells within us forever and one day we shall behold the depth of the riches in and through Christ Jesus. When you thoroughly understand the grace of God in your Christian lives, then you will experience that wonderful "Faith Rest" provision as we finish our course in this

present life.

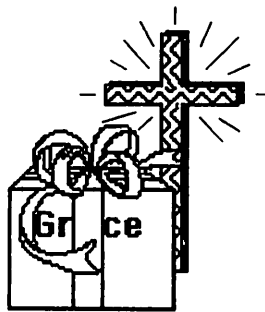
CONCLUSION

God's method of providing a way of escape from the penalty of sin, had to be entirely by grace because of the frailty of man. Although human works show our appreciation as to what the Lord has provided, they cannot add or take away from the Divine provision made possible through the Lord Jesus Christ. There is no room for us to boast or consider ourselves worthy of merit before God. Even that which we can accomplish for God is entirely dependent upon the Holy Spirit working in and through us. This ability through the Holy Spirit is of great importance to us as believers. Being led by the Spirit, as well as being filled by the Spirit makes possible great things for the glory and praise of God. There is no room for us to be proud, but rather remain humble by the grace of God. God has fully secured us through the love of the Lord Jesus Christ, shed abroad in our hearts. Nothing can separate us from this wonderful relationship that we have with Almighty God. "Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God, our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen." Jude 24-25.

QUESTIONS CHAPTER THREE

- 1. How is one's salvation maintained and by whom is it maintained? Give Scripture.**
- 2. What is "Grace" based upon? Give Scripture.**
- 3. What made the difference between the two thieves on the cross? How did one of the thieves qualify to go to Paradise? Give Scripture.**
- 4. What part do human works add to our salvation? Give Scripture.**
- 5. In order to receive eternal security, what had to be done by God? Give Scripture.**
- 6. Explain Hebrews 6:4-6; and Hebrews 9:4-26.**
- 7. What place has Christian works as members of the Royal Family of God?**
- 8. How can we fulfill God's desire for us as believers?**
- 9. What are the two Divine viewpoints that we must accept as to Christ's crucifixion and High-Priesthood?**
- 10. Did God have to give in as to any of his attributes to provide us with salvation?**
- 11. Explain Hebrews 2:9-10.**
- 12. Explain James 1:16-20.**
- 13. What did God do for us beyond saving our souls?**
- 14. Name some of the benefits that we have as Christians.**
- 15. What do you understand about the Grace of God in your own life?**
- 16. Write a brief essay on "Christ Made Possible The Grace of God".**

CHAPTER FOUR



*The Gift of God
'Eternal Life' Rom 6:23*

Living by God's Grace

CHAPTER FOUR

LIVING BY GOD'S GRACE

INTRODUCTION

As we continue to study on this "Amazing Grace", may we constantly remind ourselves that God has not done His job partially and expects "Homo Sapien" to do the rest. This would jeopardize the security of our eternal life. God did not leave any of the eternal elements to be fulfilled by His creatures. God's "Amazing Grace" covers it all, making our redemption sure and secure! However, as Christians we should desire the Divine viewpoint above everything else, since God by His grace has shown us mercy and provided us with peace that passes all understanding. Let us now turn to the Scripture and learn how to live according to the will of God. Since Christ has paid the debt for our sins and given us the Holy Spirit in newness of life, we ought to take heed to the way of life made possible by Christ Jesus. We are not under the curse of the law, but under the grace of God accepted in His Eternal Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. "John bore witness of Him, and cried, saying, This was He of whom I spoke, He that cometh after me is preferred before me; for He was before me. And of His fullness have all we received, and grace for grace. For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. John 1:15-17. May we remember, that God who is the author of grace desires to cause grace to abound in your daily life. (2 Cor.9:8.) May we consider three important aspects that should be manifested in our Christian life.

- A. THE LAWS OF GOD COMPLETELY FULFILLED BY CHRIST**
- B. BELIEVER'S FULLY ESTABLISHED ON A GRACE BASIS FOR DAILY LIFE IN CHRIST**
- C. BELIEVER'S DIVINE LIFE THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

- A. THE LAWS OF GOD COMPLETELY FULFILLED BY CHRIST.**

Since grace and truth came by the Lord Jesus Christ, they are part and parcel of "So Great Salvation." The perfect laws of God were not "By Passed" but rather completely fulfilled by Christ Jesus. "That in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God-Not of works, lest any man should boast." Eph. 2:7-9. This does

not mean that we can just do our own thing as we please, but rather that we are totally dependant upon God, who gives us understanding, knowledge, and wisdom as we walk in the light of God's Word. "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present age, looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior, Jesus Christ." Titus 2:11-13. The total plan of God for all ages is completely woven through grace with the Divine rules and regulations of God fully maintained. We as believers must lean entirely upon the everlasting arms of our Almighty God.

DIVINE LAWS COMPLETED IN CHRIST

The Divine laws of God had to be fulfilled completely and without any possibility of sin, therefore God Himself had to complete every phase of our redemption. That was accomplished through the Eternal Son of God, manifesting the supreme grace of God toward all who believe, who gave himself a ransom for our sins. "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work. As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; He hath given to the poor; His righteousness remaineth forever." 2 Cor. 9:8-9. When God the Father looks upon us throughout eternity, He sees us as blameless and with the absolute perfection as found in His Eternal Son. Now, that is "Amazing Grace"! "According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love. Having predestinated us unto the adoption of sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, through which He hath made us accepted in the Beloved." Eph. 1:4-6.

Throughout eternity, "God's Grace" will be manifested in our lives, being made new creatures in Christ Jesus. (2 Cor. 5:17-19.) As we pass through this present life, we live by the power of the Holy Spirit, who dwells within us. We are being established in God's Word, waiting for our glorified body. This will take place as Christ returns in the clouds and receives us unto Himself. (Jn. 14:3; 1 Thess.4:13-18; 1 Cor. 15:51-57.) "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." 1 Cor.15:58. We become 100% reconciled in Christ Jesus by God's grace and therefore it should always be the basis for our daily life, while we wait for our glorified bodies. This is part of our blessed hope in the Lord which is both sure and steadfast. The Lord by Himself has accomplished perfection for us for all eternity.

GRACE PROVIDED RECONCILIATION THROUGH CHRIST

"But God commendeth His love toward us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the reconciliation." Rom. 5:8-11. These are encouraging statements, for we were once enemies with God, now we are very close friends with God through His Son, in whom He is well pleased. This is hard to realize, but it is true and according to God's immutable Word. The enmity between us and God the Father has been abolished through the cross and fulfilling every letter of the law of God. "But now in Christ Jesus ye who once were far off are made near by the blood of Christ. For He is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances, to make in Himself of two one new man, so making peace; And He might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enemy thereby, and came and preached peace to you who were afar off, and to them that were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father." Eph. 2:13-18.

AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST WITH RECONCILIATION POWER

It was through Christ that all creation will be restored and returned unto the Triune God. "For it pleased the Father that in Him should all fullness dwell; And, having made peace through the blood of His cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself - by Him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were once alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath He reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy and unblamable and unreprouable in His sight," Col. 1:19-22. God has exercised His grace upon us, including all things in heaven and earth. This has restored potentially all things to God. "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation. To wit, that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them, and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now, then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we beg you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For He hath made Him, who knew no sin, to be sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." 2 Cor. 5:18-21. These are strong statements from the Word of God, declaring Christ to be made our righteousness before God. This is the good news that we as ambassadors have to share with our fellow man. As Ambassadors for Christ, we are to present the finished work of Christ and not the situation in which we find ourselves. Paul was

an ambassador in bonds. "And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel. For which I am an ambassador in bonds; that in this I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak." Eph. 6:19-20. Our witness for the Lord should not be based upon circumstances, but rather upon being commissioned by Christ to go tell the nations. "Now, then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we beg you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." 2 Cor.5:20. We maintain a loving approach as we beg precious souls to accept Christ as their representative before God the Father. Christ is the only way, the only truth and the only life! Christ Himself said, "No man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

Although we as students of the Bible are aware of the perilous times that we face and that things will not get better, we can present the good news that God is always sovereign and is ready to lead them into the escape route through His Eternal Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. One day the total wrath of God will be poured out upon the ungodly but until then, God is manifesting His grace to those who will listen and believe. "He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Rom. 8:32. God has fully fulfilled all of the requirements of His laws in Christ Jesus. This is the good news of the gospel which we share with others.

B. BELIEVERS' FULLY ESTABLISHED ON A GRACE BASIS FOR DAILY LIFE IN CHRIST.

Since we as Christians have received grace in abundance, we need to allow that grace to be expressed in our daily living. By so doing, we continue to draw upon the grace of God. Paul and Barnabas, in their evangelical outreach admonished believers to continue in the grace of God. (Acts 13:43.) We as believers have a continual access by faith in the use of God's grace. We make our stand upon grace principles in our daily life. (Rom. 5:1-2.) The grace principles of God should be our attitude toward one another, allowing the beauty of the Lord Jesus Christ to be seen in us. "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith." Rom.12:3. Regardless of the gifts that are given to us by the Holy Spirit, we should manifest God's grace in abundance as we use these gifts. "Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering; or he that teacheth, on teaching; Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation; he that giveth, let him do it with liberality; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that showeth mercy, with cheerfulness." Rom. 12:6-8. There is nothing wherein we can boast of as Christians, but let us remember, "But by the grace of God I am what I am; and His grace, which was bestowed upon me, was not in vain, but I labored more abundantly than they all; yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. Therefore, whether it were I or they, so we preach,

and so ye believed." 1 Cor. 15:10-11. Through our daily living, we have a wonderful opportunity to introduce many to the Lord Jesus Christ by the abundance of God's "Amazing Grace of our Loving Lord."

"For sin shall not have dominion over you; for ye are not under the law but under grace". Rom. 6:14. Because of this we continually yield our lives to God through the Holy Spirit, and thereby we witness to the world to the saving grace of our loving Lord. We need to walk worthy of our high calling, using the wisdom from the Holy Spirit in our daily lives. "Walk in wisdom toward them that are outside, redeeming the time. Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man." Col. 4:5-6. We need to be very confident and strong for the Lord as we live by the grace of God. There is no room to excuse our weakness, as the Lord has promised us that in our weakness we are made strong in the Lord. "Thou, therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the thing that thou hast heard from me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." 2 Tim. 2:1-2. This good news from God is to be shared with others, as God has given to us this great responsibility of teaching others during this age of grace. God's storehouse of grace, never is depleted, but is always in abundance. The more that you share with others, the more you grow in grace.

TEACHING OTHERS

As Ambassadors for Christ we are not only to witness to the saving grace of our Lord Jesus, but also to prepare others so that they may reach others through the teaching ministry. Christ's last three years upon this earth were spent in teaching. We are the sent ones to declare the gospel fulfilling that great commission that He gave to us, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations" Matt. 28:19. What shall we teach? God has provided our guide line through the Holy Spirit. You do the studying of God's Word and you can rest assured that the Holy Spirit will guide you. "For the Holy Spirit shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say." Lk. 12:12. "But the Comforter, who is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My Name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said to you." Jn. 14:26. What Christ had taught the first disciples has become the Written Word. In order for the Holy Spirit to remind you of the Written Word, you must study the Written Word. There is no short cut whatsoever through a direct revelation from the Holy Spirit, apart from, the written Word of God. "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Tim. 2:15.

It is important that we entrust the right ones to teach, who are chosen by God. Their Christian life also should manifest the fruit of the Holy Spirit according to the Word of God. "And the things which thou has heard from me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able

to teach others also." 2 Tim. 2:2. This is of great importance that the teaching ministry is submitted to faithful men. "And the servant of the Lord must not strive, but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those that oppose them, if God perhaps, will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth, and that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will." 2 Tim. 1:24-26. We need discernment from the Holy Spirit in our evangelism, teaching and preaching, for the devil will try every way possible to spoil the Christian teachings. Always remember, "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Eph. 6:12. Therefore we need to, "Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." Eph.6:11. As we teach and train others to become ambassadors for Christ it is important that we take heed to the Scripture. "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might." Eph. 6:10. "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." Zech. 4:6b. God's grace must be acknowledged through God the Holy Spirit. If you are to grow in God's grace, you must depend upon the Holy Spirit to lead you in all these marvelous truths.

GROWING GRACE IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

As we continually mature in the Christian life, there are many obstacles that must be overcome. As babes in Christ feast upon the milk of God's Word, and allow the Holy Spirit to guide into all truth, so we grow strong in the faith. If we neglect the study of God's Word, we become susceptible to false doctrine. "Ye therefore, beloved, seeing that ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever. Amen." 2 Pet. 3:17-18.

The more we understand about the Bible, the more established we become in the plan of God. The Christian life is a continual growth, grounded in the Word of God. That growth in the Word of God must be thoroughly dependent upon the "Amazing Grace" of God. No one has ever attained to God's absolute grace, and therefore it is a continual growth throughout our earthly journey. "For if by one man's offense death reigned by one, much more they who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ." Rom. 5:17. He giveth "More Grace" as we lay aside earthly cares, especially as they relate to the corruptible system of this world. "Wherefore, laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, as newborn babes desire the pure milk of the word, that ye may grow by it, if so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious." 1 Pet. 2:1-3. We are Christ's representatives in this world of sin and woe and our lives are to be a spiritual house set aside and dedicated to the cause of Christ. "Ye also, as living stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual

sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." 1 Pet. 2:5. May each of us remember that our growth as Christians in this world must continue until we breathe our last breath. "Ye therefore, beloved, seeing that ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever. Amen." 2 Pet. 3:17-18. May the following be said of each of us, "Grace unto you, and peace, from God, our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith groweth exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth, so that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure." 2 Thess. 1:2-4.

REJOICING IN THE GRACE OF GOD.

Paul the Apostle suffered much for the cause of Christ, but through it all he kept on rejoicing in the Lord. "Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort, who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them who are in any trouble, by the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted of God." 2 Cor. 1:3-4. Paul could conclude such a testimony by saying, "For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom but by the grace of God, we have behaved ourselves in the world, and more abundantly toward you." 2 Cor. 1:12. Our rejoicing in the grace of God brings all glory and praise to the Lord Jesus Christ who has made this possible. "knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God." 2 Cor. 4:14-15. As we manifest the grace of God in our lives, in all sincerity, we do glorify the Lord Jesus Christ before our fellow man. When Christ was crucified upon the cross, He took our place, making possible God's grace. "I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. I do not make void the grace of God; for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain." Gal. 2:20-21. For these reasons we have a song in our hearts. "And above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, in all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another, in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him." Col. 3:14-17. The grace of God is always sufficient, even in times of trials and disappointments. It is not that we rejoice because of the tribulations, but rather, we rejoice in spite

of these trials which occur in our Christian life.

C. BELIEVERS' DIVINE LIFE THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT

To practice grace in our every day life would be next to impossible, were it not for God the Holy Spirit who dwells within us. God the Holy Spirit is the spark of Divine life, having given us a new birth. Since the Holy Spirit dwells within us, this also makes possible an understanding of the Bible. Without Him, a life lived by the grace of God would never occur. As believers, we are partakers of the mighty power of God, by the grace of God! God the Holy Spirit testifies with our spirits and gives us understanding as we study the Bible. There is no reason whatsoever that a Christian should lack understanding of the Bible, if being led by the Spirit. Since the Holy Spirit is the source of the Bible, certainly He can guide us into a thorough understanding of what is written. Our Divine life has been made possible by the Holy Spirit and the grace of God can be fully appreciated in our daily life. We are already citizens of heaven with all the saints that have gone before us. "Now, therefore, ye are no more strangers and sojourners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone, in whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord; In whom ye also are built together for an habitation of God through the Holy Spirit." Eph. 2:19-22. "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Eph. 4:4-6.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE FRUIT OF DIVINE GRACE.

The indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life is the first indication of God's grace toward those who believe. No creature would be able to earn such a position through personal merit. We are promised to possess a glorified body like unto the Lord Jesus Christ. This will occur at the Rapture when we see our Savior face to face. "Beloved, now are we the children of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is." 1 Jn. 3:2. Just to think that one day we will be clothed in a glorified body like unto the Lord Jesus Christ. That is "Amazing Grace" and the Holy Spirit is that guarantee to such a statement who also bears witness to us as children of God. "The Spirit Himself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God." Rom.8:16. This identification is known to us through the Holy Spirit who dwells within us. We can also say that those who have been with the Lord are our true witnesses. "By this know we that we dwell in Him, and He in us, because he hath given us his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world. Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in

Him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love, and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God and God in him." 1 Jn. 4:13-16. These disciples who were with Christ during His earthly ministry are our witnesses of the grace of God through the Lord Jesus Christ. "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life. For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and show unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us." 1 Jn. 1:1-2. Since we are partakers of the Holy Spirit, we are to bear testimony to the world of the marvelous grace of God. The unregenerate in the world will have to make their individual choice in these matters. It is almost unbelievable that the grace of God would include the eternal indwelling of the Holy Spirit for the believers of God but it is true, because the Bible says so! "And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." Jn. 14:16-17. The Holy Spirit desires to bear fruit through our lives and at the same time, build us up in the most holy faith. Here are a few important factors as to the Holy Spirit in relationship with sinners as well as believers.

1. The Holy Spirit searches and convicts the sinner. (1 Cor.2:10-11; Jn,16:8.)
2. Guides and teaches us as we study the Bible. (Rom.8:14.)
3. He gives a new birth to believers and indwells them. (Jn.3:5-7.)
4. He baptizes every believer by himself. (1 Cor.12:13.)
5. He has the power to give special gifts to believers as he wills. (1 Cor.12:11.)
6. He comforts the believers in time of sorrow. (Jn.14:6.)
7. He provides sufficient power to the believers. (Zech.4:6; Gal.3:1-5.)
8. He is the Author of the Bible. (2 Tim.3:16-17.)
9. He is the believer's commander. (Acts 8:29; Acts 13:2; Acts 16:7.)
10. He restrains the evil forces. (2 Thess.2:7; Isa.59:19.)
11. He prays for the believers. (Rom.8:26.)

12. He desires to fill the believers lives with himself. (Eph.5:18.)
13. He helps us in our weaknesses. (Jn.14:16,26; Jn.15:26; Jn.16:7; Gal.3:1-5.)
14. He is grieved when we as believers fall into sin. (Eph.4:30.)
15. His power in our lives as believers can be cut off, even though he remains in our lives. (1 Thess.5:19.)
16. He is the source of the Christians fruitful life. (Gal.5:22-26.)

In the outreach of God's grace, we must recognize the great part that God the Holy Spirit has concerning the life of the believers. Without Him, it would be impossible for us to stand, let alone contend for the faith. He is our ever present help, at all times. We can only understand the Bible through His guidance. It is He who bears witness with our spirits that we are the children of God. "The Spirit Himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God;" Rom. 8:16. God the Holy Spirit is our life, by the grace of God. "59ut if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also give life to your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you." Rom.8:11. Our whole life is to be lived for Christ, regardless of the circumstances. "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Phil. 1:21. "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, that God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him." 1 Jn. 4:9. God in His marvelous grace, has provided us with a wonderful and glorious life, with great expectations. "For God hath not appointed us to wrath but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him." 1 Thess. 5:9-10. Being the body of Christ as believers in this age, we are to be partakers of a special eternal position in Christ as His bride. I cannot fathom the depth of such relationship, but I do take God at His word. God's grace has been poured out upon us through the Holy Spirit. What more could we ask for than what God has already provided.

WE ARE GOD'S WITNESSES OF THE SAVING GRACE OF OUR LOVING LORD.

As believers, we are admonished to present our bodies to the Lord as a living sacrifice (Rom. 12:1). As members of the body of Christ, we have become the "Ecclesiastic Ones", called out from this world system, to become citizens of heaven. Not only have we been called out, but also sent out. Please note what Christ said. "As thou has sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world." Jn. 17:18. Every believer has been commissioned by the Lord to carry the good news "To Every Creature". "And Jesus came and spoke unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and earth. Go ye, therefore,

and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age. Amen." Matt. 28:18-20.

As Christians, we are given a great privilege as well as a tremendous responsibility, to send forth the good news of God's grace. There is no one that God excludes from this offer, for whosoever will may come and receive forgiveness, based upon the shed blood of His Eternal Son. "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, by whom also He went and preached unto the spirits in prison, who at one time were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was preparing, in which few, that is eight souls, were saved by water." 1 Pet. 3:18-20.

It amazes one as we have the reference of Christ entering Sheol and preaching unto them, and also referring to the time of the flood, with only eight souls saved. Those disobedient persons drowned during the flood were some to whom Christ preached, when he went to sheol.

Our worship before God is by Spirit and by Truth and for this reason we must give constant heed to the Holy Spirit in our lives. We must also constantly remember that the devil has his counterfeits and would deceive us, were it not for the Holy Spirit. "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but test the spirits whether they are of God. because many false prophets are gone out into the world. By this know ye the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God; And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God; and this is that spirit of antichrist, of which ye have heard that it should come, and even now already is it in the world." 1 Jn. 4:1-3. As witnesses of the Lord, we must constantly be aware of those spiritual counterfeits that by pass the incarnate truth of the Lord Jesus Christ.

It is a tremendous privilege that we have, by the grace of God, to be granted the high calling to become witnesses to the saving grace of our loving Lord. God has provided every believer with the essential gifts to perform God's will in their life. Some have buried their talents, instead of using them for the work of the Lord. (Matt.25:24-30.) Or they could misuse those talents as Christians by entertaining this evil world. Yes, the world, the flesh, and the devil are ready to draw such weak Christians' aside by flattery, filthy lucre, fame or prestige. May this not be said of you who are benefitting the grace of God in your lives. God the Holy Spirit wants to fill your life with the fruit of the Spirit, rather than the corrupt fruit of the world. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, meekness, self-control; against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vainglory, provoking one another, envying one another." Gal. 5:22-26. The fruit of this world system is already rotten and corrupt and has no place in the economy of

God. The fruit of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life brings glory and praise and honor to our Everlasting God and Father.

CONCLUSION

When we live by God's grace, we also learn more about "Faith Rest", giving us confidence in the promises of God. This requires a constant filling of God the Holy Spirit for our daily living, which is well pleasing to God. We do not have a license to sin where grace abounds, but rather the joy of knowing that it is well with one's soul. It also gives one the assurance in our prayer life. "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." John 15:7. To allow the words of Christ to abide in us, it is obvious that we will not ask amiss as we pray, but rather we will desire His will to be done.

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. For I say, through the grace given to me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith." Rom. 12:1-3. "Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor that which is evil; cling to that which is good. Be kindly affectionate one to another with brotherly love, in honor preferring one another; Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing diligently in prayer; Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality. Bless them who persecute you; and curse not. Rejoice with them do rejoice, weep with them that weep. Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits." Rom. 12:9-16.

Our Christian life in this world and the ages to come are to be lived by God's grace. As we dwell in these finite bodies we are to learn many of these eternal attributes by the Holy Spirit. We read and study the Bible to draw from these living word, infinite strength to meet the finite problems that we face each day. We are already partakers of Divine life through the new birth by the Holy Spirit. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption. whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit Himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God; and if children, then heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ - if so be we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creation was made subject to vanity, not willingly but by

reason of Him who hath subjected the same in hope. Because the creation itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, that is, the redemption of our body., " Rom. 8:14-23.

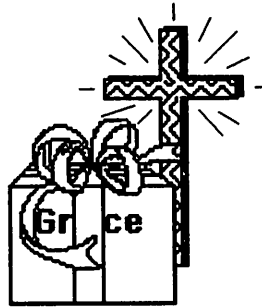
What a day of rejoicing that will be, when all of these limitations which we now experience will be done away with forever and ever. Our lives upon planet earth are being molded and made into Divine heights which will bring glory and honor to our Almighty God who has poured out His grace upon us. I just marvel that someday, we shall know as we are known! May God's word be ever so precious to us as we study it, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Our Divine life has been fully assured through the eternal indwelling of the Holy Spirit. May we ever be conscious of His ever present help to us, allowing Him to have full sway in our lives. When that great and glorious day takes place with the heavenly "Air Lift", we shall see our Savior face to face and join in that mighty choir, singing, "And they sang a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And has made us unto our God a kingdom of priests, and we shall reign on earth." Rev. 5:9-10. God by His "Amazing Grace" has prepared a great future for us, who have believed. May we faithfully serve Him, while we have opportunity. "Only one life, will soon be past, only what is done for Christ will last".

QUESTIONS CHAPTER FOUR

1. Why is God's grace necessary for Christian living? Scripture.
2. Explain 2 Corinthians 9:8.
3. Explain how God provided for the requirements of the law as he provides grace. Scripture
4. Since God provides all that is necessary for salvation and secures it with the seal of the Holy Spirit, does that mean that we can do as we please in this life? Explain with Scripture.
5. How were the Divine laws completed in Christ. Scripture.
6. As enemies of God through our sins, how do we become reconciled to God? Explain with Scripture.
7. Explain what it means to be an ambassador for Christ? Scripture.
8. Can we as Ambassadors for Christ provide reconciliation to others? Explain with Scripture.
9. How can our daily living please God, and manifest the Grace of God? Give Scripture.
10. What do we do if we sin as believers? Give Scripture.
11. In teaching God's Word to others, what should our aim be? (2 Timothy 2:2.)
12. Explain 2 Timothy 1:24-26.
13. Who are we confronted with as we attempt to live for Christ? What are our weapons? Explain with Scripture.
14. Can grace grow in our Christian life? Explain with Scripture.
15. Explain 2 Corinthians 1:3-4.
16. Explain 2 Corinthians 4:14-15.
17. How can we glorify God. (Colossians 3:14-17.)

18. Why is Divine life necessary by the Holy Spirit? Scripture.
19. Write an essay on Galatians 5:22-26.
20. Name at least 10 important factors, concerning the work of the Holy Spirit in this world. Give Scriptures also.
21. How can we best live by God's grace?

CHAPTER FIVE



*The Gift of God
'Eternal Life' Rom 6:23*

The Laws of God Completely Maintained

CHAPTER FIVE

THE LAWS OF GOD ARE COMPLETELY MAINTAINED BY HIS GRACE

INTRODUCTION

The more that we understand about the Bible, the clearer our understanding becomes of the eternal God. The grace of God is completely dealt with in the Bible. Sin and ungodly acts are also fully dealt with according to the laws of God. God never by passes any attribute of His but does all things orderly, fulfilling every requirement for every action which He does. The standards of God never change and are according to His immutability. As we further study the Word of God, may we be mindful of this "Amazing Grace" of our loving Lord. God manifests His Divine love toward us as sinners, and at the same time He hates our sin. While we were dead and helpless in sin, God the Father made provision through His Eternal Son to remove the barrier of sin. That is Marvelous grace in the highest form. God in His absolute perfection always fulfills every requirement regardless of the circumstances. For the Old Testament saints, God provided a covering for their sins until the fullness of time. "But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying , Abba, Father." Gal. 4:4-6.

- A. THE DEBT FOR SIN ETERNALLY PAID**
- B. THE WAY TO GOD DIVINELY MADE**
- C. GOD'S LAWS THROUGH GRACE COMPLETELY STAYED**

A. THE DEBT FOR SIN ETERNALLY PAID

In God's great economy, He always does an absolute perfect job. In the weakness of His created beings, as they were given volition, and fell into sin, He did a thorough work in providing redemption without an exception. Our perfection comes from God as a complete Divine provision. "But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after ye have suffered awhile, make you perfect, establish, strengthen, settle you. To him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen." 1 Pet. 5:10-11. We are assured of perfection, as God did it all and paid the debt in full. "And if by grace, then is

it no more of works; otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace; otherwise work is no more work." Rom. 11:6. If we desired to pay for this grace from God, it would be impossible to do so, for that would require work without one fault, and it would not be of grace. Our possible work would also be far short of what is required and would demand death which are the wages of our sin. There is no room for us to be proud or self righteous, for Jesus paid it all. Let us just quote those stanzas of that great hymn, that tells the story, saved by grace.

JESUS PAID IT ALL

*I hear the Savior say, thy strength indeed is small!
Child of weakness watch and pray, find in me thine all in all!*

*Lord, now indeed I find, Thy power and thine alone,
Can change the leper's spots and melt the heart of stone.*

*For nothing good have I, whereby thy grace to claim
I'll wash my garments white, in the blood of Calvary's Lamb.*

*And when before the throne, I stand in Him complete,
Jesus died my soul to save, my lips shall still repeat.*

*Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe,
Sin had left a crimson stain- He washed it white as snow.*

As Paul said, "But by the grace of God I am what I am; and His grace, which was bestowed upon me, was not in vain, but I labored more abundantly than they all; yet not I but the grace of God which was with me. 1 Cor. 15:10. As the debt for our sins was great, even so the riches of God's grace is greater than all of our sins. "That in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus." Eph. 2:7.

The debt of our sins were fully paid, by the grace of God and throughout eternity it will never be an issue. God never does anything partially but always completely. Our sin record has been completely blotted out forever! "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us." Ps. 103:12. Since the debt is fully paid, the old records have all been removed and destroyed, past, present and future. This is absolutely marvelous, as to what Almighty God has done in behalf of all who believe.

We might also add that regardless of the age in which man has lived upon planet earth, it takes the grace of God to remove all barriers. From Adam on down through the ages, God alone can remove any obstacle or hinderance between us and God. Had there been any other way, certainly God would not have allowed His Eternal Son to have suffered and died in our stead. The Word

of God declares that there are none that are righteous. (Ps. 14:1-3; Rom. 3:10-11) "Now we know that whatever things the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore, by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight; for by the law is the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets, even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe; for there is no difference. For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God, being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus," Rom. 3:20-24. God's grace principles must be fully taken into an account and reckoned with, whether in the past, present or on into the future. This is God's standard for all ages, and by faith we accept what God is doing, to His praise and glory. There is no room for self glory in God's economy and the sooner we learn this, the more profitable we will be to our heavenly Father.

A GIFT FROM GOD FULLY PAID.

The Holy Spirit spoke to Paul, concerning that gift of grace from God, he being a chief of sinners. "Of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of His power. Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, in this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ. And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages hath been hidden in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ. To the intent that now, unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places, might be known by the church, the manifold wisdom of God, according to the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus, our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of Him." Eph. 3:7-12. Yes, the debt was fully paid by the Lord Jesus Christ and the way to God was completely made. There was no other way that the sin barrier could be removed, except through the incarnation of the Son of God. God took upon Himself the likeness of man, apart from the sin nature. The wages of our sins require death, but the gift of God became eternal life through the Lord Jesus Christ. That is why we can be fully assured that it is well with our souls, because God Himself paid the penalty of our sins in full. It brings to our thoughts that well known hymn, "It is well with my soul".

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

*When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

*Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And has shed His own blood for my soul.*

*My sin - oh, the bliss of this glorious thought -
My sins - not in part, but the whole -
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!*

*And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall re - sound and the Lord shall descend,
"Even so" - it is well with my soul.*

We are not only free from all debt before God, but we have been given a bank account for time and eternity. We are promised by God to supply all of our needs. "But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:19. We must remember that during this limited life, we are not promised all of our wants. To activate a special checking account provided by God is but another indication of God's amazing grace. God desires that we use more and more of His eternal resources for they are limitless. God desires that we have greater faith in Him, than depending upon resources that can be seen in the material realm. The debt that we owed is completely paid and God's resources are available. Continually draw from these resources that God has made available to us.

