THE "WHO TOLD YOU?" SERIES

A STUDY IN DISCERNING THE VOICES OF OUR DAY

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:
Who Told You
About The Grace Of God? – Part 3
discerning the voices of our day and knowing what to do about what you hear

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:
Grace, Doctrine, Maturity, Discipleship

Introduction and overview to the series / Luke 4:22

"Who Told You About The Grace Of God ?"

Luke 4:22
So all bore witness to Him (of Him), and marveled
at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth.

~~(1) What Is The Grace of God?~~
~~(2) Why is the grace of God important?~~
(3) How is the grace of God experienced ?
(4) When is the grace of God at work?

"Who Told You About The Grace Of God ?"

<u>1.) What is the grace of God?</u>
1a.) It is of His benevolent nature
1b.) It is by His sovereign election
1c.) It is salvation for all who call upon Him

<u>2.) Why is the grace of God important?</u>
2a.) Without His grace - *there is no substitution*
2b.) Without His grace - *there is no impartation*
2c.) Without His grace - *there is no sanctification*

“Who Told You About The Grace Of God ?”

<u>3.) How is the grace of God experienced?</u>
3a.) By active revelations
3b.) By divine interruptions
3c.) By supernatural applications

And all of it is - the work of God by His grace

Romans 5:1-4
Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom also we have access by faith **into this grace** in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; 4 and perseverance, character; and character, hope

“Who Told You About The Grace Of God ?”

3.) How is the grace of God experienced?

define “**how**” the **grace** of God **is experienced** in our daily lives.

That now as His Child – His grace is as a hand to me.

“Who Told You About The Grace Of God ?”

How is the grace of God experienced ?

3a.) By active revelations

by **active revelation** I mean, the Lord wants to show us daily the relevance of His word for our lives.

Luke 9:23
Then He said to them all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross **daily**, and follow Me.

He reveals to us that all along our life’s journey, He was there.
From the beginning of us up to now
In past situations / in times of joy / in heartbreak…

The Lord Desires to Share with You

More and more of His great plan, purpose and power in your life.

But there must be a tempering to it all.

The Christian's Faith Must be Challenged by the Question;

Was God ACTIVE in the stuff of my past ?

(Selah)

The Apostle Paul had come to embrace a Secret.

Philippians 3:10

That I may know Him and **the power** of His resurrection,
and **the fellowship** of His sufferings, **being** conformed to His death,

His Active Revelations will Whisper to us…

"Jack, I was there when you were going through that. Jack, I was in the room when that happened…"

His Grace through Active Revelation is Saying…

2 Corinthians 12:8-9

Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times (3 times like Jesus did) that it might depart from me. 9 And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

How Does This Happen ?

Ephesians 1:16-20a

I do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: **17** that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, **may give to you** the spirit of wisdom and **revelation** in the knowledge of Him,

What does that look like ?

Ephesians 1:18-19a-20a

…**the eyes of your understanding being enlightened**;
that you may know what is the **hope of His calling**, what are **the riches of the glory of His inheritance** in the saints, **19** and **what is the exceeding greatness of His power** toward us who believe, **20a**
…according to the working of His mighty power **20** which He worked in Christ

Do you remember the woman who had
"an issue of blood" for 12 years. She said to herself, *"If I can get close enough to Jesus to touch the edge of His robe, I'll be healed"*

This is God being ACTIVE in the stuff of our past,

"I spoke with a man yesterday who walked me through the chapters of his life – the bad, the ugly and the good – in that order.

"Who Told You About The Grace Of God ?"
How is the grace of God experienced ?

3b.) By divine interruptions

I now think that more than ever,
That even "moments" are ordained of God.
(ie. time, thoughts, motives, sights, sounds)

Dr. D. Martin Lloyd-Jones
"Paul could not think of Christian truth or action apart from the grace of God."

In the book of Job, there is untold misery, pain and suffering - - but in the end, Job was a deeper, wiser and more effective influence for God's grace than before.

Divine Interruptions
(When the living God invades our lives)
Noah. Abraham. Moses. Isaiah. Mary.
The Disciples. Paul. You. Me…

Jeremiah 1:4-5
Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying: **5** "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."

So stop now and remember Christian – what in your past was going on that is now behind you?

What did you learn from the experience? Are you now wiser and better equipped for living life and serving others.

