

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY NOTES

Grace and Peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord;... 2 Peter 1:2

The Throne of Grace

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Hebrews 4:16 Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

- Under the Old Covenant one could only go to the mercy seat
- Being under the control of sin and subject to satan
- One could only hope for mercy
- Only to fall back under the power of sin and of death
- All that changed with Jesus

John 1:17 For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized (came to pass) through Jesus Christ.

Grace is the merciful kindness by which God, exerting His holy influence upon souls, turns them not only to Christ, but into Christ...

- We as New Covenant believers do not just go to a seat
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- We go to a throne
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- A throne is a place of authority, power, and victory
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- We as believers are not bound to an earthly seat where we can only hope for mercy
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- We are seated in heavenly places with Christ Jesus
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- Both to rule and to reign - from a place of victory
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- Because, Jesus is the mediator of a better covenant which has been enacted on better promises

Romans 5:17 For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness **will reign in life** through the One, Jesus Christ.

John 1:16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.

- Grace upon grace is a constant impartation of grace and power, given to those who both believe, and respond by faith, to the Spirit of Grace
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- Since faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God, Let this word bring a greater faith in the operation of grace so that you will also reign in this life
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- Grace makes us victors, and delivers us from being victims
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- Far too many believers are sheepishly going to the Mercy seat when they can boldly go to the Throne of Grace
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- Because of grace we as believers are not supposed to be victims bound by habits, sins, and weaknesses

Know This: We cannot be victims, because grace places us with Christ on the throne of grace

Listen to this:

- We are not sinners saved by grace
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- Because if you see yourself as a sinner saved by grace, you are still bound to the Mercy Seat
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- Grace makes you the righteousness of God through Christ Jesus

Grace is like being an apprentice to a kindly Master: ...

Expound

Matthew 25:14-15 "For [it *the kingdom of God is*] just like a man [about] to go on a journey, who called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them. **15** "To one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, *each according to his own ability*; and he went on his journey.

- Each according to his own ability
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- There is no stress in grace, there is no pressure in grace to measure up
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- Grace is that place of rest the book of Hebrews promises to us
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- In grace we take a position of being seated with Christ, resting in and enjoying the finished work our Savior

Without a doubt, one of the greatest harms that the prosperity gospel unleashed upon the church as a whole, is the deception of our having to earn blessings and giftings:

- The prosperity gospel placed us in a position of always having to give, never showing us how to receive
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- Because the prosperity gospel taught us that if we wanted to receive, we had to give, thereby contradicting the very definition of grace
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- If it is by grace than it is not of works, if it is of works it is not of grace

Hebrews 4:10 For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His.

- Do I believe in giving? Of course I do.
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- But there is a Godly way to give, and this type of giving always releases grace in abundance
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- Because of a truth, it is really grace you are longing for, not riches and certainly not things
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- Grace will release provision of all kinds into your life, including money, and including the desires of your heart

The word of God shows us the correct way to give, the way that will release grace in abundance to you:

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 Now this [I say,] he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. **7** *Each one [must do] just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion*, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed;

Continuing with the Parable of the Talents let's bring this to a close:

- The amazing thing about the Parable of the Talents, is that in this parable, the word "Talents" can represent just about anything in the Kingdom of God
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- In this message we will apply it to the measure of Grace the Bible declares that God gives to each of us

Matthew 25:16-17 "Immediately the one who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and gained five more talents. **17** "In the same manner the one who [had received] the two [talents] gained two more.

- When one is truly walking by faith, as we are all called to do, one does not have to think about what to do, they just obey God and do it
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- Because having to think about obeying God can get you into trouble
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- As we are about to see

Matthew 25:18 "But he who received the one [talent] went away, and dug [a hole] in the ground and hid his master's money.

Matthew 25:19-21 "Now after a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. **20** "The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, 'Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.' **21** "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave...'

Matthew 25:22-23 "Also the one who [had received] the two talents came up and said, 'Master, you entrusted two talents to me. See, I have gained two more talents.' **23** "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave...'

- This is always the result of walking in grace and not walking by works
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- However,

Matthew 25:24-25 "... the one ... who had received the one talent came up and said, '*Master, I knew you to be a hard man*, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you scattered no [seed.] **25** 'And I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.'

- This man was religious, walking by works and not by grace
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- He saw the Lord as a Hard Task Master, demanding much
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- He did not see Him as the gentle compassionate Master that He truly is
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- I wonder, How is your pastor portraying the Master?

Matthew 25:26-27 "But his master answered and said to him, 'You wicked, lazy slave, ***you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I scattered no [seed.]*** **27** 'Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival ***I would have received my [money] back with interest.***

- If this man would have walked in the grace of God like the other two servants did, that which was given to him by God would have automatically increased to his account,
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- Without any effort on his part...