

GREATER GRACE (CHRIST-LIKENESS)—EPHESIANS 5

1. Definition: Greater Grace is the first stage of maturity in the Christian way of life, James 4:6.
 - A. Greater Grace is the stage of spiritual growth after completing the Edification Complex of the Soul.
 - B. Greater Grace is the beginning of spiritual warfare in the angelic conflict with a mature perspective of life and from the position of strength.
 - C. Greater Grace is the full operation of Romans 8:28.
 - D. In Greater Grace the believer reaps what God sows in his life which is promotion, blessing, historical influence, and prosperity.
 - E. Three characteristics of the Greater Grace life.
 - Capacity for occupation with Christ and Bible doctrine.
 - Capacity for life and blessing.
 - Capacity for pressure and adversity.
2. Characteristics of the Greater Grace life:
 - A. The CUP of capacity of Psalm 23 is the believer's soul.
 - B. Promotion, prosperity, wealth, etc. is the way that the Lord is glorified in the believer's life, Isaiah 30:18.
 - C. Grace pursues the Greater Grace believer as in David's case, Psalm 23:5.
 - D. David also said in Psalm 16:5 that the Lord is the portion of his inheritance.
3. Categories of grace:
 - A. Common grace which is open to all people, 2 Peter 3:9.
 - B. Salvation grace which is open to anyone who believes in Christ. It is all that the Trinity does to save you. Barrier of sin is removed.

- C. Living or logistical grace, everything that God does to keep us alive in the devil's world, 2 Corinthians 12:9 (sufficient grace); James 4:6, (more grace, Greater Grace)
 - D. Greater Grace is maximum spiritual growth in time and a tactical victory for the believer in the angelic conflict.
 - E. Greater Grace is the maximum glorification of God in time by applying the essence of God to your circumstances. You see history from God's grace perspective.
 - F. Dying grace is the removal of a greater grace believer from this life through death with peace, comfort, joy, and victory.
 - G. Surpassing grace is the reward of eternity, Ephesians 2:7.
4. Illustrations of the Greater Grace life.
- A. Noah Greater Grace, occupation with Christ rather than the evil world
 - B. Abraham Greater Grace, occupation with Christ, capacity for life, success, wealth, and his sexual prosperity was outstanding Greater Grace blessing where he became the father of a race of people.
 - C. Joseph, Greater Grace life, right woman, promoted to number two man in Egypt, the 12th dynasty.
 - D. Moses Greater Grace leadership ability, father of Jewish nation.
 - E. David Greater Grace leadership and king, military promotion.
 - F. Isaiah Greater Grace greatest prophet and teacher of all Israel.
 - G. Jeremiah Greater Grace in national disaster, no wealth, no right woman, but he was the man of the hour when disaster struck, old age blessing.
 - H. Daniel Greater Grace blessing and promotion outside the land in Gentile nations of Babylon, Persia.
 - I. Apostle Paul Greater Grace blessings in time of Jewish dispersion, knew

more doctrine than anyone in the church age. No one could ever match Paul in his knowledge of doctrine.

5. Promotion of Greater Grace is the subject of Psalm 84. David was God's man of the hour when crisis struck.
6. Love problem and Greater Grace.
 - A. God loves every believer with maximum amount of love.
 - B. Believer does not love God in return until he knows Him.
 - C. We have to get to know God through consistent doctrine intake and love comes through this, 1 John 4:19.
7. Role of happiness in Greater Grace.
 - A. Sharing God's happiness in time with others.
 - B. Happiness enables the believer to enjoy time with tranquility under pressure or with ecstasies in non-pressure times.
8. Celebrityship of the Lord Jesus Christ and Greater Grace life. Maximum love for Christ and is occupied with Him daily. Lamentations 3:22-25; Hebrews 12:2; Colossians 2:1-2.
 - A. Communion table is the test time for true occupation with Christ.
9. Five areas of Greater Grace activity:
 - A. Freedom and privacy, Romans 8:21; 2 Corinthians 3:17; Galatians 5:1; James 1:25-2:12.
 - B. Daily living, 1 Samuel 17:47; 18:4, 14.
 - C. Love towards God, Deuteronomy 6:6, 30:20; Joshua 23:10-11; 1 John 2:5. Love towards marriage, Song of Solomon 8:6-7. Love in friendship, 2 Samuel 1:26.
 - D. Happiness, Psalm 9:1-2; 21:1; 31:7; 43:4; 97:12; John 17:13; 1 John 1:4.
 - E. Suffering, 2 Corinthians 12:7-10.