

**Spring Series:** September to November, 2023 - Evidence

## **Spring Series**

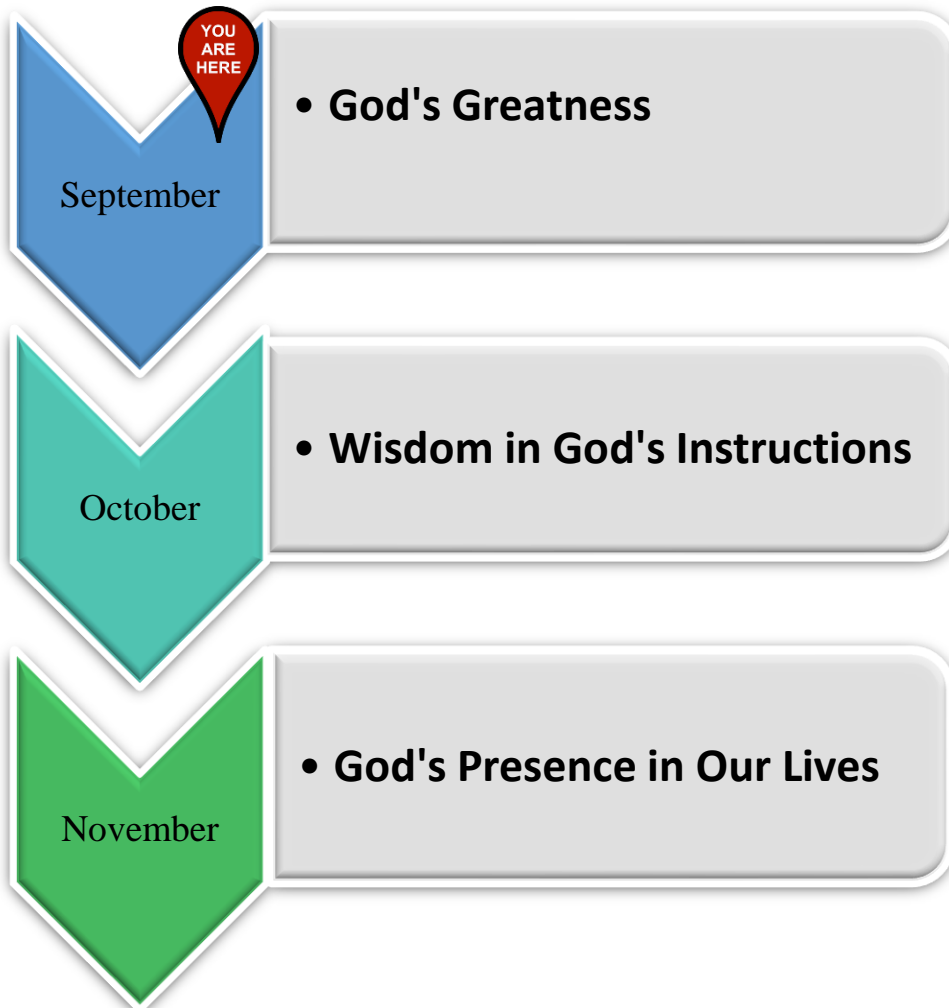
# **“God’s Love and Grace”**

**Evidence of – God’s Love and Grace Towards Us**

Windsor, 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2023

*Welcome to Church*

“Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God,  
and of Jesus our Lord.” 1 Peter 1:2



*“be ready always to give an answer to every man **that asketh you a reason** of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear”*  
1 Peter 3:15



**Winter Series:** June to August, 2023

## **Evidence of God's Greatness** **God's Love and Grace Toward Us**

“Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord” 1 Peter 1:2

3rd  
September

- **Greatness of God's Creation**

10th  
September

- **God's Love and Grace Toward Us**

17th  
September

- **All Were Created For God's Pleasure**

24th  
September

- **Physical and Spiritual Dimensions**

## **Days Of Elijah**

These are the days of Elijah  
Declaring the word of the Lord,  
yeah

And these are the days of Your  
servant, Moses  
Righteousness being restored

These are the days of great trials  
Of famine and darkness & sword  
Still we are the voice in the desert  
crying

Prepare ye the way of the Lord!