B. THE WAY TO GOD DIVINELY MADE.

The Lord Jesus Christ has declared Himself the means by which God the Father has welcomed us into the Royal family of God. "Jesus said unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Jn. 14:6. There is but one way and there is but the grace of God through which we approach Almighty God, and that is through His Eternal Son. "That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ." 2 Thess. 1:12. The interesting thing about "This Amazing Grace" is, the more that you partake of it according to the Bible, the richer in blessings your life becomes through our Lord Jesus Christ. "And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ.Jesus" 1 Tim.1:14. The abundance of grace is eternally established with God, but to us the grace of God keeps on growing as we have more and more knowledge of the character of God from the Bible. Then God the Holy Spirit converts that knowledge of the Word into wisdom. By so partaking, we become completely established in the Lord. "Be not carried about with various

and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace, not with foods, which have not profited them that have been occupied with them." Heb. 13:9. We become complete in God, through the Lord Jesus Christ, by this "Amazing Grace"!

May we also add with great emphasis that there is but one way and one name, whereby we can even approach Almighty God. We must remember that God is not a God of confusion, dealing in various ways by which we can approach his "Throne of Grace". Our eternal life can only come through one, and that is the Lord Jesus Christ, "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name." Jn. 20:31. "Neither is their salvation in any other; for there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12. God's word cannot be clearer than these statements. We could also quote over and over again from the Bible, references to the saving grace of our loving Lord. Christianity is a life, Divinely provided and eternally kept. Christianity is often listed as a religion, but on the contrary it is rather a Divine relationship through the new birth, bringing us into the very royal family of God. May our daily living manifest this Divine birthright that God's grace has provided.

GRACE AND GLORY IN ABUNDANCE

Since it is God who pours out His grace upon us in abundant measures, we should allow that same grace to be manifested as we fellowship with those of like faith. It is very easy for believers to find fault with each other, and ignore the good traits. The carnal Christian can set up his own pattern of life, according to his own way of life, but this should not be tolerated among us. The Word of God is our final authority and guide post, and private interpretations should not be tolerated, contrary to the Bible. What merit had we personally to obtain the grace of God? There was nothing in our lives worthy of God's grace, for we were dead in trespasses and sins. Do you want more of God's grace portrayed in your life? Then let that grace of God which has been given to you, flow through your life to others. "For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord will give grace and glory. No good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man who trusteth in thee." Ps. 84:11-12.

God cannot fill you with His grace, if you are cluttered up with the worldly affairs. Nor can you exercise the grace of God to others, if you lack the abundance of God's grace. In order for God to be able to communicate with us, He sent His only begotten Son in the flesh. "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth." Jn. 1:14. There is no reason whatsoever that we all should lack an abundance of grace, for God's supply is in abundance. "And of His fullness have all we received, grace for grace. For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." Jn. 1:16-17. Don't short change yourselves as believers, but claim the great and mighty things of God, in

your lives.

The grace of God should bring gladness to our hearts as true believers. It was in Antioch that the believers were first call Christians. Barabas was sent to Antioch to behold the marvels of God among believers. "Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cling unto the Lord. For he was a righteous man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith; and many people were added unto the Lord." Acts 11:23-24. When we as believers allow God to have His way in our lives, then we can expect others to desire better things in their lives, glorifying the God of all grace.

If you as a Christian are desiring more of the grace of God, may I remind you that it is available, providing you are in sweet fellowship with the Lord. "But He giveth more grace. Wherefore He saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves, therefore, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double-minded." Jas. 4:6-8. Be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have, therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Gal. 6:7-10. God's grace can be fully appreciated when we are doing the will of God, and not conformed to this world system. We are promised to know the perfect will of God for our Christian lives if we adhere to God's Word. "And be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Rom. 12:2.

C. GOD'S LAWS THROUGH GRACE COMPLETELY STAYED.

To portray this grace as eternally stayed by God Himself, you must understand that it is impossible for us to maintain perfection in ourselves. If God wants a job perfectly and completely done, He does it 100% by Himself. God puts this eternal treasure into those who believe, because we in ourselves could not sustain ourselves apart from God. "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." 2 Cor. 4:7. This gives us the proper perspective of this marvelous grace, through our loving Lord Jesus Christ. "Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Rom. 5:1-2. Since God is in command of the whole situation and has provided us with sufficient grace for every problem, we should be encouraged with His security over our lives. "Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word or our epistle. Now our Lord Jesus Christ

Himself, and God, even our Father, who hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts, and establish you in every good word and work." 2 Thess. 2:15-17.

THE LAWS OF GOD HAD TO BE MET

God's laws never change and are based upon the character of God. The Triune God is constant and consistent and never changes. "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and forever." Heb. 13:8. Since each person in the Godhead is equal in all characteristics, then we can say that all three persons in the Godhead never need to change and are immutable. This should give us great confidence in our Christian life, knowing that the rules and regulations remain the same. God met every phase of requirement under the law to render grace toward us. His perfect character was required to satisfy His personality, and this was met in and through the Lord Jesus Christ. Sin had to be paid for by death, and Christ died for the sins of the whole world. Not one soul has the excuse that God neglected him, for Christ paid the complete debt of sin for every person ever born. The unpardonable sin of unbelief will bring eternal damnation. Each individual at the age of accountability must accept Christ as their personal Savior to receive everlasting life. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him." Jn. 3:38. Therefore sin is not the question, but rather "The Son" is the question. God's laws are completely satisfied and every requirement met, therefore all mankind is without excuse.

NO JUSTIFICATION BY THE LAW OF GOD

Whether "Homo Sapien" is under the laws of God, or is a law unto himself, he is Guilty before God. "Now we know that whatsoever things the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore, by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in His sight; for by the law is the knowledge of sin. But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets, even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe; for there is no difference. For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God, Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time His righteousness, that He might be just, and the Justifier of him who believeth in Jesus. Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? Nay, but by the law of faith. Therefore, we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law." Rom. 3:19-28.

As we conclude this phase of Grace versus the law, may we thoroughly understand that no man is justified before God by the law.

The law is however our school master and relates to us the absolute perfection that God requires. This does not give us a license to break the law, but rather, the law of God should reveal to us, the absolute holiness that God requires. It should also establish our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, who fulfilled the law for us. Our faith in Christ Jesus, makes possible God's grace through the Lord Jesus Christ.

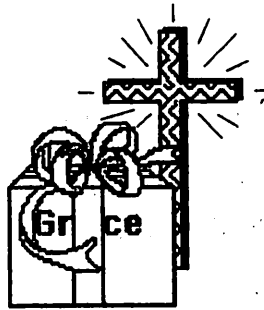
The laws of God are consistently maintained and the debt of sin completely paid by the Eternal Son of God. The Lord Jesus Christ in His incarnate nature has fulfilled every requirement of God's law. The total depravity of all mankind made it necessary for God Himself to provide so great salvation. We are already new creatures in Christ Jesus, with God the Holy Spirit dwelling within us. We are waiting for that trumpet to sound, with the appearance of the Lord Jesus Christ in the clouds. That great "Air Lift" will bring about that eternal change as all the saints receive their glorified bodies. Praise God for His Matchless and "Amazing Grace" shed abroad in our hearts!

It will always be our security throughout eternity that God's laws will always be stayed and based upon the character of God. We need not fear of any change of policy, but God's word will be yea and amen! Our faith is based upon eternal substance and evidence according to God's word. We need not fear God changing His mind, as to what He has promised to those who believe. We can thoroughly trust God's word, but the question is, "Can God trust our word?"

QUESTIONS CHAPTER FIVE

1. For God to practice "Grace" toward sinful man, what laws did God have to overlook? Give Scripture.
2. Does God's standard change with every generation of people? Quote Scripture.
3. Explain how the barrier of sin is removed and the debt of sin is fully paid. Give Scripture.
4. Explain Romans 11:6.
5. Explain 1 Corinthians 15:10 and Ephesians 2:7.
6. What do you understand about the following Scriptures. Romans 3:10-11; and Romans 3:20-24.
7. Write an essay on, "The Gift Of God".
8. Explain Ephesians 3:7-12.
9. What all is God doing for believers after they are free from the debt of sin? Use Scripture.
10. Write on the subject, "The Way To God, Completely Made"
11. How can Grace grow in the Christian's life?
12. Give some benefits that the Grace of God can bring to the believer.
13. Name the equipment that God has provided for us to use in witnessing.
14. Write on 2 Thessalonians 2:15-17.
15. What laws of God had to be met before God's grace could be given? Scripture please.
16. Can man be justified by the deeds of the law? Scripture.
17. What do the laws of God show us? Scripture please.

CHAPTER SIX



*The Gift of God
'Eternal Life' Rqm 6:23*

God's Work of Grace Established Forever

CHAPTER SIX

GOD'S WORK OF GRACE ESTABLISHED FOREVER

INTRODUCTION

Rightly dividing the Word of God, reveals the ultimate aim of our Wonderful God. God's one great desire is to have His creation satisfied and obedient to His desires, so that He can fully dwell with both the angels and mankind in perfect harmony. He could have easily made puppets or robots of us all or as He did with the animal world, by giving them an instinct to do certain things under the direct command of God. But God chose to give His subjects a choice, as He did with the angelic hosts. The holy angels were separated from the fallen angels. The holy angels have past their tests and have achieved that high position by the Divinity and they can never sin throughout eternity. The angels found grace in the eyes of God. So with mankind, we have been given a choice to accept God's finished plan of salvation, or go the way of unregenerate man, resulting in eternal living death. As I often point out, the key verse to the whole Bible is Daniel 9:24. "Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy." This will be the final proof that God's grace will be established forever and the New Heavens and the New Earth will only glorify the Creator of all things, when everlasting righteousness is established. Eventually, when the rapture takes place, and we receive our glorified bodies, we will never be faced with the occurrence of sin forever and ever! That will be a glorious day when the possibility of sin will be removed forever and ever. It is hard for us as finite beings to comprehend such a statement that eternity to come will be free from sin and eternal righteousness of God will be established forever and ever! God has said it, and we believe it! We can only say, -

"Marvelous grace of our Loving Lord, Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,

Yonder on Calvary's mount out-poured, There where the blood of the Lamb was shed:

*Sin and despair like the sea waves cold, Threaten the soul with infinite loss;
Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold, Points to the Refuge, the Mighty Cross.*

*Dark is the stain that we cannot hide, What can avail to wash it away? Look!
there is flowing a crimson tide; Whiter than snow you may be today.*

*Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, Freely bestowed on all who believe;
You that are longing to see His face, Will you this moment His grace
receive?*

*Grace, grace, God's grace, Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace grace, God's grace, Grace that is greater than all our sins.*

As we conclude this study of grace may we consider three important phases as God establishes His work of grace forever. God's grace made possible the spark of Divine life in our lives, giving us power through the presence of the indwelling Holy Spirit, and finally an eternal hope that will never fade away. God is sovereign over all and demands an absolute perfection. This can only be attained by God Himself, at a tremendous cost. That supreme sacrifice of God's Eternal Son, made possible the blotting out the hand writing against us, as it is written. "Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross; And, having spoiled principalities and powers, He made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it." Col. 2:14-15. Let us consider these final three points of importance in God's marvelous provision of His "Amazing Grace".

- A. DIVINE LIFE PROVIDED BY FAITH THROUGH GRACE
- B. DIVINE POWER AVAILABLE BY GRACE
- C. DIVINE HOPE OF GLORY SECURED WITH GRACE

A. DIVINE LIFE PROVIDED BY FAITH THROUGH GRACE.

God's grace would have been sufficient to have removed the sin barrier and then let us continue in creative fellowship with the Lord. However, since we were made in the image of God as creatures, God's desire was to provide the Divine spark by sending the Holy Spirit to give us the new birth and also dwell within us forever and ever. Since we are believers of the age of grace, and according to God's plans, we are destined to be the bride of Christ, we are a separate creation from all other creation. Being of the Royal Family of God, through the Holy Spirit, we have a particular position throughout eternity. God is in need of nothing and is absolutely supreme, but wants to impart to mankind, whom he made in his image, a share in divine life. God knew that man could not attain this lofty position in his own strength, so it was necessary for the "Grace of God" to be provided. With this grace, it was necessary to satisfy every characteristic of the Godhead, and still remove the barrier of sin, making the imputation of Divine righteousness possible. Our perfection and righteousness must coincide with the

righteousness of God. No creature could attain this apart from God, and God had to declare this through His grace principles. The Eternal Son of God was willing to bear the penalty of our sins so that grace could be applied. Divine life was then given through God the Holy Spirit, who not only gives eternal life, but also indwells those to whom he gives a new birth, establishing the Divine life. This assures us with confidence that we will be presented blameless before Almighty God. The grace of God is given entirely by the merit of the Godhead and not of human works. It becomes the outpouring of the love of God which is shed abroad in our hearts. There is nothing that can be added to God or taken away.

God will always be sufficient in Himself, so there is no personal benefit that God can gain for Himself through grace. However, He wishes to share with His creation what He has eternally. He also desires, in His omniscience, to remove any opposition to His personality that may occur in the future. Sin was the possibility as the opposite of God and God chose to deal with it, allowing volition to be granted, permitting the cup of iniquity to be filled for the final judgement. Therefore sin was dealt with at the cross, separating the unholy from the holy forever. The total price for sin was paid upon the cross, by God Himself. As I have already discussed before concerning the beginning of sin in the heavenlies, let's hastily repeat. God had given the angelic host a choice as to right and wrong, with their personal choice of one or the other. This began with Lucifer, the most supreme angelic creation. As Lucifer rebelled against His Creator, he also drew one third of all of God's angels to commit sin. This caused a separation among the angels with the holy angels refusing to follow Lucifer and thus establishing their perfection. Those that followed Lucifer became the "fallen angels" and sealed their judgement at the cross in their imperfection and unholy life. God manifested His grace among the angelic hosts, and so He is in the process of doing the same among human beings. Through faith the Divine life has been provided through God the Holy Spirit. "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare I say, at this time his righteousness, that He might be just, and the justifier of him who believeth in Jesus." Rom. 3:24-26.

That Divine life could only be made possible by the Holy Spirit who indwells every believer. He is our identification as well as our verification that we have become the children of God. This makes possible our accomplishing good works which will remain. "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work." 2 Cor. 9:8. Apart from the grace of God, we are nothing, and the sooner we learn this, the more profitable we will be in our Christian walk. The battle is on, during our earthly habitation, but praise God, that we will one day be delivered from that struggle between the carnal and the spiritual. The Divine life that is given through the Holy Spirit is maintained by the Holy Spirit. This is a tremendous act of Grace by Almighty God. We would be easy prey for the evil

forces, if it were not for the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit. "Being confident of this very thing, that He who hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." Phil. 1:6. God has provided this newness of life to all who believe, in and through the Eternal Son of God. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." Jas. 1:17. Praise God for such a statement! We can completely depend upon God's Word which is immutable, bestowing His "Amazing Grace" upon us.

WARNING AGAINST THE MISUSE OF GOD'S GRACE

Just because salvation and fellowship with Divinity is by grace, it does not give you a license to sin. "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer in it? Know ye not that, as many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Therefore, we are buried with Him by baptism into death, that as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For is we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection;" Rom. 6:1-5. These statements are very important as we walk in the light of God's Word, by grace. There are many ways that we can misuse God's grace in our Christian life. I wish to name a few of them.

1. Conformed to this world system, abiding by their legal rights, rather than by what the Word of God teaches. (Rom.12:2.)
2. Turning the grace of our God into a life of sin. (Jude 4.)
3. Abusing the grace of God, given freely. (2 Cor.6:1.)
4. A possibility of failing to live by grace. (Heb.12:15.)
5. Possible to fall from grace. (Gal.5:4.)
6. Grieving the Holy Spirit. (Eph.4:30.)
7. Unconfessed sin in our lives. (1 Jn.1:6-10.)

