

Grace Appears, Faith Comes

Tit 2:11 — Grace is a mysterious word. You can explain it in many ways. We were saved by grace through faith. When we started hearing the good news, we received the word. Grace to Derush (our newly baptized disciple) was that our Father had us go downtown when we could see him waiting there. Something alerted me like nothing before in Fort Myers to give him a freepaper. That was the grace of our Father towards him.

Eph 2:8-9 — Faith is that you were persuaded by the hearing of the Word to put your trust in our Master. Faith comes by hearing (Rom 10:17). Faith is the persuasion of our Father. It is His Spirit persuading you. It comes more and more, nearer and nearer, as you hear the Word. *Come* means movement from there to here. First you had to be brought to a place where you could hear, whether it's by bus, airplane, hitchhiking, or whatever means. That's grace. We're ministers of grace. Maybe sometimes we pass by people and don't even look at them.

There are so many people we've run after as they passed our homes, like that time with Yachath, whose car broke down and he came in to use our phone. He was the open door for the tribe of Asher. So many times things like this have happened. But we can't just wait for people to break down in front of our homes.

Chanowk passed a man who was walking along the road. He felt that he should have reached out to him, so he stopped and acted as if something were wrong with his car. When the person came up, he started talking to him. That was our Father's grace toward the man, but he didn't receive faith and went on.

Eph 2:8-10 — Faith is being persuaded by the Holy Spirit, through our Master Yahshua, through one of us. We hear the Holy Spirit. They hear us, but we have the Holy Spirit. You hear the Holy Spirit through a righteous one who is not seeking his own glory but our Master's.

Faith (#4102, #3982) is a mysterious word. It means *persuasion*. You were persuaded by Deity. The Holy Spirit came to you more and more, and finally you cried out. That's when He came into you and you were sealed with Him. That's salvation.

Eph 2:10 — We were saved by grace through faith for the good works that have been prepared for us in advance. It's up to certain people in the Body to adjust you in those works according to your inclination and disposition. This happens in time. It may take two or three years. If you got a certain type of gift you can't just spend your time making money. Doing the works prepared for us is how we build the temple. It was destroyed in the first century. If each one does his part then we will build the dwelling place for divinity throughout eternity (Eph 2:19-22).

The grace of God has appeared to all men, bringing salvation to all who hear, who are willing to do His will (Tit 2:11-14). It's according to whether you *receive* that persuasion. How does grace train us to renounce whatever is not of God and to live a godly life in this present age? We are not waiting to go to heaven to live a godly life. Grace saves us from doing our own thing now. Lawlessness is activity that is not ordered, not commanded. We'll be zealous for good works after we're adjusted down to the works we were saved to do according to our gifts. Then we'll see the temple going up (Eph 4:16) as each person is totally adjusted in that work. It takes the counsel of Eph 4:11, the apostles, prophets, etc., to do this. "He has a gift. He is leaning this way. He is ordained for that. Let's set him apart to do it."

It's like Pr 22:6. When our children get to be 13 years, they won't depart from the way they've been trained. If they don't come to bar mitzvah, should they continue in the edah? We are seeing all kinds of problems in places where they didn't do that. Then they defile others. The parents didn't set them on the right course. Then when they are 16 or 17 years old, they are a defiling influence.

Someday we'll be zealous for the good works we're saved to do. Then when the foundation is laid, the superstructure will go up. Whether you are making money or

doing the work of an evangelist, whatever your part is in building up the temple (Eph 2:19-22), you *walk* in that (Eph 2:10). To *walk* means you spend your life in doing it. As Christians all we knew was going to heaven and not to hell. They tell you in Christianity to try to be good, but it doesn't make any difference. There is no building up of the Body. There are no works prepared for them. There is no framework for it. There is no Body there.

Baruch — I love the demystification of things. What is “grace”? Christians really like to talk about grace. They talk about it all the time. But what does it really mean? To them it's a mystical thing, but it's really as simple as: there was actually a house with a telephone in it that someone who had a flat tire in front of it could go into, and there were disciples inside of the house who actually had our Father's word on their lips. That was grace! Oh, wow! It's a real thing! When we hear these things tonight, we can imagine how excited our Father must be that there's actually a Body that He can channel grace through, as a real thing.

Heb 10:5-7 — Certainly that talks about the physical body that was prepared for the Word to dwell in, so the Word could come into the world, so that He can accomplish a particular work: “I have come to do Your will.” Wow! Our Father finally had someone He could use to do His will! But prophetically that also speaks of us, that our Father would have a Body prepared for Him to work through, willing to do His will, so that grace could actually abound. By assigning the proper works to disciples who are willing to do His will, you end up with prophets and apostles and deacons and elders and evangelists... so that grace can abound.

Christians talk about grace abounding, but what is it? It's that somehow the works of our Father can be seen. The words of our Father can be heard. The house of our Father can be built, and have a door, like that one, right there. It's not a mystical thing to walk into the house of God. Grace makes it real.

David Zerubbabel — The common denominator of all the stories that we've ever heard of how anyone came to be here was that at some point they got to rock bottom, and they cried out with everything in them that somehow, if there was a God, that He would hear them and deliver them. Of course He was working beforehand to even get them to that place, but at that point when they cried out, it released our Father to line up the avenue of grace to reach them, and it's typically a very short time. For me

it was a month or two before the sent one was right there. There was this living human being speaking our Father's words. It says in Heb 10:5, "a body prepared for Him," but it's the same for us. Corporately we're that body of Eph 4:15-16 that's prepared for Him to dwell in.

Our Master's body was prepared for the Word to come and dwell in (Heb 10:5). The man Yahshua didn't come down from heaven and get into Miriam's womb, but the Word came and inhabited Yahshua's body that was being prepared in Miriam's womb. Spiritually, we're also a Body prepared for the Word to dwell in.

For our children to be born in the community is grace for them.

Talents

The parable of the talents shows that they are given according to a person's ability. You know what a talent is. It employs a person's ability to be used in the Body of Messiah. Ability is natural and has to be sublimated to be spiritual. Ability can only be utilized by faith and grace in the Body. Don't think too highly of yourself, but only according to the faith that's been given to you. Romans 12 says how we need talents (faith and grace) to employ our abilities. We must not bury our talents by not praying. The apostles asked our Master to increase their faith.

Grace is having gatherings. Faith comes from hearing in the gatherings. Grace is the method by which you come in contact with the Word that you hear.