LETTER TO LEADERS

Ву

Dr William E. Kaiser 2/28/12

Grace is a gift.

What is grace?

The church defines **grace** as **unmerited** favor. It surely is that. The key word here is unmerited, meaning unearned. Anything we received that we did not earn is a gift. Therefore **grace** is a gift.

The Greek word for grace is *charis*, meaning, "the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life: acceptable, benefit, favor, gift, grace."

Just as salvation is a gift, the Holy Spirit is a gift, and righteousness is a gift, so grace is a gift.

If we review all of the grace scriptures (there is not room here to do so) we see that grace is a word given to all that God does in our life buy the Holy Spirit. For example, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast." Eph 2:8-9.

We find in 1 Cor 12 the gifts of the Spirit. The word gift here is *charisma*, obviously taken from the Greek word *charis*. These "charisnas of the Spirit", these gifts of the Spirit, these functions of the Spirit reveal the power of God. They are "word of wisdom, word of knowledge, faith, gifts of healing, working of miracles, prophesy, discerning of spirits, diverse kinds of tongues, interpretation of tongues." These are things that God does for us and through us by the Holy Spirit. They are the grace functions of God. They are the power of God working on behalf of His people. They are all **gifts** from God.

Just as when we were little children, we lived by gifts from our parents, now as little children of God, we live by His great **gifts of grace**. We can go to Him as a little child and He will **gift** (give) to us all that was provided through the cross and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

So as little children have confident hope and trust in their parents, so we need to have confident hope and trust (faith) in our Lord Jesus Christ. He will gift (give) us all we need and that abundantly.

Be thankful always!

In His Love.

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