May we who have been given this "Divine Life", by the grace of God, walk, worthy of this high calling in Christ Jesus. "That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness; Giving thanks unto the

Father, who hath made us fit to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints of light; Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son; In whom we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins." Col. 1:10-14.

B. DIVINE POWER AVAILABLE BY GRACE.

May I admonish you, according to the Bible, "Thou, therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus." 2 Tim. 2:1. God has provided all the necessary power through the Lord Jesus Christ to overcome every trial that comes your way. God is mindful of every problem that comes your way, for his eyes behold those who belong to him. "For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers; but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil." 1 Pet. 3:12. We must depend upon the strength of God through the Holy Spirit, if we are to, "Stand fast, therefore, in the liberty with which Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage." Gal. 5:1. We need to constantly remind ourselves as believers that, "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. They are of the world; therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. We are of God. He that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. By this know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error." 1 Jn. 4:4-6. If we are not tuned in to the source of our power, we become stranded and exposed to the wiles of the devil. The evil powers know that the indwelling of the Holy Spirit makes it difficult for them to attack a believer when filled by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, take precautionary measures for these evil forces are on the alert to attack when the believers become out of fellowship with God, and become conformed to this evil world system. The believer then becomes easy prey . Don't let that happen to you!

THOSE THORNS IN THE FLESH.

Some problems and trials will continue through this life, though in close fellowship with the Lord. As in the case of Paul, we also may have thorns in the flesh that we would like removed. However, regardless of our asking God to remove them, God may see fit to leave them so that He might prove to you that His grace is sufficient for you as in the case of Paul. This is part of our spiritual growth and another step toward maturity. Christ prayed that bitter cup of death could be removed, but he knew that it was necessary for that purpose for which he came into the world. He also submitted to the Father's will concerning each step toward Calvary. Paul had his "Thorn in the Flesh", asking God to remove it, knowing that all things are possible with God. "For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly, therefore, will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest

upon me. Therefore, I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then am I strong." 2 Cor. 12:8-10. If we think that we have trials and tribulations, who of us could match the sufferings of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Creator of all things? Paul had more than a thorn in his flesh, as he proclaimed so great salvation. Let's let Paul speak out and tell us what he suffered as a believer. "Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes, save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In weakness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness." 2 Cor. 11:24-27. These trials which Paul suffered are far beyond anything that we suffer for the cause of Christ. As though all of this was not sufficient for Paul to have gone through for the Lord, let us read of Paul's desire as he prayed, "That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death". Phil. 3:10. God's grace was sufficient for Paul, ought it not be sufficient for you? We do not rejoice because of these trials that come our way, but we rejoice in spite of these trials.

Yes, the saints of God do suffer in this present life, with trials and tribulations. The Lord also reminded the disciples that this would come about. "These things have I spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." Jn. 16:33. Sometimes God does perform a miracle, ruling and overruling as to the natural and total depravity of man. He is the great Physician and the saints at times are the recipients of Divine healing. However, we cannot demand it from God, as Paul was not able to insist on that particular healing. Timothy also was in need of the healing of his stomach, which just had to be cared for with tender care. These trials and tribulations come our way in this life for the building of our eternal character, and we are very precious in the sight of God for enduring them. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, according to His abundant mercy, hath begotten us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold trials, that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ. Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls." 1 Pet. 1:3-9.

Our blessings in Christ are secured in "Heavenly Places", where moth and

rust cannot corrupt. There are those for filthy lucre will claim all sorts of power and even claim to bind Satan, which is not according to the Bible. Only God can bind Satan, and keep him under his supreme sovereignty. In time Satan will be bound and cast into the bottomless pit for the duration of a thousand years. By Satan is very much alive, and continually accuses the brethren. (Rev. 20:1-3.) So constantly remind yourselves as saints of God, that all power and authority is in the hands of our Lord, and not for us to think that we are given special powers. "And Jesus came and spoke unto them, saying, All authority is given unto me in heaven and in earth." Matt. 28:18. "Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also, knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope; And hope maketh not ashamed, because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who is given unto us." Rom. 5:1-5.

Our Divine power as believers is to be used to proclaim the gospel message, making salvation available to the unregenerate. We are not promised or do we promise the physical healing of the recipients' bodies. However, we are promised that God the Holy Spirit, will make them new creatures, through the new birth. We are also not promised that we will have deliverance from all persecution, in this present life. God's Word has recorded some of the terrible things that have happened to those who believed. Hebrews chapter 11 record some of these terrible onslaughts of the devil. God can and often does deliver from these attacks by Satan and sometimes the Word reminds us, that His grace is sufficient for us. (2 Cor. 12:9.) Let us use this Divine power granted to us by Christ to witness for the Lord, to the salvation of precious souls. "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For in it is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, The just shall live by faith." Rom. 1:16-17.

THE POWER OF GOD THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT

We often think of power in the hands of human Governments, but the Bible tells us that God is sovereign over all. Daniel clearly was shown this mighty power of God. "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever; for wisdom and might are His, and He changeth the times and seasons; He removeth kings, and setteth up kings; He giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to those who know understanding; He revealeth the deep and secret things; He knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with Him." Dan. 2:20b-22. God has provided us, by grace, with God the Holy Spirit to complete His work of evangelizing the world. "Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Spirit." Rom. 15:13. Paul, led by the Holy Spirit could write to the Thessalonica church

and assure them of this mighty power of God. "For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit, and in much assurance, as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit." 1 Thess. 1:5-6.

It is the Word of God that becomes our power house, led by God the Holy Spirit. "For the Word of God is living, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of the soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Heb. 4:12. Fellow saints, trust God's Word to accomplish conviction and salvation! There is no substitute for God's Word. "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Matt. 25:35. God's Word is eternal and we who have put our trust in the Lord Jesus Christ can have confidence in what God has promised. It is a sure hope that neither fades away or diminishes in power.

May we always remember that it is not our persuasive words, that breaks the power of Satan in the lives of sinful man, but rather the mighty power of God's Word, through the convictions of the Holy Spirit. It is the Word of God that has keeping power as well as saving power. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who, according to His abundant mercy, hath begotten us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." 1 Pet. 1:3-5. Our hope and security is in Almighty God, who has given us His Word.

C. DIVINE HOPE OF GLORY SECURED WITH GRACE.

The Lord has provided us with a hope that is secured entirely by grace. "And hope maketh not ashamed because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who is given unto us. For when we were without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly." Rom. 5:5-6. This hope is based upon what God has said and what the Bible teaches. This is not a blind hope with personal wishes, but is based upon established and proven hope revealed unto the saints of God. "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders received witness. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." Heb. 11:1-3. Our hope is not based upon the things which are seen, but rather upon the things which God has promised. "For we are saved by hope. But hope that is seen is not hope; for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? But if we hope for that which we see not, then do we with patience wait for it." Rom.8:24-25. If we were depending upon what we merely see, then our outlook would be miserable. "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable." 1 Cor. 15:19. Let us look at

the various phases involved with our hope.

HOPE IN THE WORD OF GOD

What does this Divine hope of God consist of, as recorded in the Bible? Without God's confirmation in the Bible, our souls would faint and be without a ray of hope. "My soul fainteth for thy salvation, but I hope in thy word." Ps. 119:81. The Lord alone is our guardian of the future. "Thou art my hiding place and my shield; I hope in thy word." Ps. 119:114. Paul was accused by the Jews of the very hope recorded in the Bible. Here are a few words spoken before King Agrippa. "And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made of God unto our fathers, unto which promise our twelve tribes, earnestly serving God day and night, hope to come. For which hope's sake, King Agrippa, I am accused by the Jews. Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead?" Acts 26:6-8. As the Holy Spirit directed Paul to write the Book of Romans, note this important statement. "For whatsoever things were written in earlier times were written for our learning, that we, through patience and comfort of the scriptures, might have hope." Rom. 15:4. Faith and hope in what God has said is sufficient evidence and security that is necessary. However, God has given us plenty of evidence from past fulfillments through our forefathers, which should be adequate evidence and proof, giving us confidence for the future. God's Word is sealed in the believers life by the Holy Spirit who dwells within us for eternity. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Tim. 3:16-17. We have the Word of the Eternal and Almighty God to depend upon and sealed by the Holy Spirit, who has breathed upon the Word and our hope of glory is in the Lord Jesus Christ. What better hope could we have than God's perfect provision!

HOPE IN THE LORD

Since the Bible is the Word of God, it should be comforting to know that when the Lord says, "Thus Saith The Lord", we should have no doubt of the future whatsoever! We have seen in creation what the Lord is capable of doing and this should suffice us as to what He has promised to those who believe. "For in thee, O Lord, do I hope; thou wilt hear, O Lord, my God." Ps. 38:15. The natural man can only think in terms of what he can gather together for his own pleasure. "Surely every man walketh in a vain show; surely they are disquieted in vain; he heapeth up riches, and knoweth not who shall gather them. And now, Lord, what wait I for? My hope is in thee." Ps. 39:6-7. We who know the Lord can joyfully say, as David said in his latter years. "For thou art my hope, O Lord God; thou art my trust from my youth." Ps. 71:5.

We have a wonderful example with the nation Israel and the hope in the

Lord. "The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth shall shake; but the Lord will be the hope of His people, and the strength of the children of Israel. So shall ye know that I am the Lord, your God, dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain; then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more." Joel 3:16-17. When God says something, it will come to pass, exactly as He says. That is why we can depend upon Him to bring it to pass, strengthening our faith. Because God is faithful to Israel, based upon unconditional grace principles, so we can depend upon Him to bring it to pass. Our confidence is in the Lord! "But Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end." Heb. 3:6. This gives us full assurance for the future, when we accept the hope that we have in Christ Jesus. We do our work as unto the Lord, rather than to man." For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have shown toward His name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister. And we desire that every one of you do show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end;" Heb. 6:10-11. Christ being the first fruits of the resurrection, is but another evidence and guarantee that because He lives, we shall also live.

HOPE IN THE RESURRECTION

This is what God's grace is all about, as He gives us new life through the Lord Jesus Christ. As Paul stood accused before Felix, note what was said by the power of the Holy Spirit. "But this I confess unto thee that, after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and the prophets; and have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust." Acts 24:14-15. Paul defends his resurrection beliefs before the Sanhedrin. "I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee, of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question". Acts 23:6b. Resurrection is on an individual basis and the unjust are separated from the just and will receive their just reward of eternal damnation in the lake of fire. There cannot be a transmigration of the soul, for this in itself would be against the character of God. Each individual is responsible before God for his own decisions, whether following the Word of God or his own religious beliefs. May you always remember that Christ's resurrection was individual and personal. "But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead." 1 Cor. 15:20-21. It is through the Lord Jesus Christ that we have faith and hope of the future. God's grace is available through the Lord Jesus Christ. "Who by Him do believe in God, who raised Him up from the dead and gave Him glory, that your faith and hope might be in God." 1 Pet. 1:21. God's grace is a marvelous mystery, but not without evidence, based upon God's word. "Behold I show you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed, in a moment, in the

twinkling of an eye, at the last trump; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." 1 Cor. 15:51-53. It was the Eternal Son of God who said, "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believeth thou this?" Jn. 11:25. Therefore, death did not have dominion over the Lord Jesus Christ.

By the grace of God, we who have believed in the Lord Jesus Christ have already past from death unto life. "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death." 1 Jn. 3:14. By the grace of God, nothing can separate us from the love of God through His Eternal Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. "For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creation, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord." Rom. 8:38-39. It is only in Christ that we have a sure hope. "Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God, our Savior, and Lord Jesus Christ, our Lord." 1 Tim. 1:1. God's grace is poured out upon us in Divine love. "Now our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and God, even our Father, who hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts, and establish you in every good word and work." 2 Thess. 2:16-17.

Let us quickly view some of these various phases of our hope in the Lord through grace. It is also advisable for us to stand firmly in this hope which is steadfast and sure, based upon God's word. Here are a few examples of this "Amazing Grace" through our loving Lord.

1. Hope of the glory of God. (Rom.5:2; Col.1:27.)
2. Purifying Hope. (1 Jn. 1:7-9; 1 Jn.3:3.)
3. Hope in death. (Prov.14:22; Job.19:26; Acts 2:26.)
4. Our earnest hope. (Phil.1:20.)
5. The hope laid up for believers. (Col.1:5; 1 Pet.1:13.)
6. Hope of the Gospel. (Col.1:28.)
7. Hope of the high calling in Christ Jesus. (Eph.1:18; Eph.4:4; Phil.3:14.)
8. Hope and crowning joy. (1 Thess. 2:19.)
9. Hope of eternal life. (Tit.1:2; Tit.3:7.)

10. The blessed hope. (Tit.2:13.)
11. The hope to be possessed. (Heb.6:19.)
12. The better hope. (Heb.6:19.)
13. The anchor of hope. (Heb.6:19.)
14. The lively hope. (1 Pet.1:3.)
15. Saved by hope. (Rom.8:24; 1 Thess.5:8.)
16. Rejoicing in the hope in Christ Jesus. (Rom.12:12.)
17. Being filled and abounding in hope. (Rom.15:13; 2 Cor.10:15; 2 Cor.3:12.)
18. Our witness is in sure hope. (1 Cor.9:10.)
19. Steadfast in hope. (2 Cor.1:7; 1 Thess.1:3.)
20. The hope of the righteous. (Gal.5:5.)

This Divine hope, being based upon Divine grace, is not only a secured gift from God, but is a hope which is maintained by Divine grace. This makes it an absolute guaranteed life in the presence of God, based upon the Word of God. Throughout eternity we will ever be aware of the tremendous grace of God through the Lord Jesus Christ. As we experience those promised glorified bodies, perfect and blameless, there will always be those scars of Divine love as seen in the Lord Jesus Christ. Those scars in His hands and feet and side will always be very precious to us. Nothing in heaven or earth will manifest the eternal Divine love more than these scars. They will always remind us of the depths of the riches of love in Christ Jesus. "To God be the glory, great things He hath done"!

One may ask, "What does the future hold?" God's plans have been set in ages past and by the grace of God, some of these plans have been revealed to us, which we find in the Bible. I wish to review some of these future plans of God, in consecutive order for our admonition as to God's timetable. God is purposely allowing the evil forces to go their limit under His sovereignty. God is in no hurry to settle accounts with that wicked one, for time is not an issue with our Eternal God. Sin has been totally paid for at the cross and God's judgement and eternal wrath against evil will be completed in God's own time.

**THE RESTORATION OF ETERNAL RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD
AND
THE ERADICATION OF SIN THROUGHOUT ETERNITY TO COME.**

Perhaps one phase of this "Divine Hope" that is often neglected is the eternal accomplishment of the Triune God. Satan is at war with his Creator and desired to set up a domain of his own. God in His sovereignty has allowed the Devil to maintain that power which was given to him when created, but only allowed to go so far and always under the authority of God. Satan being the father of sin has chosen the earth as his domain, being the god of this world system. He has an army of billions of fallen angels and can always gather an army of the unregenerate from this earth, which will number as the sands of the sea. That is why it was necessary for God to place a seal of the Holy Spirit upon those that believe, in order to give them added protection while passing through this life. God also provided armament for every believer and that is why we are admonished to put on the whole armor of God to withstand the continual attack from Satan and his army of demons. (Eph. 1:13; Eph. 6:10-18.) We as saints of God are fully equipped to withstand satanic attacks by his demonic armies. The Bible bears record of the subtlety of the evil forces both in heaven and upon earth. This battle against God's eternal righteousness has been in progress for thousands of years and the turning point toward the restoration of God's righteousness took place at Calvary. Satan and all his demons as well as unregenerate man were all judged at the cross. Their sentence of the "Lake of Fire" has already been passed and when the cup of iniquity is filled, then will God's righteousness be established forever and ever. Let us now consider some important events to take place in the future. The signs of the time do surely point to zero hour in which that great series of events will take place.

