

*1 John 2:1 KJV*

*My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:*

We concluded the previous meditation saying that there are two aspects of grace for overcoming sin: the preventive grace and the Curing grace.

### **The Preventive Grace:**

*Titus 2:11-13* shows us that grace is a teacher, teaching us to reject ungodliness. The Grace of God teaches us to be Sober, to have a sound mind, a mind that is awake unto God and unto His word. This teaching of grace is not for the future, it is for overcoming in this present world. A people will come to a point where they live a life above sin, in this present world. It teaches us to deny ungodliness (A life that is does not reckon God in its action), worldly lust (A life not satisfied by God), being sober, always in tune with what the Spirit is saying. You cannot necessarily put a hold on temptation, but your response can be tamed. *Titus 2:13* shows the end goal, the blessed hope: the coming of the Lord Jesus. Jesus warned his disciples to be sober and watchful that the day does to come to them unawares, this day is a person: Christ. Hope and fear are two sides of a coin. When a person is expecting good, there is hope. However, when a person is expecting evil, they will run when no one chases them. This is the state of the wicked, *Proverbs 28:1*. If your life is filled with the promises of God, everyday is a good day. God's plan is for us to live in hope.

There are three words typically used to describe the appearing of God. Parousia- the presence. You can go somewhere and tell if someone has been there, based on sometimes their perfume or just signs of their presence. This is the Parousia. The Epiphaneia (appearing) does not go without the Parousia, but the Parousia can go without the Epiphaneia. It is only those who daily live, move and dwell in His Parousia that will see His Epiphaneia. When he appears in his Epiphaneia, he installs His Basilea (Kingdom).

*Hebrews 4:14-15, 1 Peter 2:21* show that Jesus was tempted, yet without sin. The understanding that we cannot live a life without sin in this world is not scriptural. Jesus was manifested to take

away sin, *1 John 3:1-6*. Our born-again experience is not the beginning of sin management. It is to completely take away our sin. Yes, there are scriptures such as all have sinned and our righteousness is as a filthy rag, however, these are all describing our past life, Pre-Christ. It is so easy for us to begin confessing these things over our lives, calling that which is not meant to be over our lives. As a result, we begin to fall short of our true reality. Why do we often find comfort in the fallen state of man? If all sinned because of Adam, then in Christ, all are righteous, *Romans 5:14-17*.

*James 3:2-3* shows that if you can control the mouth of a horse, you control the whole body. If you can control your mouth, you can control your experience. Instead of confessing that you are a sinner, speak life.

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*Declare it: I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me*

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We have been freely given all things through Christ, this includes all things necessary for life and Godliness, *Romans 8:32-34, 2 Peter 1:3-4*. If God says let the weak say 'I am strong', He is not encouraging you to lie. There is a provision for strength He provided already, and we bring it to our reality as we speak. May the Lord help us change our Words, so we will speak His alone. Even when we find ourselves falling short of it, it does not change the potency of God's word.

We will look at a case study in *Matthew 14:22-25 (Jesus walks on Water)*

There are a few things mentioned here. There was an evening season. We are Children of the day, that is why David with all his strength says my reins will instruct me in the night. We were not created to operate in the night, this is because the night was created to be with God, in prayers. To stand in the place of prayers in the first watch, the second watch and the third watch. As you are weak towards the world, you are actually strong towards God. Next, the bible says the wind was contrary. A contrary wind is something blowing against what God has spoken in your life. On the fourth watch (3am- 6am), just before the breaking of the new day, Jesus was walking upon the sea. He had victory over the sea; this is a life that lives above sin. Jesus was an overcomer and is an example for us. Peter seeing Him wanted to walk on water as He did. Jesus

said come. Come is not a word for a perfect man, *Matthew 11:35, Revelations 4:1*. It is a call to someone who needs help. Peter heard the word and came. When Peter saw the wind, He became afraid. Are you seeing Jesus working victorious or the wind? We do not yet see all things under our feet, but we see Jesus. Peter saw the wind and let fear in. Fear brings all manner of evil things. Peter at this point realized he needed help, although Jesus knew it earlier. When asked why he doubted, Peter did not argue. The tendency to blame God for our shortcomings is an ungodly ancestral hold from Adam. Ungodliness is blaming God for your error, *Genesis 3:12. Proverbs 24:16* shows that the just man can fall 7 times and rise. However, there is a provision *in Jude 1:24* to be kept from falling.

### **The Curing Grace:**

*And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. - 1 John 2:1b.*

The word here is 'If'. This means it should not be, but if it should happen, we have an advocate. This provision of an advocate was given out of mercy, it is given on the premise of true repentance. *1 John 1:8-9 " If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. [9] If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* Sometimes we find yourself repenting for sin that we have not done, *2 Chronicles 7:14*. Daniel was repenting for a sin he did not commit. Every intercessor must know how to repent. There are three steps to repentance. It begins from the change of mind, metanoia, the change of actions and accepting God's forgiveness, *Acts 26:18*. One way true repentance is validated is the action a person takes when they face the situation again. If a person truly repents, they will set boundaries. Repentance is a gift given by God, once received, a person gets pardoned, *Acts 11:13, John 6:44*. If one falls into a particular sin and there is something drawing him to God, that is a call to repentance. The moment you begin to think what I did is wrong, do not hold back, go all the way. However, if the thoughts you hear condemn you, discourage you and lead you towards spiritual death, that is worldly sorrow. Suicidal thoughts, thoughts asking "what's the point of repenting when you will fall again", those are all sorrow that leads to spiritual death. You need to first repent for paying attention to lies and then receive God's repentance from the sin

committed initially. Some people in the process of repentance have left the faith., an example is Judas Iscariot. If any man sins, we have an advocate, Jesus the righteous.

Two major case studies for godly and ungodly sorrow.

The Story of Judas in *Matthew 27:3-5* is an example of ungodly sorrow. Judas went before the pharisees and Sanhedrin and was remorseful. However, this sorrow led him out of the temple to hang himself. The Prodigal Son in *Luke 15:11-32* however was opposite. There was a change of mind. He realized he was wrong, and he decided, I will go back to the Father. The boy repented; the Father received him. The Father was expecting him before he even came. This is how Jesus views us. *2 Timothy 3:16*.

The first step to repentance is reproof. *Ezekiel 43:11* says show the house to the house, if they be ashamed, show them the pattern, the form. There is no point of showing them the form is they are not ashamed. The next step is correction and reproof. The next is to instruct them in the path of righteousness. This path to repentance, if followed brings out a man of God who is thoroughly furnished unto all good works. There are people called a prisoner of hope. They are in prison, but they are in bondage, but they are believing that God will deliver them. When delivered, God restores the years they had lost due to sin.

*For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, [12] Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.*

*Titus 2:11-12*

*The Grace of the Lord Jesus be with your Spirit.*