Scripture : Titus 2 v 11

“For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men.”

Ephesians 2 v 8

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:”

Subject: The Grace of God.

The word grace is one of the most used in the Christian Church, Also, it is one of the most popular songs sung in churches is the John Newton hymn “Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound that save a wretch like me”

A further hymn is “Oh the love that drew salvation plan, Oh the grace that brought it down to man, Oh the mighty gulf that God did span at Calvary”

Another hymn says “Grace! ’tis a charming sound harmonious to the ear; Heav’n with the echo shall resound, and all the earth will hear.

Twas grace that wrote my name In life’s eternal book;

Twas grace that gave me to the Lamb, who all my sorrows took.”

There are some points on grace to consider let’s note.

1. The Provision of Grace.

If it was not for the grace that God has provided for us, not one of us would be saved, we are saved by grace through faith. What is known as the unmerited favour of God is why we are saved.

Salvation is offered and received without working for it. No one has ever received salvation because they have earned it by what they have done. Salvation is offered to us freely; it is offered to us through the work of the atonement by our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is not by works of righteousness that we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit.

Although we are saved by grace through faith, it does not Exclude us from doing works of service, it does not exclude us from undertaking acts of kindness. Because of the grace of God, it has enabled us to be partakers of Christ, the ministry of Jesus deposited in us, that grace of God extended to us should overflow to those who as yet have not committed their life to the Lord Jesus Christ.

We should never forget the grace of God provided for us and the benefit's that grace has brought into our lives, through grace we have an inheritance that is incorruptible undefiled and does not and will not fade away.

The grace that has transformed us is the grace that can transform others. Grace is life transforming, turning the rebel into a peace loving law abiding person. If any man is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has gone the new has come. The provision of grace in available to all regardless of nationality or culture.

The provision of grace is ever present, at no time does the provision of grace run out, its supply is endless, flowing from the good hand of God.

2. The Person of Grace.

Titus 2 v 11 "The grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men."
John 1 v 14 "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

Jesus is the visible manifestation of Grace; he is full of grace and truth. As we look into the NT gospels, we will soon discover that Jesus manifests grace to those he comes into contact with.

Jesus meets a woman at Jacob's well John 4 v 5 to 7 says, "Then cometh he to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with *his* journey, sat thus on the well: *and* it was about the sixth hour. There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink."

Jesus has a conversation with this woman, during the conversation Jesus tells her to call her husband, she answers honestly and says I have no husband, Jesus then says I know, you have had five husbands and he who is living with you is not your husband. As the story unfolds, she asks Jesus to giver her the living water so she never thirst again. She acknowledges that Jesus is a prophet. Jesus extends grace to this woman and she is changed.

Jesus did not put the woman down for not being married to the man's she lived with, he turned her life around, grace enables people to put their lives in order. Grace gives us freely what we don't deserve.

Jesus was a man of grace because He:

- Forgave the guilty.
- Welcomed the rejected.
- Restored the fallen.
- Had compassion on the needy.
- Served the undeserving.
- Gave people another opportunity.
- Ultimately gave His life for sinners.

And yet His grace was never separated from truth. Jesus could say, *'Neither do I condemn thee"* and also *go, and sin no more."*

Grace says, "I will not abandon you because of your failure." Truth says, "I love you too much to leave you as you are."

That combination—grace and truth—is one of the most beautiful characteristics of Jesus. Then finally we have.

3. The Power of Grace.

The power of God's grace is awesome, it powerful in its application to someone's life. It has the power to change and convert a sinner into a saint.

The Apostle Paul who encountered Jesus on the Damascus Road has a life changing experience. Prior to this encounter he was an ardent critic of the disciples of Jesus, unable to accept that Jesus was the Messiah.
The severity of his persecution of the disciples, caused havoc among the followers of Jesus, he was the cause behind why so many disciples left Jerusalem in fear for their lives.

The amazing thing about grace is how it can radically change a person, the power of grace alters attitudes, and conduct, it has the ability to change the behaviour of the most awful person and give them a totally different way to live.

In Paul's case the change grace brought about was instant, the process of conversion did not take months to become effective, it was instant, it was also radical. His persecution of the disciples was over instantly, the change was immediate.

In Damascus we read in Acts 9 how instead of arresting and persecuting the disciples, he himself was arrested by the Lord Jesus and then begins preaching that Jesus is the Christ, he is the Messiah, he is the saviour and redeemer, he is Lord of all.

The conversion of Saul of Tarsus, now the Apostle Paul shows to us the power of Gods grace, it conveys to us that no one one beyond the reach of Gods grace, no one is to far gone into sin to be rescued by Gods grace, there is hope for all in grace.

Grace is freely offered to all people of all nationalities, no group of people in the world are excluded from receiving God's Grace. We don't deserve his grace we dint deserve his favour, in grace he freely extends to us the power of his grace, which gives to us freely salvation and forgiveness. We don't earn his grace he gives it to us because we could never earn his favour by working for it.