SEVEN YEARS IN THE MANSIONS OF GOD THE FATHER

BY THE GRACE OF GOD

THE COMING OF THE LORD FOR THE SAINTS.- THE RAPTURE.

The Bible clearly sets forth, by the grace of God, the lines of attack against these evil forces. Planet earth which has been usurped by Satan is being evangelized by the saints in these last days, calling out, "Whosoever Will". The resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ marked the victory over death and hell. All the Old Testament saints that were in Sheol were led to their new home in Paradise, where the thief on the cross was promised to dwell. (Ps. 68:18; Lk. 23:39-43.) At this present time, God the Father through the Holy Spirit is gathering together from all nations, "The Bride of Christ". When the body of Christ is complete, then that trumpet will blow and there will be a great in gathering of the saints of all ages. Christ will be there in the clouds to take us all

the way to our heavenly home. (Jn. 14:1-6; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 1 Cor. 15:51-58.) The graves shall open and the dead shall rise first. We who are alive shall be lifted up with the resurrected dead and travel together to those heavenly mansions, in our new and glorified bodies. Our earthly bodies will be changed into those eternal bodies in a moment at the twinkling of an eye, and the trumpet of God! It is going to be the greatest "Air Lift" of all times, lead by our Great Shepherd, the Lord Jesus Christ. This great event will be felt throughout the whole world. This rapture of the saints of God will not be done without great upheavals, and with innumerable wrecks and death among the unregenerates. Wherever and whatever the believers are doing when that trumpet sounds, they will be lifted up to meet the Lord in the air. Traffic throughout the world will be at a standstill, as the Lord calls His own home to gloryland. It will also spark off a turning to the Lord, too late to be raptured but on time to believe and become a tribulation saint. The 144,000 from each tribe of Israel will be awakened to accepting Christ the Messiah, to be proclaimed during those terrible seven years of tribulation upon this earth.

IMMORTALITY WILL BE GIVEN TO THE SAINTS IN GLORIFIED

This great event which we call The Rapture will take place, according to God's timing, with signs of the time rapturing home the believers of all ages. As I have often mentioned in my Bible teachings, "There is only one time that the Rapture can take place and that is pre-millennial and pre-tribulation. My reasons are simple. It is the only time that you cannot set a date for the coming of the Lord for His own, and the tribulation cannot start until we are in the presence of God to behold the sealed scroll, which will be taken by the Lamb of God, and opened. We will behold the seven seals, the seven trumpets and the seven bowls of the wrath of God being poured out upon Planet Earth.

According to God's Word, there will be seven years that all the saints of God will spend in heaven, enjoying those marvelous mansions of God. The bride of Christ will have that special place with the Bridegroom at the banquet table of heavenly foods. However there will be certain events to take place during that outer space episode. Our whole outlook and life style will have changed as our bodies will have put on immortality. "Behold I show you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump; for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." 1 Cor. 15:51-53. This will be a glorious event, which will be our eternal possession by the grace of God. It will be the gathering together of all the saints of God, from all ages, to their heavenly home, while the wrath of God is poured out upon Planet Earth. All the Old Testament saints as well as the New Testament saints will be there, enjoying our Lord Jesus Christ, whom we will see face to face and be like Him. "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the children of God;

therefore, the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not. Beloved, now are we the children of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is." 1 Jn. 3:1-2.

We will spend those seven years in heaven with great activity, with the fellowship of those of our family and friends, as well as with the saints of all ages. If we are students of the Bible, then we will be familiar with the Bible characters. Let us look into the Bible and see what some of our expectations will be, both with the events down on the earth, as well as the heavenly activities. This rapture is a very important changing period in our lives, as we will then receive our immortal bodies, which shall never be exposed to death, sicknesses, and tears. These bodies that all the saints will receive will never grow old or wear out. They will be clothed in fine linens, manifesting the righteousness of God, given to the saints.

We shall stand in the presence of our Lord, as John saw in preview of the things to come. "And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were, the noise of thunder, one of the four living creatures saying come." Rev. 5:1. This shall be the beginning of sorrows upon the earth with seven years of the wrath of God.

THE OUTPOURING OF THE WRATH OF GOD UPON PLANET EARTH

As all of the saints will safely arrive in their heavenly home, dwelling in the Mansions of God the Father, we will be called to the Throne of God to witness an important event. Almighty God will be seated upon His throne in all the heavenly splendor, with some 24 thrones surrounding the central judgement throne of God. These are not angels but are representatives of human beings. We can compare them to the 12 tribes of Israel and the 12 apostles. (Rev. 21:9-14.) Those 24 elders upon the thrones bow down before Almighty God. "The four and twenty elders fall down before Him that is seated on the throne, and worship Him that liveth forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, Thou art worthy. O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created". Rev. 4:10-11. This is none other than the Eternal Son of God, to whom these elders bow before, casting their crowns at His feet. Only the Incarnate Son of God is worthy to take the scroll and open the seals, which will spark off that terrible tribulation upon the earth..

THE SCROLL OF THE WRATH OF GOD.

A scroll of the wrath of God was in the hand of the Eternal Son of God and no one could be found to open the seals and usher in the wrath of God upon planet earth. John as he saw this pre-televised and that no one could be found to

open the sealed scroll so, that God's wrath could be poured out in judgement against sin. As John looked steadfastly in bewilderment, he began to weep. "And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look upon it. And one of the elders saith to me, Weep not; behold the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the root of David, hath prevailed to open the scroll, and to loose it's seven seals." Rev. 5:4-5. This was none other than the Incarnate Son of God, who paid the price as the Lamb of God. A great company of believers will surround the Throne of God and will rejoice and be glad as we sing that new heavenly song. "And they sang a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for thou was slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God a kingdom of priests, and we shall reign on earth." Rev. 5:9-10.

This will bring us to zero hour for the out pouring of the wrath of God, as recorded in the Book of the Revelation of Jesus Christ. Christ describes this great tribulation as the most terrible thing that will ever happen. "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved; but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened." Matt. 24:21-22. There will be 24 hours in the day, but there will be an addition of darkness upon the earth, shortening the light of the day. (Rev. 8:12-13; Rev. 16:10-11.) There will be a total of 21 judgements contained in this scroll. For details read in the Book of Revelation from chapter 6 on through chapter 18. Make no mistake about this great tribulation, for it will literally be fulfilled. How do I know this? From the very facts set forth in the Book of Daniel, concerning the 69 times 7 which equals 483 years. These events were literally fulfilled, assuring us that the final week of seven years will also be literal. The 490 years as recorded in the book of Daniel takes us up to the establishment of the kingdom of righteousness. History confirms the predictions from God's revelation, and every detail will be completed, exactly as God predicted. We won't go into detail concerning the wrath of God to be poured out during those seven years but will just list these judgements.

- A. "The First Seal." (Rev.6:1-2.) Satan's counterfeit, "White Horse" Subdues all under wicked authority.
- B. "The Second Seal." (Rev.6:3-4.) "Red Horse", Universal war.
- C. "The Third Seal." (Rev.6:5-6.) "Black Horse", Universal famine.
- D. "The Fourth Seal." (Rev.6:7-8.) "Pale Horse", Universal death to over a billion people.
- E. "The Fifth Seal." (Rev.6:9-11.) Martyred Tribulation Saints.

- F. "The Sixth Seal." (Rev.6:12-17.) Heavenly & Earthly Disturbances.
- G. "The Seventh Seal." (Rev.8:1-6,) Preparation for the seven trumpets with countless earthquakes upon the earth.
- H. "The First Trumpet." (Rev.8:7.) Hail and fire mixed with blood with the third part of all trees burned, and all of the grass.
- I. "The Second Trumpet." (Rev.8:8-9.) A third part of the sea becomes blood, with a third part of marine creatures die. Also a third part of all the ships are destroyed.
- J. "The Third Trumpet." (Rev.8:10-11.) A third part of the water becomes bitter.
- K. "The Fourth Trumpet." (Rev.8:12-13.) A third part of the sun, the moon and stars were smitten.
- L. "The Fifth Trumpet." (Rev.9:1-12; Rev.12:7-17.) The Devil cast out of heaven, ushering in "The Abomination of Desolation", upon the earth.
- M. "The Sixth Trumpet." (Rev.9:13-11:14.) The Euphrates army of demons released with two hundred thousand, slaying people for one year, one month, one day and one hour, with one third of all the people slain.
- N. "The Seventh Trumpet." (Rev.11:15-19.) The Eternal reign of Christ foreseen, as well as the opening of the Heavenly temple.
Great hail will pour down upon the earth.
- O. "The First Bowl of God's Wrath." (Rev.16:1-2.) Painful sores upon mankind.
- P. "The Second Bowl of God's Wrath." (Rev.16:3.) Seas turned into blood with all marine creatures dying.
- Q. "The Third Bowl of God's Wrath." (Rev.16:4-7.) The rivers and streams turn into blood.
- R. "The Fourth Bowl of the Wrath of God." (Rev.16:8-9.) The sun scorched men with great heat.
- S. "The Fifth Bowl of the Wrath of God." (Rev.16:10-11.) The beast's kingdom filled with painful darkness causing sores.

- T. "The Sixth Bowl of the Wrath of God." (Rev.16:12.) The river Euphrates dries up, allowing the rulers of the East to move toward Jerusalem.
- U. "The Seventh Bowl of the Wrath of God." (Rev.16:17-21.) The voice from heaven states that all is done. This will be followed with great earthquakes greater than all previous earthquakes. Jerusalem was divided in three ways, and the cities of the nations fell. Mystery Babylon fell with God's wrath. The Islands and mountains disappeared, and great hail fell upon the people, some one hundred pounds in weight.

THE GRACE OF GOD MANIFESTED DURING THE TRIBULATION

Depraved mankind has been without excuse in every generation and age, and is without excuse to Almighty God. However, God has always shown an abundance of grace and ample provision for the salvation of mankind. We read, "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." 2 Pet. 3:9. God's character never changes, regardless of the time, and we can depend upon His Word as set forth in the Bible. So let us examine God's provision for those who would believe during the Great Tribulation.

GRACE SHOWN TO THE REMNANT NUMBERING 144,000

When the rapture takes place and the saints of God are "Caught Up", there will be plenty of evidence of the fulfillment of God's Word. Those who are familiar with the teachings of the Bible, who have never accepted Christ will now have their second chance to qualify for salvation under extreme difficult times. The Jewish youth which have been misinformed as to the Messianic promises will now have evidence of Biblical truths, after the rapture takes place. There will be 12,000 from 11 tribes of Israel, and 24,000 from the generations of Ephraim and Manassah, the two sons of Joseph. The Tribe of Dan is excluded because they brought idols into the land. "And I saw another angel ascending from the east having the seal of the living God; and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. And I heard the number of them which were sealed; and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel." Rev. 7:2-4. "And I looked and, lo, a Lamb stood on Mount Zion, with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having His Father's name written in their foreheads." Rev. 14:1.

THOSE WHO WILL COME OUT OF THE GREAT TRIBULATION

BY THE GRACE OF GOD

There will be a great multitude saved during the great and terrible tribulation. Many of them will not live very long during the tribulation. They will be in such a great number that they cannot be numbered. "After this I beheld and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and peoples, and tongues, stood before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands, and cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God who sitteth upon the throne and unto the Lamb.....And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, Who are these who are arrayed in white robes? And from where did they come? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they who came out of the great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple; and He that sitteth upon the throne shall dwell among them." Rev. 7:9-15.

Although the great tribulation will be very terrible, yet there will be these precious souls saved in the days of God's extreme wrath. We have an earlier reference to some of these who were martyred in the early part of the tribulation, who cry out to God to avenge their blood. "And when he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the Word of God, and for the testimony which they held. And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth? And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled." Rev. 6:9-11. These will be among those who did not flee to the hills for refuge, but continued their witness for the Lord during the great tribulation.

BY THE GRACE OF GOD

MOSES AND ELIJAH COME IN PERSON TO WITNESS

DURING THE GREAT TRIBULATION

As God the Holy Spirit had predicted and promised through the writer Malachi, that John the Baptist would come and prepare the way for the Messiah, knowing that Israel would reject the Lord Jesus Christ as their Messiah, so a substitute for Elijah was sent. (Mal. 3:1.) The Jewish leaders knew that Elijah was to come before the kingdom of righteousness would come. "Behold I will send you Elijah, the prophet, before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord." Mal. 4:5. During the tribulation both Elijah and Moses will come and witness before all for three and one half years, or 42 months, or a thousand two

hundred sixty days. This will take place during the Abomination of Desolation spoken by Daniel and confirmed by the Lord Jesus Christ. (Dan. 9:27; Matt. 24:15.) "And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. These are the two olive trees, and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. Rev. 11:3-4. One would think that this would be sufficient evidence, to convince the people of their need of Christ as their Savior, but the record tells us that the earthly people will not be pleased. "And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.....And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another, because these two prophets tormented them that dwelt on the earth. And after three days and a half the spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet, and great fear fell upon them who saw them. And they heard a great voice from heaven saying unto them, Come up here. And they ascended up to heaven in a cloud, and their enemies beheld them." Rev. 11:7-12. As these two witnesses leave for heaven there will be a judgement upon the city of Jerusalem. "And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and a tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand; and the remnant were terrified, and gave glory to the God of heaven." Rev. 11:13. The whole world will be aware of this judgement upon Jerusalem, with a great toll of lives.

BY THE GRACE OF GOD

THE CITY OF REFUGE

Israel is the arch enemy of the Devil and during the abomination of desolation which will be three and one half years, when the covenant with Israel will be broken, which will be made with the Dictator of the revived Roman Empire, then the remnant will have to flee to the hills. "When ye, therefore, shall see the Abomination of Desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place (whosoever readeth, let him understand). Then let them who are in Judea flee into the mountains;" Matt. 24:15-16. This is what is referred to as the remnant of Israel in Revelation chapter 12 and verse 6. "And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and three score days." This again reveals to us that during the Tribulation there will be many saved. They will be among the sheep which will be separated from the goats and enter into the kingdom of righteousness after the great tribulation. (Matt. 25:31-40.) There will be countless numbers of these tribulation saints that will enter into the kingdom of righteousness. (Matt. 24:30-31.)

BY THE GRACE OF GOD

THE ANGEL WITH THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL

This is one case where the Lord could not depend upon his earthly witnesses to send the everlasting gospel to the ends of the world. "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgement is come; and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters." Rev. 14:6-7. That certainly is another great way in which God has sent forth the gospel message during the tribulation. It is the final record that we have of the preaching of the gospel during the great tribulation.

V. The Great Mystery Babylon, the ecumenical world religion will be destroyed. (Rev. 17:1-18:24.) Thus preparations for the return of Christ will be in progress, establishing the Kingdom of Righteousness upon this earth for the thousand years.

This gives us a quick picture of what will take place upon this earth, after the rapture of the saints of God. Christ has warned against these seven years to come, and praise God, we who believe, will be taken out from this terrible wrath. (1 Thess. 1:10.) It is imperative that we warn the unregenerate of the things to come, as well as the eternal death that they will face in the lake of fire. Now let's go back to our heavenly scene where we will be standing before the Lord.

THE GIVING OF REWARDS TO THE SAINTS FOR BEING FAITHFUL

As the wrath of God is being poured out upon this earth, the saints of God will be safely dwelling in their heavenly homes, taken out from the wrath to come. (1 Thess. 1:10.) As I mentioned previously that there would be great activities in heaven, and one of the very important events would be the accountability of the saints before the judgement seat of Christ. Sin will not be the question, but rather faithfulness to God during our earthly stay. The judgement seat of Christ is well described in the Bible and is a very important event as to our eternal responsibilities in the kingdom of God. "For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, that everyone may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." 2 Cor. 5:10. This refers to our faithfulness and unfaithfulness to the Lord on earth as to whether we glorified the Lord in our good works, or glorified self in our good works. Let us turn to another portion of God's Word. "For we are laborers together with God; ye are God's cultivated field, ye are God's building.