Behold He comes, riding on the  
clouds

Shining like the sun, at the

trumpet's call

Lift your voice, (it's) the year of  
Jubilee

Out of Zion's hill, salvation comes

And these are the days of Ezekiel  
The dry bones becoming as flesh  
And these are the days of Your  
servant, David

Rebuilding the temple of praise

And these are the days of the  
harvest

The fields are all white in the  
world

And we are the laborers that are  
in Your vineyard

Declaring the Word of the Lord

Behold He comes, riding on the  
clouds  
Shining like the sun at the  
trumpet's call  
Lift your voice, (it's) the year of  
Jubilee  
Out of Zion's hill, salvation comes

There's no God like Jehovah!  
There's no God like Jehovah!  
There's no God like Jehovah!  
There's no God like Jehovah!  
(Repeat)  
Behold He comes, riding on the  
clouds  
Shining like the sun at the  
trumpet's call

Lift your voice, (it's) the year of  
Jubilee  
Out of Zion's hill, salvation comes

## **DESERT SONG**

### **Verse1**

This is my prayer in the desert  
When all that's within me feels dry  
This is my prayer in my hunger  
and need  
My God is the God who provides

### **Verse2**

And this is my prayer in the fire  
In weakness or trial or pain  
There is a faith proved  
Of more worth than gold  
So refine me, Lord, through the  
flame

### **Chorus**

And I will bring praise, I will bring  
praise  
No weapon formed against me  
shall remain  
I will rejoice, I will declare  
God is my victory and He is here

### **Verse3**

And this is my prayer in the battle  
When triumph is still on its way  
I am a conqueror and co-heir with  
Christ  
So firm on His promise I'll stand

## **Chorus**

And I will bring praise, I will bring  
praise

No weapon formed against me  
shall remain

I will rejoice, I will declare

God is my victory and He is here

## **Bridge**

All of my life

In every season

You are still God

I have a reason to sing

I have a reason to worship

## **Chorus**

### **Verse4**

This is my prayer in the harvest

When favor and providence flow

I know I'm filled to be emptied  
again

The seed I've received I will sow

## **THIS KINGDOM**

Jesus, God's righteousness  
revealed

The Son of Man, The Son of God  
His Kingdom comes

Jesus, Redemption's sacrifice  
Now glorified, Now justified  
His Kingdom comes

**Chorus:** And this Kingdom will  
know no end

And it's glory shall know no  
bounds

For the majesty and power  
Of this Kingdom's King has come

And this Kingdom's reign

And this Kingdom's rule

And this Kingdom's power and  
authority

Jesus, God's righteousness  
revealed

Jesus, The expression of God's  
love

The grace of God, The Word of  
God

Revealed to us

Jesus, God's Holiness displayed  
Now glorified, Now justified  
His Kingdom comes



## **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

Give us day by day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

**Luke 11: 2-4**

## God's Love and Grace

### What is Love?

- Love can be a challenge to define at the level of how a person experiences it.
- Love can involve personal affection, sexual attraction, platonic admiration, brotherly loyalty, benevolent concern, or worshipful adoration.
- To accurately answer the question “what is love?” we need to go to the origin of love. The Bible tells us that love originates in God.

<https://www.gotquestions.org/definition-of-love.html>

## Different Kinds of Love

Hebrew and Greek, are more precise in that they utilize different words for the different types of love. The ancient languages differentiate among sexual, brotherly, and familial love, and also the kind of love that God has for creation and that we may have for Him.

- **Eros** (Greek) and **Yada** (Hebrew) means sexual love.
- **Phileo** (Greek) and **Ahabah** (Hebrew) means brotherly love.
- **Storge** (Greek) or **Ahabah** (Hebrew) means family or tribal love.
- **Agape** (Greek) or **Chesed** (Hebrew) means the kind of love God demonstrates toward us.
  - It is also the goodwill and benevolence of God shown in self-sacrifice and an unconditional commitment to the loved one.

## What is Grace?

Grace is the basis for the Christian faith.