2 Corinthians 1:3-5
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all **comfort**, **4** who **comforts** us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to **comfort** those who are in any trouble, with the **comfort** with which we ourselves are **comforted** by God. **5** For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our **consolation** also abounds through Christ.

Church, I can tell you today that (as I look back to yesterday, and back…) I can say that every interruption in my life has been a divine interruption. It took me 40 years of being a Christian to realize this.

As I look back over the years, I can report to you now that every one of those "interruptions" had wrapped up in it - **a life lesson from God.**

John 13:7 NIV
Jesus said to Peter, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

In one of the three services last Sunday, I encouraged you to **(1)** not only embrace the fact that God desires to be at work in you by the means of **practical sanctification**, but that you could be bold in the fact He has divine appointments waiting for you by a sanctifying work.

Well, I got "interrupted" so I would practice what I preached "my family and I were on PCH near Dana Point and **I thought entered our minds** "we needed some a green tea" so we pulled into **Satan's Lair - Starbucks** to get a green tea, **But God had another plan**…" a marine was being sent off to the Middle East…

Psalm 37:23
The steps of a **good** (by the declaration of God) man are **ordered** by the LORD, And He (the LORD) delights in his way.

"Who Told You About The Grace Of God ?"

How is the grace of God experienced ?

3c.) By supernatural applications

Thanks Pastor for all the Info on grace, But

what does all this mean to me personally?

It means This;
THAT GOD, AT HIS DISCRETION, FOR HIS ETERNAL PURPOSES,
AND FOR THE GOOD OF ALL THOSE WHO ARE HIS,
HE IS GROWING US UP INTO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON.

He Is Doing This by "Applications"

Just like a craftsman or a tradesman applies numerous "applications" to his process when creating something – so does God in us.

Philippians 2:13-14
For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. **:14** ***(so you can)*** Do all things without complaining and disputing,

Remember when the disciples had run to the empty tomb,

what was it that they saw? - - it was more than nothing

John 20:1-7
Now the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. 2 Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him." :3 Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. 4 So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. 5 And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, 7 and the **handkerchief** that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself.

The Master and the Servant at the Table.
The Journeyman and the Apprentice in the Shop

(in this order – I finished what needed to be done.
And I'll be coming back to pick it up)

Your Salvation was Finished & Your Ministry is not
"You're Finished – Not So Much, You're not Finished"

but now you are under "Supernatural Applications"

Jude1:21
Keep yourselves in the love of God,
looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Keep grk: **tereo,** *tay-reh´-o;* to assemble yourself as a guard around you. to keep your eyes open at all times. to be building a fortress. a full military encampment. – a fortification.

How Do I Do That? - - By Developing an Understanding.

Romans 8:28-29
And we **know** that **ALL THINGS** work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. **29** For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Colossians 1:10-14
* That you may walk worthy of the Lord, * fully pleasing Him, * being fruitful in every good work and * **increasing in the knowledge of God**; **11** * strengthened with all might, according to **His glorious power**, * for all patience and * longsuffering with joy; **12** * giving thanks to the Father who **has qualified us** to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. **13 He has delivered us** from the power of darkness and **conveyed us** into the kingdom of the Son of His love, **14 in whom we have redemption** through **His blood**, the **forgiveness** of sins.

It's important today that we end here because,

I need to ask you this question, **"How important is God's grace to you on a daily basis?"**

It's an important question because it reveals a truth that cannot be ignored.
The greater the dependence upon God's grace the greater is its importance.
The greater our appreciation of God Himself.

Can I say (Carefully) that many times we as Christians are often guilty of misrepresenting the Gospel to those we come in contact with. Let me explain. We most often present to the lost **"The way of salvation"** when they see themselves has **not having any** *need* **for salvation**.

We are quick to quote John 3:16 but many times

We're wrong in doing so because the person we're speaking to sees themselves as having no real need for God's grace. They do not see themselves as being an enemy of God.

The lost, in many cases are very happy to be living life for themselves. It would be hard to sell a sailboat to a man who lives in the desert where there is no water. It's equally as hard to try to sell someone on their need to be saved when they do not see themselves as being lost.

Grace can only be extended when the recipient sees them as God sees them apart from Jesus Christ – wicked, condemned, judged and every day, at any moment being just seconds from hell.

There is no need for "God's amazing grace" for the man or the woman who refuses to see themselves as God sees them –
in desperate need of Jesus' grace.

End of Study

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