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BIBLE STUDY: THE GRACE OF GOD

The word *grace* appears often in the Bible, especially in the New Testament, and is truly one of the profoundly significant words in the Scriptures.

Although it is a familiar word to many, its actual meaning is not well understood. The most commonly held definition of grace is that it is some form of unmerited favor bestowed on us by God. Grace does have such a connotation, but this is not the highest definition of grace as revealed in the Bible.

In this Bible study, the footnotes of the New Testament Recovery Version provide us with a rich picture of the grace of God in its highest sense.

The Highest Definition of Grace

1. Grace is a living person, the Triune God Himself, who is embodied in Christ and who passed through incarnation, human living, crucifixion, and resurrection to become the life-giving Spirit that He might enter into us to be our life, our life supply, and our everything for our enjoyment: [Romans 5:2](#) and note [2²](#); [1 Corinthians 15:10](#) and notes

- [10¹](#) and [10²](#); [Galatians 6:18](#) and note [18¹](#); [Ephesians 1:2](#) and note [2¹](#); [Philippians 4:23](#) and note [23¹](#); [1 Peter 3:7](#) and note [7⁵](#); [1 Peter 4:10](#) and note [10²](#).
2. Grace came through Jesus Christ and is Jesus Christ Himself:
[John 1:14](#) and [17](#) and notes [14⁶](#) and [17¹](#); [Galatians. 5:4](#) and note [4²](#); [2 Thessalonians 1:12](#) and note [12¹](#); [2 Timothy 4:22](#) and note [22²](#).

The Way to Receive Grace

1. Through God's love and mercy and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit:
[1 John 4:8](#) and note [8²](#); [1 Timothy 1:13](#) and note [13³](#); [Titus 3:5](#) and note [5²](#); [Hebrews 4:16](#) and note [16²](#); [Matthew 9:13](#) and note [13²](#); [2 Corinthians 13:14](#) and note [14¹](#), paragraphs 1 and 2.
2. By humbling ourselves before God:
[James 4:6](#) and note [6³](#); [1 Peter 5:5](#) and note [5⁶](#).
3. By believing in the Lord Jesus Christ:
[Romans 5:2](#) and notes [2¹](#) and [2³](#).
4. By loving the Lord Jesus:
[Ephesians 6:24](#) and note [24²](#).
5. By exercising our human spirit:
[Hebrews 4:16](#) and notes [16¹](#) and [16²](#), paragraph 2; [Hebrews 13:25](#) and note [25¹](#); [Galatians 6:18](#) and notes [18¹](#) and [18²](#), paragraph 1; [Philippians 4:23](#) and note [23²](#).
6. Through sufferings and trials arranged for us by God:

- [2 Corinthians 12:9](#) and notes [9¹](#) and [9²](#); [Romans 5:3](#) and note [3¹](#).
7. Through the words of grace contained in the Bible or spoken to us by the believers in Christ:
[Acts 20:32](#); [Ephesians 4:29](#) and note [29³](#); [Colossians 4:6](#) and note [6¹](#).

The Results of Receiving Grace

1. We are justified by God:
[Romans 3:24](#) and note [24²](#); [Titus 3:7](#).
2. We are saved by grace:
[Ephesians 2:8](#) and note [8²](#); [Titus 2:11](#) and notes [11²](#) through [11⁴](#).
3. We have peace:
[Romans 1:7](#) and note [7²](#); [1 Peter 5:14](#) and note [14¹](#).
4. We reign in God's divine life over all negative things:
[Romans 5:17](#), [21](#) and notes [17¹](#), [17³](#), and [21²](#).
5. We are empowered, made strong:
[2 Timothy 2:1](#) and note [1¹](#).
6. We become members of the Body of Christ with spiritual gifts produced in us by grace for the building up of the Body:
[Romans 12:6](#) and note [6¹](#); [Ephesians 4:7](#) and note [7²](#).

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