

Precious Grace

“Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.” (Romans 5:1-2 NKJV)

When we contemplate the preciousness of the grace that has been shown to us, it is easy to be thankful. We did not do anything to merit such love. Even our faith is a gift from God (Eph 2:8). It would do us well to contemplate this grace for we are soon to despise it if we do not.

One of the distinguishing marks of Israel was their apostasy. It is remarkable really, when you realize how quickly they left the worship of God for other gods. If you are remaining steadfast, it is because of the Holy Spirit working in you.

Would you recognize how fortunate you are? You know the way is narrow and there are few that find it. Yet you have found it because of God’s grace. If God has moved you to the place, where you are experiencing His manifest presence, do everything in your power not to grieve His Holy Spirit. Grieving the Holy Spirit is an insult of the highest magnitude, and it brings great personal consequences.

Will you despise the One who hung on the cross for you? Treat Him as if He is not there by yielding to your sinful desires and you have despised Him. You would not take your little child to tour the filth of the world, yet you take Christ. The Holy Spirit lives within a believer. He goes where you go, and He sees what you see. Now you say, God is all-knowing anyway, but when you engage in lust it is like committing adultery without even having enough respect to hide it from your spouse (James 4:4). Hiding such wickedness would not make it less sinful, but it would at least acknowledge its shameful nature.

When you do such things, you grieve Him. Oh my friend this you do at a great cost to yourself. This is not the worst thing for it is far greater to insult the Father of Glory with such foolishness. Still, because we think in selfish terms for the most part, will you recognize how your joy is removed? Do you know that your assurance fades with each inconsiderate sin? Why after repeated offences, you will be hard pressed even to say you are a Christian without hesitation. The mouth may be able to speak the words, but your heart will betray you.

Listen friend the grace you have is precious. Hold on to it with all your heart, mind soul, and strength. Love Him, cherish Him, and serve Him! Remember He lives in you.

Gracious Father, forgive our many trespasses. We desire that our lives magnify your grace, and not insult it. Keep us from the unsuspected temptation, and let us feel the shame of holding on to, and delighting in the secret sins of our lives. You have laid down your life for us; let us now lay down our lives for you for you are worthy Oh God, amen.