According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth on it. But let every man take heed how he buildeth upon it. For other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble- Every man's work shall be made manifest; for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall test every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built upon it, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall be saved, yet as by fire. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" 1 Cor. 3:9-16.

There are other references to the judgement of the saints by the Lord Jesus Christ which we have dealt with in previous Bible studies. However, let this suffice, as we review these important events which are in God's future plans. As ambassadors for the Lord, we have been given that great commission to glorify the Lord as we declare so great salvation. There are many believers who may be thought of as outstanding in their evangelism, and ministry in the church. It may be that their motive is wrong and they are in it for personal praise or for business reasons. This before Christ will be as "Wood, Hay, or Stubble". Let us examine our service unto God, whether it is for personal gain or for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ. If you are one who is guilty of self glory in your good works, I would advise you to confess this unto the Lord and get rid of the wood, hay, and stubble, before it is brought up at the judgement seat of Christ.

These rewards, if you will be found faithful, will indicate your responsibilities throughout eternity. The Lord gave us the clear example in the Word of God. "For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling into a far country, who called his own servant, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to every man according to his ability, and straightway took his journey." Matt.. 25:14-15. We know they sequence of this parable, which describes the service of the Lord. I can assure you that as you use your natural talents for the Lord that you will have greater ability to use the special gifts of talents that the Holy Spirit is waiting to give to you. Do not try to by pass your natural talents, seeking to copy someone else, but use these talents for the glory and honor of the Lord. You need not wonder about other talents if you use what you have, and rest assured that the Holy Spirit add to them, and do exceeding abundantly above all that you could as or think.

THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB.

During Christ's earthly ministry, we do not have much information concerning the marriage of the Lamb, but we do have mentioned "The friend of the Bridegroom". "He that hath the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who standeth and heareth Him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice; this my joy, therefore, is fulfilled." Jn. 3:29. We also have

other references as to Christ being the Bridegroom. The Scribes and Pharisees, complained to Jesus that His disciples did not fast as others, "And He said unto them, Can ye make the sons of the bride chamber fast, while the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast in those days." Lk. 5:34-35. The Bridegroom has been in His heavenly realm for almost two thousand years, waiting for the complete body of Christ to be made ready. The Holy Spirit has revealed to us this heavenly marriage. "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to Him; for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white; for the fine linen is the righteousnesses of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they who are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God." Rev. 19:7-9.

That will be a glorious event in heaven with the bride of Christ in her full array and all the Old Testament saints, who are the friends of the Bridegroom, dressed in their fine linens, as our special guests, along with the angelic hosts. As members of the body of Christ, our souls should be thrilled and with joy overflowing in great anticipation to what lies in the near future. We as the bride of Christ will be given the seat of honor at the great wedding feast. "Even so come Lord Jesus"!

There is another phase of the wedding and the marriage feast, and that is the moment when Christ lifts up the cup of communion, and we all join in with Him as he drinks the fruit of the vine after some two thousand years of depriving Himself of this fruit. Note what Christ said. "And He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." Matt. 26:27-29. That will be a thrilling moment, when the Lord Jesus Christ lifts that cup to His mouth and we all drink to the reality in the presence of the King of kings and Lord of lords. Can't you just visualize that great event, during that heavenly banquet with the saints of all ages attending? I am longing for that great and glorious day to take place. Let us go on to other heavenly events during those seven years.

THE HEAVENLY BATTLE

Sin has first been expressed in heaven by Lucifer, when he drew one third of all God's angels with him. Some of these fallen angels have been placed in chains of darkness. (Jude 6.) There are others who are in the bottomless pit. (Rev. 9:1-12.) There are still other fallen angels under the Euphrates river. (Rev. 9:13-20.) It also must be remembered that Satan and all of these fallen angels have to give an account before the sovereign and Almighty God. In spite of what some say about Satan, he still must give an account of his activities before God. One of the best examples of this is what is written in the Bible. "Now there was

a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them." Job. 1:6. We are also told, "And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ; for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, who accused them before our God day and night. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." Rev. 12:10-11.

There are reasons why God in His marvelous and amazing grace has given us the Holy Spirit to dwell within us, and to pray for us, with groanings which cannot be put into earthly language. (Jn. 14:16-17; Rom. 8:26-27.) Also, because we are accused day and night by Satan before God, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; And He is a propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the whole world." 1 Jn. 2:1-2. There would be no reason whatsoever that we would need an Advocate in heaven, if Satan were not there to accuse the brethren, day and night. So this will all come to an end when Satan, that Devil and Serpent is thrown out of heaven. That battle will take place in the middle of the tribulation. When Satan is thrown out of heaven he will use all of his wisdom and strategy upon the face of the earth.

By the time that these and other events have taken place in heaven, three and one half years of the wrath of God have been completed upon the earth. The fifth trumpet will be sounded and Satan and all his demons will be cast out of heaven, and cast down to the earth by Michael the archangel and his great army of angels. Satan will be thrown out of heaven and never to return. "And there was war in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not, neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil and Satan, who deceiveth the whole world; he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him." Rev. 12:7-9. The angelic hosts in heaven rejoice that the fallen angels are now cast out of their presence forever, and will now be dealt by God upon planet earth. There will be two attempts by Satan to stand against his Creator, one during the tribulation and one at the end of the thousand year reign of the Lord. Let us deal with Satan's stand against his Creator during the latter part of the great tribulation. We must keep in mind that Satan has been the god of this world system, and will easily take control.

SATAN'S STAND AGAINST HIS CREATOR

THE BOTTOMLESS PIT - KING OF THE DEMONS

The first half of the great tribulation will be terrible, but now since Satan will be in full charge upon the earth, drastic changes take place. There will be added evil forces from heaven as well as armies of demons kept in prison until this very hour. Satan will be making one of his two last stand upon the earth,

with all of his billions of demons to aid in his great campaign of deceit. This will usher in "The Abomination of Desolation" spoken of by Daniel and confirmed by the Lord Jesus Christ. These will be the most terrible times in which human beings will ever face. "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be." Matt. 24:21. God in His sovereignty will allow two great armies of demons to join forces with Satan to fill their cup of iniquity. When the fifth and six trumpets sound these two great armies come forth to torment those who do not have the name of Jehovah upon their foreheads. As Satan is given the key to the bottomless pit, "And he opened the bottomless pit, and there arose a smoke out of the pit, like the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth, and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree, but only those men who have not the seal of God in their foreheads. And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months; and their torment was like the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man." Rev. 9:2-5. They had a king demon over them as described in the Word of God." And they had a king over them, who is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon." Rev. 9:11. In the English he would be called "The Destroyer". This is but the beginning of the satanic attack under the sovereignty of God.

THE FOUR FALLEN ANGELS FROM THE EUPHRATES RIVER

When the sixth trumpet sounds there is a terrible stirring under the Euphrates river of four leaders among the two hundred thousand thousand demons under their command. "And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, Saying to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, Loose the four angels who are bound in the great river, Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, who were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, to slay the third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand and I heard the number of them." Rev. 9:13-16. These will kill a billion and one third of all of the people upon the earth. This is incredible as one ponders upon such death, but all of this will come to pass as God has recorded. God has revealed these things well in advance by His grace. Man is without excuse and can escape all of this through Christ who is the way, the truth and the life. This terrible onslaught of human lives is but a portion of the outpouring of God's wrath. God in His sovereignty allows the evil forces to run their course. The two beasts that control the revival of the Roman Empire will now receive their world wide power from Satan, that dragon and serpent. Satan's greatest enemy is Israel and the remnant and will now try to destroy her according to Revelation chapter twelve verses one through six.

But God, has His place of refuge for her in the mountains beyond Jerusalem. "And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days." This amounts to three and one half years, which is the sum total of the last half of the great tribulation which is called "The Abomination of Desolation". It is what Christ has said, "When ye, therefore, shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place (whosever readeth, let him understand), Then let them who are in Judea flee into the mountains." Matt. 24:15-16. As God has always been mindful of His remnant in all ages, so His grace is again to be seen during the tribulation as I have already pointed out to you. However there will be those 144,000 Jewish young people who will not flee to the mountains, but will be God's witnesses throughout the whole world. (Rev. 7 & 14.) God's grace will be manifested during the great tribulation with souls being saved, and will be called "The Tribulation Saints." (Rev. 7:9-17.)

THAT GREAT BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON

When those seven last years of the 70 weeks of Daniel are completed, then the heavens will open and the Lord in His mighty power will come forth to conquer the evil forces. "And I saw heaven opened and, behold, a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in His righteousness He doth judge and make war. His eyes were like flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a name written, that no man knew, but He Himself...and out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it He should smite the nations, and He shall rule them with a rod of iron; and He treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords..... And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him that sat on the horse, and against His army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshiped his image. These both were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of Him that sat upon the horse, which sword proceedeth out of His mouth; and all the fowls were filled with their flesh." Rev. 19:11-21.

SATAN BECOMES THE PRISONER FOR ONE THOUSAND YEARS

God is in no hurry to send forth His final judgement upon Satan and will incapacitate him for the duration of the millennium. "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, and cast him into the bottomless pit, and

shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled; and after that he must be loosed for a little season." Rev. 20:1-3. This again is another sign of God's grace to the nations that they would be free from the deception of the satanic powers. They would make their own choices of right or wrong, during the kingdom of righteousness of the thousand years. God will give mankind a perfect righteous government under Christ, under perfect conditions, and do all He can to teach them His perfect righteousness, but man being totally depraved will fail in this final test.

THE PERFECT KINGDOM OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

THE KINGDOMS OF THIS WORLD BECOME THE KINGDOM OF GOD

We have already reviewed the marvels of the kingdom age, as Christ rules in perfect righteousness, so we will not repeat, only to mention that all the conditions will be perfect, and only man will be totally depraved. As mankind will have hundreds of years of life upon the earth with no disease and plenty of food for all, you would imagine that all would be well. On the contrary, the children born during the kingdom age will rebel against God's perfect righteousness and many will be ready to join Satan when he will be released for a little season, after the millennium. The kingdom will start out with only sheep, as the goats will be separated and destroyed. "When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory. And before Him shall be gathered all the nations; and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats. And He shall set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left." Matt. 25:31-33. As we read the rest of the prediction that Christ gives, we learn that the goats will be destroyed and wait the white throne judgement. This gives us the clue that the kingdom will start out with believers, but the children born during those thousand years will have to make their decision for or against Christ. We know from the records that many will allow themselves to be deceived by Satan when he is loosed for a little season. (Rev. 20:7-8.)

The glorified saints of all ages will be the evangelists and teachers throughout the whole world, during the thousand years. We will teach the kingdom truth to the nations and all will clearly understand the gospel of the kingdom. All will be without excuse before God and will have to make their individual decision. We as God's saints will be the missionary priests of the kingdom, having been prepared with a refresher course during those seven years in heaven, after the Rapture. Our responsibility and reward will be according to our faithfulness during our earthly period of life.

That is why God arranges for a remnant of His people Israel to flee to the hills, where God will, give them special protection during the last three and one

half years of the tribulation. These will be some of the earthly subjects that will be among the sheep for the kingdom age. Of course the saints of all ages in their glorified bodies will have reigning power with the Lord for one thousand years. We as a kingdom of God's priests will evangelize in the whole world without restrictions. In our amazing wisdom and knowledge of the righteousness of God, we will be a world wide ruling government. Earthly people will be free from all sicknesses and diseases and will be prolific in repopulating the whole earth. All will be under the rod of iron of the Lord Jesus Christ and will not be able to rebel against His righteousness. With nature restored, there will be plenty of food for all and poverty will not exist. However, the earthly people will still be totally depraved, and many of those born during the kingdom age will resent the righteousness of God. They will be easy prey for Satan when he is released from the bottomless pit.

THE FINAL BATTLE TO END ALL WARS

The word tells us, "And when the thousand years are ended, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle; the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city; and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever." Rev. 20:7-10. This final battle will soon be over as God will send fire down from heaven and devour those armies, and God will have Satan cast into the lake of fire and remain under the fires of God for eternity.

THE FINAL JUDGEMENT AT THE GREAT WHITE THRONE

God's grace has run it's course and all creatures upon earth are without excuse. Every age in which man has lived has been seasoned with God's grace and now the final judgement of all ages. God the Father has placed all judgement in the hands of the Lord Jesus Christ. "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgement unto the Son." Jn. 5:22. We also know, according to God's Word that every knee must bow before the Lord. "Wherefore, God also hath highly exalted Him and given Him a name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God, the Father." Phil. 2:9-11. This will take place before the great white throne judgement when all the unregenerate must stand and bow before the Lord before they receive their final judgement. "And I saw a great white throne, and Him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away, and there was found no place for them. And I saw the

dead, small and great, stand before God, and the books were opened, and another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and hades delivered up the dead that were in them; and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Rev. 20:11-15. This will be a sad day for billions of souls, both great and small, both religious ones and atheists. They will all bow before the Lord and finally confess that He is the Eternal Son of God. Their good works will not be sufficient or compare with the righteousness of God, therefore they will be weighed and found wanting. They all will be cast into the lake of fire and remain there forever and ever, with no second chance to accept the grace of God, through the Lord Jesus Christ. This will be the conclusion and the sum total of sin which will be sealed off somewhere in outer space, never to express itself again. It will indicate zero hour to bring in everlasting righteousness where sin will never ever show its ugly evil head again, to God's praise and glory. Amen and Amen!

THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH TO BE DESTROYED

BY THE GRACE OF GOD

The old heavens and the old earth will be dissolved, according to God's Word." But the heavens and the earth which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgement and perdition of ungodly men. But beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness, but is long suffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat; the earth also, and the works that are in it, shall be burned up. Seeing, then, that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy living and godliness, looking for and hastening unto the coming of the day of God, in which the heavens, being on fire, shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?" 2 Pet. 3:7-12.

Since both the heavens and the earth have been contaminated with sin and the evil workings of Satan, by the grace of God, the old will be forever destroyed. To make all things new will be no problem for our Almighty God. What we observe and enjoy during this present time, though it be ever so beautiful, will not compare with what God will do in the future ages. One of the reasons why these old elements are still tolerated by God is the fact that God does not wish that one soul should perish. God has made all possible provisions through His

Eternal Son, who completely paid the sum total of all sin, upon the cross. "Remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is none else, I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure;" Isa. 46:9-10. God does not have to wait until particular circumstances take place, but knows the end from the beginning. God knew exactly how Lucifer would react to that great power in which he was created. Why then was Lucifer created, since God knew? According to the complete plan that the Triune God has adopted, giving both the angels and humans the power of choice, God is allowing sin to run it's course, and judge it once and forever. When the old heavens and the old earth are burned with fervent heat, total sin will be dealt with in it's entirety, making possible a new heavens and a new earth where sin will be totally eradicated forever. God's good pleasure will then be accomplished, with all evil, sin and death cast into the lake of fire. This will be in fulfillment of Daniel 9:24, "making an end of sins, and bringing in everlasting righteousness". With all of this in mind, the old creation will be dissolved and the new creation will be resolved, according to the sovereign will of God. This will allow the moral will of God to bring perfection into His new creation. "Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen." Heb. 13:20-21.

ALL THINGS TO BE CREATED NEW

BOTH

IN HEAVEN AND IN EARTH

BY THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

By the grace of God, which has been granted to us, we who are believers should be earnestly looking forward to these "Things to Come". "Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, in which dwelleth righteousness." 2 Pet. 3:13. No wonder that John on the Isle of Patmos, as God gave him that pre-televised view of the wonders to come, that he cried out, "He that testifieth these things saith, Surely, I come quickly. Amen. Even so come, Lord Jesus." Rev. 22:20. That is why, it is very important to us that our priorities in this life should be based upon the eternal values of God. "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal." 2 Cor. 4:18.