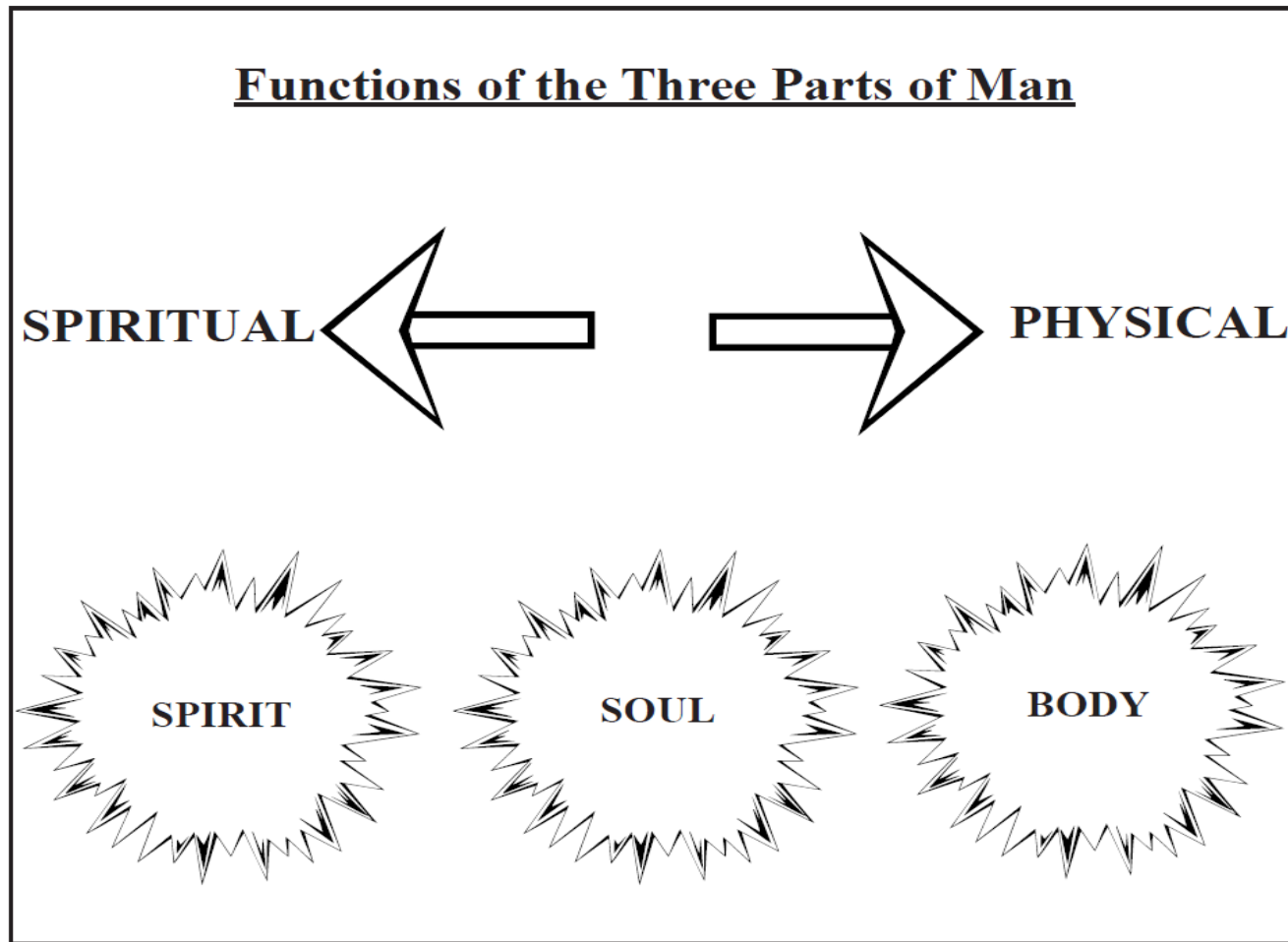
- We believe we are saved by faith through grace.
- God's grace is usually defined as undeserved favor.
- Grace cannot be earned; it is something that is freely given.
- We count on God's grace and the bridge he built in our relationship with him.

<https://www.compassion.com/christian-faith/bible-verses-about-grace.htm#:~:text=Grace%20is%20the%20basis%20for,in%20our%20relationship%20with%20him.>

## God Demonstrates Grace

- In the garden of Eden mankind made a choice to not follow God
- *for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. Gen 3:5.*
- God showed grace by making a way for mankind to return to him
- *And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. Gen 3:15*
- Paul tells us, in the end, all will be changed – such is God's grace.
- *Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 1Cor 15:51-53*

## God Extends us Grace.



1. Pre-existence in Spirit – choices were made by us.

2. Coming to this life and experiencing good and evil.

3. The restitution of all things – resurrection and immortality.

*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Cor 5:17*

# **GOD SAID NO!!**

I asked God to take away my habit. God said, No. it is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up. I asked God to make my handicapped child whole. God said, No. his spirit is whole, his body is only temporary. I asked God to grant me patience. God said, No. patience is a byproduct of tribulations; it isn't granted, it is learned. I asked God to give me happiness. God said, No. i give you blessings; Happiness is up to you. I asked God to spare me pain. God said, No. suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me. I asked God to make my spirit grow. God said, No. you must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful. I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life. God said, No. i will give you life, so that you may enjoy all things. I asked God to help me LOVE others, as much as He loves me. God said...Ahhhh, finally you have the idea.



