

Living in the Power of God's Grace
2 Corinthians 6:6-13

"If we want to be victorious Christians, and God does call us to walk in victory, it is only by receiving the abundance of His grace that we shall be conquerors. Learning more and more how to count on the richness of His grace, we come to depend upon it, and so, live by it. The abundance of grace lets us reign in life through the one, Jesus Christ. Death reigned over us before Christ came into our lives. But now life can reign through us in Christ as we keep receiving the abundance of His grace. And according to this Romans 5:17, this abundance of His grace is much more than able to do the necessary transforming work; it is surpassingly able to take us from the death reigning over us to abundant life in Christ Jesus." Hoekstra

- I. God's grace saved us through the sacrifice of his Son (Vs. 2). As a result, His grace fills us with His Spirit, guarantees our salvation, gives us an inheritance in heaven that will never perish, spoil or fade, sanctifies us, justifies us, reconciles us, gives us everything we need for life and godliness, protects us, transforms us more and more into the likeness of Christ and makes us holy and blameless in his sight. Our responsibility is to treat His grace well as a testimony of what it means to live in the power of his loving-kindness toward us.

2 Cor. 6:1-3

Titus 3:4-8

Romans 5:17 *For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.*

- II. Learning to live in the power of God's grace is a daily discipline that requires a willingness to trust the Lord with everything pertaining to life and godliness. We are to trust him to give us the grace we need face the trials we are going through, and we are to trust him to give us the grace we need to put off the old self and put on the new self through the renewing of the attitude of our minds.

2 Cor. 6:4-7

Phil. 4:8

2 Cor. 12:9

Matt. 24:24

1 Timothy 4:1

2 Timothy 4:3-4

2 Thess. 2:3

2 Peter 3:18

Col. 3:12

2 Peter 1:3-4

Eph. 4:20-24 *That, however, is not the way of life you learned when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.*

- III. When we suffer for our faith, God expects us to open our hearts wide to his grace so that the attitude of our spirit is fixed on Him. We are not to be surprised that the world hates us because of our love for Jesus (**1 Jn. 3:13**). In fact, we are blessed if we are insulted because of his name (**1 Pe. 4:14**). It is important that we understand that our identity comes from Christ, not from what man thinks of us!

2 Cor. 6:8-13

Heb. 13:6

2 Corinthians 12:9 *But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.*