Since God's best is yet to come, our whole attitude and endeavor should be

to do the will of the Lord. "Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of Him in peace, without spot, and blameless." 2 Pet. 3:14. It is true that these things which God has promised to us is yet in the future and we accept them by faith. However, we have sufficient evidence in the Bible to establish our faith in the promises of God. Since we have previously gone into detail concerning these promises, may we just quote a little from the Bible as to what John saw. "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away, and there was no more sea." Rev. 21:1. We are not told as to the size of both heaven and earth, but we know that it will be spacious and sufficient for all God's creatures. The seas will be done away with, and the beauty of God will abound everywhere. During the thousand year reign of Christ upon this earth, this present nature will be restored, but in the new creation nature will be perfected with all of the splendor and beauty of God displayed without a ray of sin on parade!

NEW JERUSALEM

THE CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

Nothing will be more splendid than that Holy City, coming down from the heaven of heavens. "And I, John, saw the holy City, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband." Rev. 21:2. John was carried away into the future to behold such a perfect holy city made without hands. "And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God; and her light was like a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;" This will be the sum total of color shining through with crystal clear light with the glory of God. The streets will be paved with the purest of gold and the splendor of God will be seen throughout the city with open gates made of solid pearl. Our finite minds cannot comprehend these marvels of God, which He will one day pour out into our lives, by the grace of God. Even the foundations of that great city will be laid with priceless gems that will renown to the eternal glory of God. The saints of all ages shall inherit such a treasure, and we who are the bride if Christ will have our very special place in the presence of the King of kings and Lord of lords. "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgements, and His ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? Or who hath been His counselor? Or who hath first given to Him, and it shall be recompensed unto Him again? For of Him, and through Him, and to Him, are all things: to whom be glory forever. Amen." Rom. 11:33-36.

The new Jerusalem will be a special holy city for the saints of all ages. There will be great joy and heavenly fellowship with the angelic hosts as well as with the saints. "And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the

tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away. And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold I make all things new. And He said unto me, Write; for these words are true and faithful. And He said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omeg'a, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he shall be my son." Rev. 21:3-7. What a proclamation from God Himself! God is preparing a perfect eternity for those who will by His grace, put their trust in Him. There is more than the new heavens and the new earth and the holy City come down from God. We will have access into the whole realm of God, by His grace. There will be traveling facilities available to us like wings of an angel. The beauty of God's creation will be ours forever and ever. Brother and sister in the Lord, open your eyes to the blessings of God, in the spiritual realm, in heavenly places, in Christ Jesus! Let's journey into the eternity to come and visit "Paradise Found", by the grace of God.

THE NEW AND ETERNAL PARADISE

BY THE GRACE OF GOD

Adam and Eve were placed in an earthly paradise which must have been a glorious garden of Eden. They had need of nothing and also had the privilege of walking in the cool of the evening with God Himself. I am sure that we all had wished that we could have had a similar experience as they did, but man became totally depraved and that Paradise was lost forever. There was no way that we could make amends and return to that first estate. "Nevertheless, death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of Him that was to come. But not as the offense, so also is the free gift. For if through the offense of one many are dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift; for the judgement was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offenses unto justification. For if by one man's offense death reigned by one, much more they who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ." Rom. 5:14-17. Since we lost our righteous standing before God because of Adam's sin, so we gain a perfect righteous standing before God, through the faithfulness of the Eternal Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ. "For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive; But every man in his own order; Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at His coming. Then cometh the end, when He shall have

delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father, when He shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign, till He hath put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For He hath put all things under His feet. But when He saith all things are put under Him, it is manifest that He is excepted who did put all things under Him. And when all things shall be subdued unto Him, then shall the Son also Himself be subject unto Him that put all things under Him, that God may be all in all." 1 Cor. 15:21-28.

At the time of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, He was also appointed to enter Sheol (the place of the dead) and lead those Old Testament saints into the heavenly Paradise. We are aware of this change of position of the Old Testament saints, because Christ promised the thief on the cross that he would be with Him in Paradise. (Lk. 23:39-43.) Those throughout the Christian age, who die in the Lord, go straight to the heavenly Paradise, being absent from the body and present with the Lord. This is a blessed hope that we have by the grace of God.

As we contemplate upon the new creation of both heaven and earth, and the holy City, we must accept that this present Paradise in heaven will also be dissolved with fervent heat. Where will these precious souls find refuge? The word of God is very clear in describing the new Paradise which God will create. "And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bore twelve kinds of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. And they shall see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no lamp, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light, and they shall reign forever and ever." Rev. 22:1-5. This is the grand and glorious eternity that all the saints will have, in the presence of the Lord God forever and ever. One could not wish for a better Paradise than this which is fully provided by God's grace.

We have not been given all of the details on these marvelous things to come, but we do have this promise from our Immutable God, and we can wish for nothing better. We conclude this "Amazing Grace" with our hearts aglow with an inward joy, placed there by God the Holy Spirit. In closing may we listen to the Lord Jesus Christ. "I Jesus, have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Rev. 22:16-17.

"Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God, our

Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen."
Jude 24-25.

[The following text is extremely faint and illegible, appearing to be a series of lines of text, possibly a list or a set of instructions, but the content cannot be discerned.]

QUESTIONS CHAPTER SIX

1. What is God's aim in His great plan?
2. How does one receive the Divine spark of life? Script.
3. Explain Colossians 2:14-15.
4. How do we limit God's grace in our lives?
5. Does God personally benefit by providing grace? Explain grace.
6. Explain Philippians 1:6; and James 1:17.
7. Can God's grace be misused? Explain answer.
8. If God's grace can be misused, in what ways?
9. Explain how Divine power is dependent upon grace.
10. Explain the uses of Divine power in Christian lives.
11. Explain 2 Corinthians 12:8-10.
12. Name and explain our future blessings with Divine hope.
13. Give some hope that we have mentioned in the Bible.
14. Write an essay on, "The Hope in the Lord".
15. Write an essay on, "The Hope of the Resurrection".
16. Name 10 examples of "Amazing Grace " through our loving Lord.
17. Write a thesis on, "The Restoration of the Eternal Righteousness of God."
18. How does God plan to eradicate sin throughout eternity to come?
19. Write an essay on, "The Seven Years in the Mansions of God."
20. When do we receive immortality? Scripture.
21. Write a short paper on "The hope in the Future Events" Include Scripture portions as proof of your statements.

**Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Losier,
Christian Literature and Bible Center Inc.,**

Jer.33:3 ; Eph.3:20-21

In the beginning

Was the Word, and the Word was with GOD
and the Word was GOD

JOHN 1:1

Eternity Past

THE ABSOLUTE GOD
THE ABSOLUTE PLAN
DAN. 9:24

GOD - THE FATHER planned it,
JOHN 10:15-18 : HEB. 10:5b

GOD - THE SON provided it,
JOHN 10:17

GOD - THE HOLY SPIRIT proved it.
1 COR. 12:13

THE ABSOLUTE BLUEPRINT
to achieve a PERFECT
ETERNAL PARADISE
FREE FROM EVIL
throughout Eternity to come,
based on the Word of GOD

GOD created the
Heaven and the
Earth
GEN. 1:1 : PSALM 19:1

The creation of the Angels

and the realm of their habitation

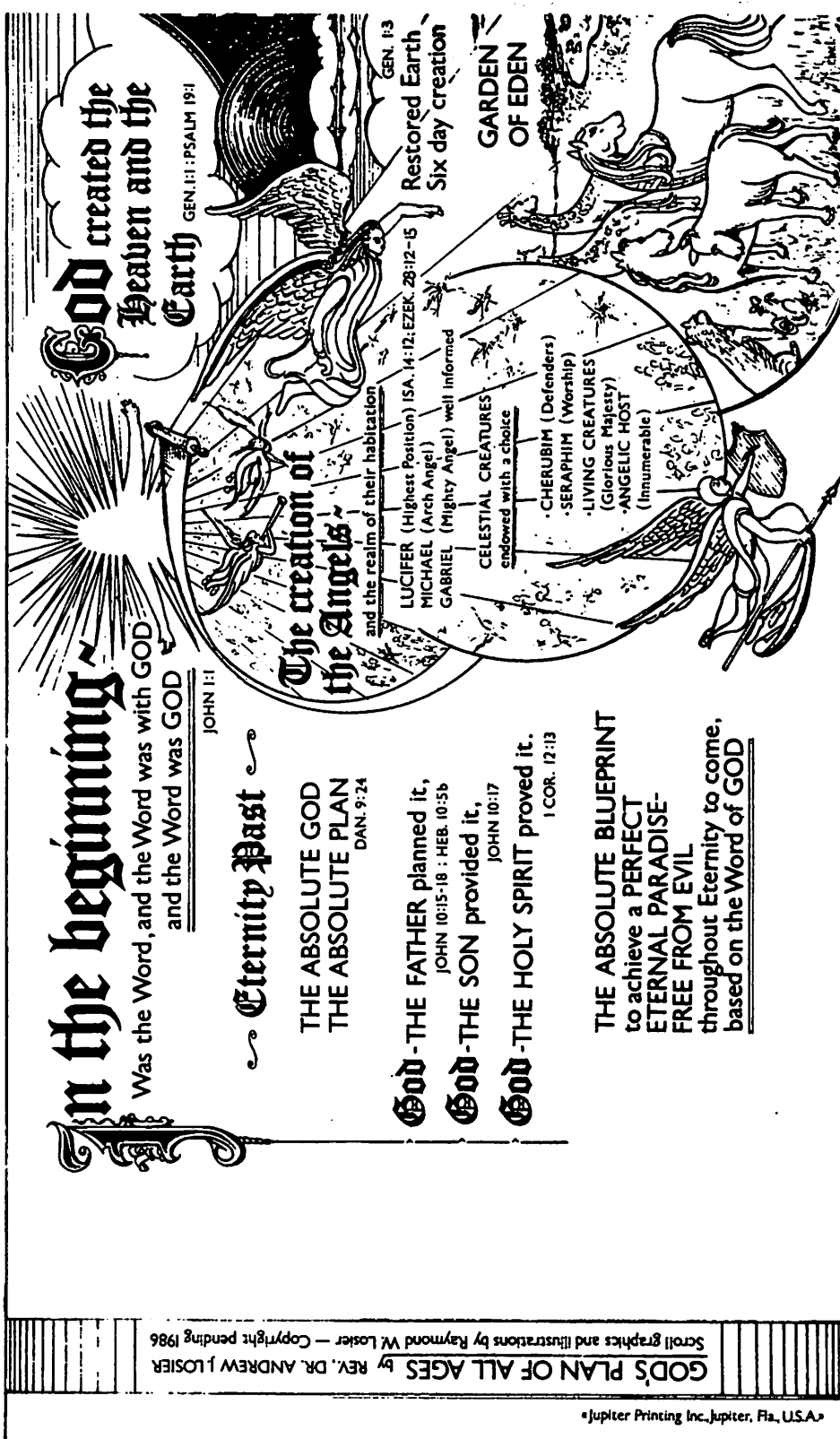
LUCIFER (Highest Position) ISA. 14:12; EZEK. 28:12-15
MICHAEL (Arch Angel)
GABRIEL (Mighty Angel) well informed

CELESTIAL CREATURES
endowed with a choice

- CHERUBIM (Defenders)
- SERAPHIM (Worship)
- LIVING CREATURES
(Glorious Majesty)
- ANGELIC HOST
(Innumerable)

Restored Earth
Six day creation

GARDEN
OF EDEN

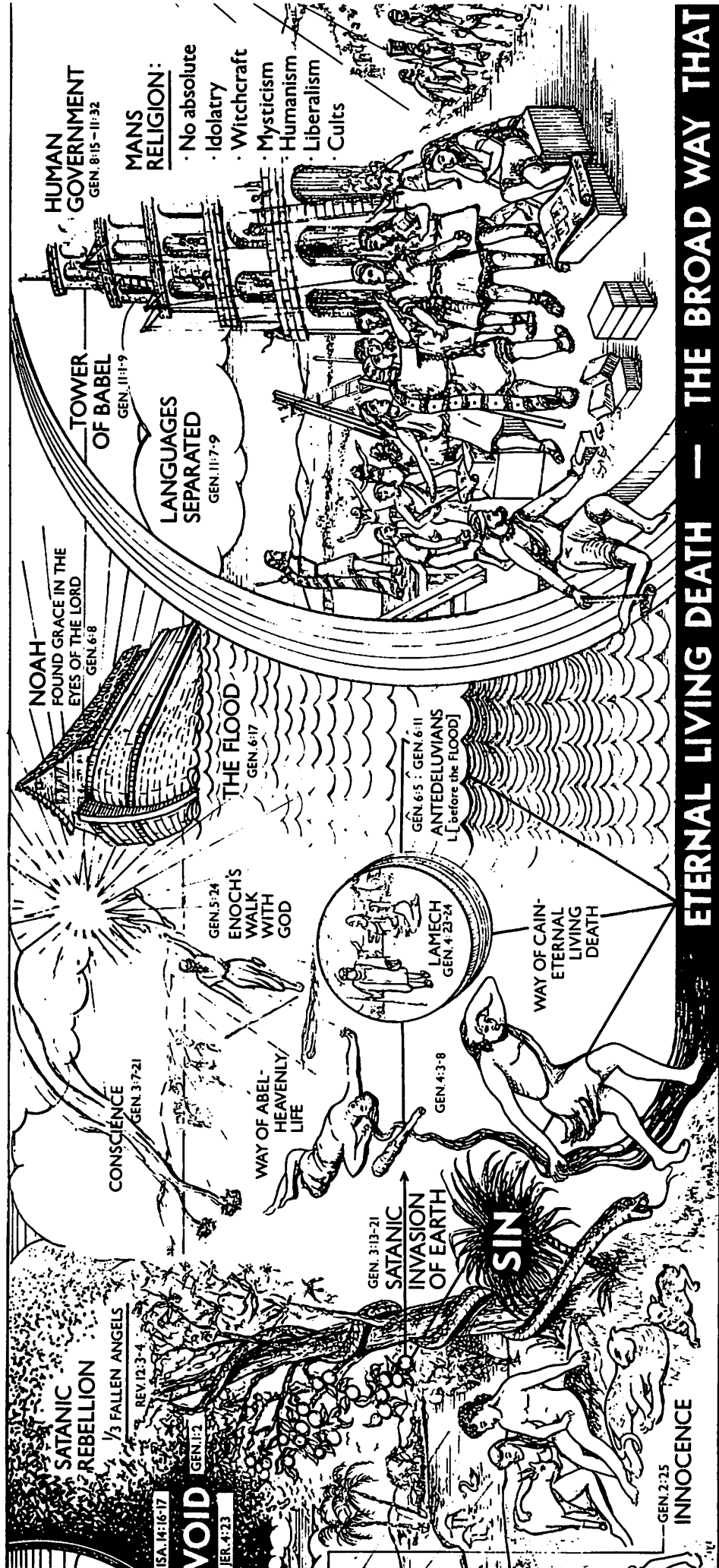


GOD'S PLAN OF ALL AGES by REV. DR. ANDREW J. LOSIER
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The following pages have been perforated and printed on one side only for those who wish to remove the God's Plan of All Ages Chart and assemble it on a wall or into a scroll.

