

A Season of Favor and Great Grace - Part 2 By Todd Bentley

GREAT GRACE

INTIMACY RELEASES GREAT GRACE

It's time to search after God; to desire an intimate relationship with Him. In that place of intimacy we are prepared to receive from the hand of the Lord whatever He wishes to release. I believe the Lord wants to impart and release to us the supernatural grace called great grace. With great grace comes a fresh excitement and new level of acceleration in our walk with the Lord. It's the supernatural grace called great grace. With great grace comes a fresh excitement and new level of acceleration in our walk with the Lord. It's the supernatural grace, power and Presence that came upon the apostles of old and the early believers: **"And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon the all" (Acts 4:33)**. This same grace and power can also be released today upon our lives. "With great power" means with miracles, signs, and wonders - with great anointing, "And great grace was upon the all." What brought the great grace of God? "...with great power the Apostles gave witness..." Great power brings great grace. Again great grace is the supernatural function of the Holy Spirit coming upon us to do impossible feats by the Spirit of grace. Great power! Great Grace!

I believe that we find the first reference to this great grace in the Old Testament when the angel of the Lord referred to "grace, grace." The angel was speaking about Zerubbabel, the man He was commissioning to rebuild the temple: **"who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain! And he shall bring forth the capstone with shouts of "Grace, grace to it! (Zech. 4:7)**.

The "grace, grace" needed in the rebuilding of the temple was the same "great grace" necessary for building the early church - it is also an empowerment today's church needs to prepare it for the soon-coming King. In the church today there is a growing hunger to see a multiplication of the presence, the fire, the blessing and the Favor of God. Our Father wants to release opportunities, inheritance and ownership of lands and buildings to His children. Great grace will usher in a release of anointing for multiplication!

The apostle Luke writes in Acts about how the Word of God spread and grew. **"then the Word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith" (Acts 6:7)**. The disciples gave themselves continually to the Word of God and prayer; then the Word of God was demonstrated and the disciples multiplied greatly. The Lord is about to release an anointing for multiplication! I'm contending for that multiplication... God took just five loaves and a few fish and multiplied it to feed 5,000 with twelve baskets left over. That's a principle in the kingdom (Luke 9:15). But there's a battle raging against the body of Christ receiving great grace because it will bring an anointing for multiplication! We often find ourselves with a dream and a vision but we're not empowered' we lack what we need to do what God has called us to do. But when a little is multiplied, then resources are stretched supernaturally!

Zerubbabel needed resources and manpower to rebuild the temple. He cried out: How, what, when, where, why?! I don't have the money! I don't have the laborers! I don't have the infrastructure! I don't have the staff! I don't have anything that I need in the natural to do what God has called me to do, but I have the dream and the vision! I don't know how to get from point A to point B!

Look at how the Lord responded: **"...Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts" (Zech. 4:6)**. He tells Zerubbabel that the answer he is searching for is found in His Spirit and in His anointing. Great power brings great grace and great grace brings great provision! Zerubbabel was looking for the stuff that the favor brings, but the favor comes out of the power and the power comes out of God's presence! It's like He's showing Zerubbabel, and all of us, that the answer is symbolized and demonstrated in the golden oil dripping into the bowls (Zech. 4:12), the ever-constant, increasing flow of oil. We need the anointing! We need the power of God! Then everything will fall into place! God is encouraging Zerubbabel, declaring that his destiny will be fulfilled; what God called him to do will be accomplished. Zerubbabel will stand in his high calling and will endure with shouts of "grace, grace" to it!

We need to receive the touch of God, the fire of God and the presence of God just like Zerubbabel did. We don't need more doctrines, more papers or more licenses. God can use those things, but God can also use a poor uneducated man that has never been to a Bible school, who has received the touch of God's Spirit. It's like God is saying: It's not by might; it's not by power; it's not by staff, it's not by dollars in the bank... it's by My Spirit.


KEYS THAT RELEASE PROVISION

Don't let you life be hindered by what you don't have. Great power and great anointing bring great grace, which brings great provision. Listen, we all have a measure of favor, but there's more than that God wants to give to us and the key to this increase is intimacy. I'm telling you, the provision of God comes from waiting for His blessing. These are days of intimacy with God; an intimacy that releases the power of God, which, in turn, releases favor. The favor of God comes by the anointing, which releases the provision of God. We can't get favor without the anointing.

Listen! You can build these into the kingdom with nothing but the anointing. By the presence and the anointing, God is building the ministry through me. Several years ago I worked in a saw mill in Surrey, BC and I had absolutely nothing. It isn't my preaching that's bringing the blessing. I haven't been to Bible school. It isn't my young age. Everything about my past disqualifies me and everything about who I am today should disqualify me. So you should be encouraged!

As a minister of God, I take steps of raw faith every day; I go for it and the money comes in. Our budget increases rapidly, and we continually lift the bar higher. People don't understand how my brain works. I move forward in the presence of God. Favor has been the key for our ministry. Favor has come because of the power of God demonstrated in my life through miracles, signs and wonders - that's the anointing. When believers experience Holy Ghost power, there is a release of the favor of God and this releases the provision.

"The anointing of God's grace" is the word of the Lord for this hour. "Grace, grace" - you can receive it by faith. God is going to do something so supernatural and He is going to do it by the Spirit called grace, grace. From nothing to something... grace, grace. Open your heart now... the Spirit of grace is about to move. God is about to touch your life, anointing you with strength and taking you to the next level. Let's believe together for that anointing of great grace on our lives to extend God's kingdom in the earth.

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