

# God's Grace at Work

Grace is such a beautiful word because it is such a beautiful concept. In times of need, we long for it and appreciate it when extended and received. Grace is so much more than the gift itself though. It is a quality of heart which is expressed and communicated in words and deeds. The manifestation of such favor is a sharing of the person himself, a communion between the giver and the recipient. Grace in its purest form comes from Heaven for it is a characteristic of the nature of God Almighty.

The amazing grace of our God saves in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:5, 8). When we come to understand that grace came to be through Jesus for He is full of grace (John 1:14, 17) - in whom the fullness of Deity dwells (Colossians 2:9), then understandably grace is more than the gift itself. Jesus possesses the fullness of grace because *"He is the radiance of His [God's] glory and the exact representation of His nature"* (Hebrews 1:3). Thus, *"... the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ"* abounds (Romans 5:15).

The work of God's grace is also evident in how it has been communicated so that generations upon generations can hear and know true grace. The apostle Paul and co-workers in Christ testified *"to the word of His grace"* (Acts 14:3). God chose to proclaim His grace through the preaching of His word. God's word is grace. He has made knowing Him and partaking of His nature accessible by the hearing and the receiving of His revelation. God's word is powerful. It is *"the sword of the Spirit"* (Ephesians 6:17). Together God and *"the word of His grace"* are able to build up and give the inheritance to the sanctified (Acts 20:32).

Divine grace is ever present for Christians who rely on God to grant them the strength to endure and overcome their troubles. The One who is full of grace is the sympathizing High Priest, who inspires us with confidence to draw near *"to the throne of grace"* (Hebrews 4:16). A promise is grace will help. Paul petitioned that throne of grace about a painful problem (2 Corinthians 12:8). He did not get the solution he specifically requested, but grace sufficiently empowered him to rejoice, to be content and to endure for Christ's sake (2 Corinthians 12:9-10).

God's grace is even evident in physical blessings which enable us to be enriched in abundant good deeds - such as contributing to needs of saints (2 Corinthians 9:12). *"...God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have abundance for every good deed"* (9:7, 8). God's grace is daily at work everywhere.