NOT TO BE SOLD



HUMAN GOVERNMENT
GEN. 8:15 - 11:32

MANS RELIGION:

- No absolute
- Idolatry
- Witchcraft
- Mysticism
- Humanism
- Liberalism
- Cults

TOWER OF BABEL
GEN. 11:1-9

LANGUAGES SEPARATED
GEN. 11:7-9

NOAH
FOUND GRACE IN THE EYES OF THE LORD
GEN. 6:8

THE FLOOD
GEN. 6:17

ANTEDELUVIANS
[before the FLOOD]
GEN. 6:5; GEN. 6:11

ENOCHS WALK WITH GOD
GEN. 5:24

LAMECH
GEN. 4:23-24

WAY OF CAIN - ETERNAL LIVING DEATH

CONSCIENCE
GEN. 3:7-21

WAY OF ABEL - HEAVENLY LIFE

GEN. 4:3-8

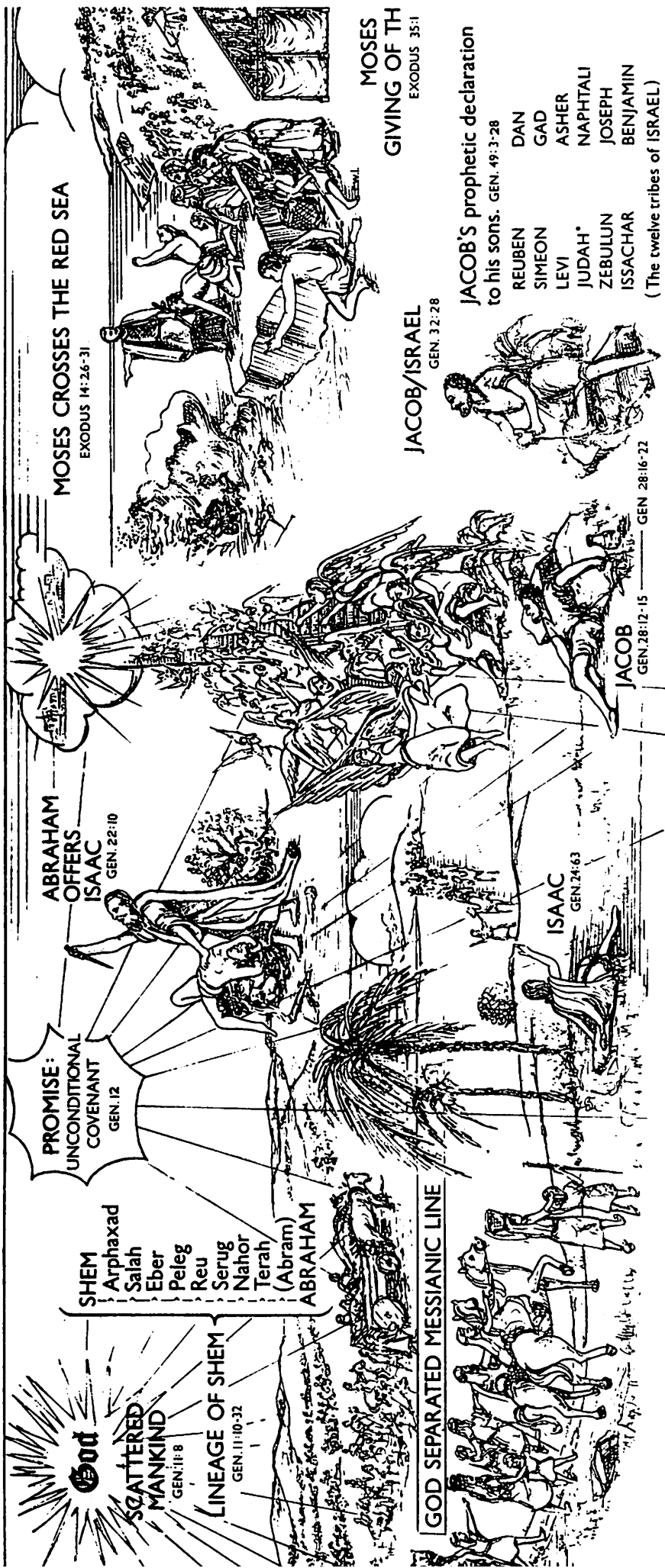
SIN
GEN. 3:13-21
SATANIC INVASION OF EARTH

SATANIC REBELLION
1/3 FALLEN ANGELS
ISA. 14:16-17
REV. 12:3-4
GEN. 1:2

VOID
JER. 4:23

INNOCENCE
GEN. 2:25

ETERNAL LIVING DEATH — THE BROAD WAY THAT



MOSES CROSSES THE RED SEA
EXODUS 14:26-31

ABRAHAM OFFERS ISAAC
GEN. 22:10

PROMISE: UNCONDITIONAL COVENANT
GEN. 12

SHEM
Arphaxad
Salah
Eber
Peleg
Reu
Serug
Nahor
Terah
(Abram)
ABRAHAM

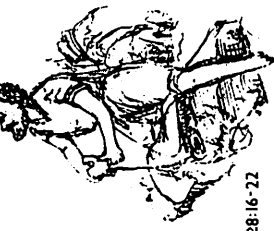
SCATTERED MANKIND
GEN. 11:8

LINEAGE OF SHEM
GEN. 11:10-32

GOD SEPARATED MESSIANIC LINE



JACOB/ISRAEL
GEN. 32:28



MOSES GIVING OF THE LAW
EXODUS 35:1

JACOB'S prophetic declaration to his sons. GEN. 49:3-28

REUBEN	DAN
SIMEON	GAD
LEVI	ASHER
JUDAH*	NAPHTALI
ZEBULUN	JOSEPH
ISSACHAR	BENJAMIN

(The twelve tribes of ISRAEL)

JACOB
GEN. 28:12-15

ISAAC
GEN. 24:63

LEADS TO DESTRUCTION GAL. 5:19-21; ADULTERY, FORNICATION, UNCLEANNESS

TABERNACLE
OF THE
WILDERNESS ..

GOD
SENDS
PROPHETS
DANIEL & EZEKIEL

ELIJAH ASCENDING
TO HEAVEN
2nd. KINGS 2:1-11

SOLOMON IN ALL HIS
GLORY
2nd. CHRON. 9:1-28

DAVID
INSTRUCTS
SOLOMON -
PERTAINING TO
ERECTION OF
THE TEMPLE
1st. CHRON.
28:11-19

MESIANIC HOPE MAINTAINED-
(VIA) JUDAH AND BENJAMIN... the 2 TRIBES EXILE
FOR 70 YEARS
*GEN. 49:22-27

SOLOMON'S
TEMPLE
1st. KINGS 5-6

SOLOMON'S
TEMPLE
1st. KINGS 5-6

SOLOMON'S
TEMPLE
1st. KINGS 5-6

HOLY OF HOLIES

ARK
CANDLESTICK
SHOWBREAD

LAYER
ALTER OF SACRIFICES

GOD'S SANCTUARY -
ALL PORTABLE
AS RECORDED IN
EXODUS 35-40

THE LAW

SOLOMON IN ALL HIS
GLORY
2nd. CHRON. 9:1-28

DAVID
INSTRUCTS
SOLOMON -
PERTAINING TO
ERECTION OF
THE TEMPLE
1st. CHRON.
28:11-19

SOLOMON'S
TEMPLE
1st. KINGS 5-6

SOLOMON'S
TEMPLE
1st. KINGS 5-6

SOLOMON'S
TEMPLE
1st. KINGS 5-6

10 TRIBES SCATTERED
the 2 TRIBES EXILE
FOR 70 YEARS

...SS, LASCIVIOUSNESS, IDOLATRY, SORCERY, HATRED, STRIFE, JEALOUSY,

NEBACHADNEZER'S DREAM
(THE FOUR GREAT KINGDOMS)

DANIEL INTERPRETS IT

DAN. 2

GOLD — BABYLONIAN EMPIRE

SILVER — MEDO-PERSIAN EMPIRE

BRASS — GRECIAN EMPIRE

Alexander's Kingdom - four div.

IRON — ROMAN EMPIRE

THE FOURTH BEAST

IRON & CLAY

REVIVAL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE
DAN. 2:34-35 & DAN. 2:45



LION
DAN. 7:4



BEAR
DAN. 7:5



LEOPARD
DAN. 7:6



"dreadful and terrible, and exceedingly STRONG."

DAN. 7:7-8

DAN. 2:34-35 & DAN. 2:45

DANIEL'S PRAYER

The seventy weeks foretold to DANIEL by GABRIEL
DAN. 9:21-26

CYRUS DECREES MESSIAH IS CUT OFF — (CRUCIFIED) FOR ALL OF THE SINS OF THE WHOLE WORLD

TERED & CAPTIVE
D TO BABYLON
..... JER. 25

"BEHOLD, I BRING YOU GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY," — LUKE 2:10

JOHN THE BAPTIST BORN TO HERALD THE COMING OF CHRIST

MATT. 3:1-12
MARK 1:1-8
LUKE 3:1-20
JOHN 1:6-8



WRATH, FACTIONS, SEDITIONS, HERESIES, ENVYINGS, MURDERS, ETC. T

THE LAMB OF GOD SACRIFICED

"CHRIST DIED FOR US" ROM 5:8-10 40 DAYS

AS HE WAS DRIVING TO JERUSALEM

MARK 10:32-34



ACTS 2:1-12 THE DAY OF PENTECOST

JOEL 2:28

ASCENSION ACTS 1:8-9

CHRIST IN GLORY THE AGE OF GRACE

2nd COR. 5:10 1st COR. 3:19-15

JUDGEMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

1st THESS. 4:13-18

JOHN 14:1-6

THE RAPTURE (MEETING IN THE AIR)

JOHN 3:16

THE CHURCH AGE FROM PENTECOST TO RAPTURE - OF BELIEVERS

EPHESUS REV 2:1-7 Apostolic good works

SMYRNA REV 2:8-11 Suffering Church

PERGAMUS REV 2:12-17 Formal Religion

THYATIRA REV 2:18-29 Idolatry

SARDIS REV 3:1-6 Reformation

PHILADELPHIA REV 3:7-13 Missionary

LAODICEA REV 3:14-22 Apostasy

SATAN DRIVEN OUT OF HEAVEN BY MICHAEL AND HIS ARMY (3 1/2 yrs.) JACOBS

THE KEY GIVEN TO SATAN REV 9:1-21

REV 5:

REV 9:7

REV 12:7-17

THE REJECTION OF CHRIST AS THE ETERNAL SON OF GOD

MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB OF GOD
REV.19:7
THE MARRIAGE SUPPER
REV.19:17

ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION
MATT.24:15

MYSTERY BABYLON
REV.17:1-18
REV.18:1-24

TROUBLE (3 1/2 yrs.)

THE GREAT TRIBULATION
(70th - Seven)
OF DANIEL
9:24
9:26,27

THE BEAST & FALSE PROPHET

CAST INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE
REV.19:20

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST RETURNS TO REIGN OVER HIS KINGDOM ON EARTH

(RIGHTEOUS) KINGDOM ON EARTH

1st THESS. 3:13 : REV.11:15
REV.19:11-21 : ISAIAH 40:10

HEAVENLY RIGHTEOUSNESS COMING DOWN UPON THE EARTH

"Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done ON EARTH, as it is in HEAVEN"

MATT. 6:10

1000 YEAR KINGDOM OF RIGHTEOUSNESS ESTABLISHED
REV.20:6

NATURE RESTORED
ISAIAH 11:6-9

THE SAINTS SHALL TEACH GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS
REV.5:10
LIFE SPAN EXTENDED
ISA.65:20

FIRE FROM HEAVEN
REV.20:9
IS A CONSUMING FIRE
HEB.12:29

SATAN'S LAST STAND AS HE DECEIVES THE NATIONS

SATAN IS LOOSED FOR A LITTLE SEASON
REV.20:7-10

SATAN CAST INTO THE BOTTOMLESS PIT FOR 1000 YEARS
REV.20:13

BC OF

(REV.20:5a)

ALL SHALL PHIL. 2:

Publications

by
Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Losier

A Study of the Book of Daniel

Amazing Grace

Analytical Theological Questionnaire Vol I and Vol II

Battleground and Warfare of Christians

Biblical Outline of Sermons

Christ the Eternal Son of God

Difficult Biblical Questions Answered

I am Alpha and Omega

Know Your Bible Rightly Divided

Memoirs of Africa

One World Government under Satan verses the Kingdom of God Established Forever

Praise Share & Care Through Prayer

Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ

The Inspired Word of God

The Book of Romans

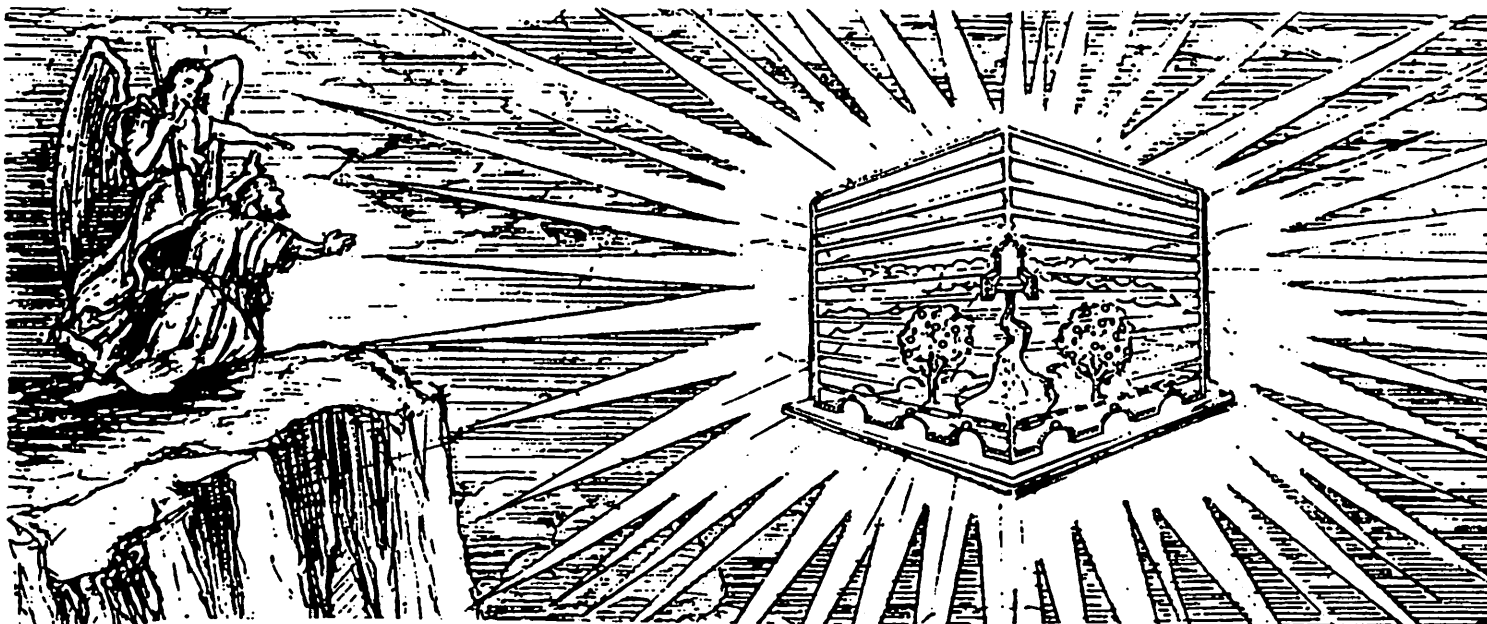
The Cross of Christ

The Holy Spirit

The Glory of God

Treasure Chest of Eternal Gems

What Does the Future Hold?



"And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain and showed me that great city, the Holy Jerusalem, descending out of Heaven from GOD" – Revelation 21 : 10

Author: Rev., Dr. Andrew J. Losier

Missionary in Africa since 1938, established the first of the Christian Literature and Bible Centers in Kenya, East Africa in 1952. Since then, over a billion pieces of FREE CHRISTIAN LITERATURE have been distributed throughout Africa in approximately 50 different languages. The overwhelming response of African Christian leaders to the WORD OF GOD, inspired Rev., Dr. Andrew J. Losier to write this book.

JESUS said "I am ALPHA and OMEGA"

Revelation 1:8