***THIS DAY IS YOURS DON'T THROW IT AWAY...***

***May God Bless You.***

***In daily life it is sometimes hard to feel God's love and/or grace. It is also hard to make sense of suffering in terms of God's love and grace but the poem above gives us a different perspective to view it from.***

***Following are some Bible passages that further develop this theme. Remember it was man's choice to learn about God's love and grace from the viewpoint of good and evil, rather than just good.***

***In the story of Job we see Satan at work 'trying' Job's love for God.***

## **Job 1:6-12**

<sup>6</sup> Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them.

<sup>7</sup> And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.

<sup>8</sup> And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright



man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?

<sup>9</sup> Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought?

<sup>10</sup> Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.

<sup>11</sup> But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.

<sup>12</sup> And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy

power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.

***As you know Job experienced loss and disease together with a lot of bad advice from his friends. God's answer indicates that there is much more at stake than Job could possibly understand right now. In fact it seems it might even extend back to things that happened in our spiritual pre-existence.***

**Job 38:1-8**

**38** Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said,

<sup>2</sup> Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?

<sup>3</sup> Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me.

<sup>4</sup> Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding.

<sup>5</sup> Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it?

<sup>6</sup> Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof;

<sup>7</sup> When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

<sup>8</sup> Or who shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, as if it had issued out of the womb?

***James points out that temptation and suffering are not God's doing but should be used to grow our faith and our patience. Putting our faith into action is what perfects it.***

**James 1:2-4,12-15 & 2:20-22**

<sup>2</sup> My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

<sup>3</sup> Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

<sup>4</sup> But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.....

<sup>12</sup> Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

<sup>13</sup> Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

<sup>14</sup> But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

<sup>15</sup> Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death...

<sup>2:20</sup> But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

<sup>21</sup> Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? <sup>22</sup> Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?

137. 4 lines 8s and 7s. *Double*

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“God is Love!” His Word proclaims it,  
Day by day this truth we prove;  
Heav’n and earth with gladness telling,  
Ever telling, “He is Love!”

Hallelujah! tell the story,  
Sung by angel choirs above;  
Earth resounding still the chorus  
“God is Light and God is Love!”

“God is Love!”—Oh, tell it gladly,  
How the Saviour from above  
Gave Himself to save the lost ones,  
Proving thus the Father’s love.

Hallelujah! tell the story,  
Sung by angel choirs above;  
Earth resounding still the chorus  
“God is Light and God is Love!”

“God is Love!” and boundless mercy—  
We shall all its fulness prove!  
Teaching those who sit in darkness,  
“God is Light and God is Love!”

Hallelujah! tell the story,  
Sung by angel choirs above;  
Earth resounding still the chorus  
“God is Light and God is Love!”

***Jeremiah used the metaphor of a potter making vessels to describe the way God works in our lives, while in John Jesus used the metaphor of a gardener pruning back the growth on a grape vine so it could produce maximum fruit.***

### **Jeremiah 18:1-6**

**18** The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

<sup>2</sup> Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words.

<sup>3</sup> Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels.

<sup>4</sup> And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

<sup>5</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying,

<sup>6</sup> O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the LORD. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel.

### **Romans 9:21**

<sup>21</sup> Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?

## John 15

**15** I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

**2** Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

**3** Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

**4** Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

***In these next two passages Paul and Peter speak of the transformative power of grace and how it is the starting point for us to become a new 'creature in Christ'.***

## 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

**17** Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

**18** And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

**19** To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself,

not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

<sup>20</sup> Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

<sup>21</sup> For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

## **2 Peter 1:1-9**

<sup>1</sup> Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the

righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

<sup>2</sup> Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

<sup>3</sup> According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

<sup>4</sup> Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

<sup>5</sup> And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

<sup>6</sup> And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

<sup>7</sup> And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

<sup>8</sup> For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>9</sup> But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off,

and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

### **Romans 4:3-5**

<sup>3</sup> For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

<sup>4</sup> Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.

<sup>5</sup> But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.



## *Message*

“Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God,  
and of Jesus our Lord.” 1 Peter 1:2

67.

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(Isa. 11/11–13; Joel 3/21; Jer. 31/31)

O JEHOVAH, God Almighty,  
 Isr'el's God, Thy people draw;  
 That with joy they may run to Thee,  
 And obey Thy holy law.

Cleanse their bodies from the evil  
 They receiv'd from Adam's fall;  
 Cause them now to flee the devil,  
 And to love the Lord their all.

Let Thy love to them be giv'n,  
 Life immortal to them grant;  
 Make with them, Thou God of heaven,  
 Thy eternal covenant.