

*Shout “Grace, Grace!”
to the Mountain*

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All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the King James Version. Italics for emphasis are ours.

GRACE PUBLICATIONS
P.O. BOX 18715
BALTIMORE, MD 21206

Printed in Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A.
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Grace Publications is a ministry of
Greater Grace World Outreach, Inc.

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INTRODUCTION

“By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ *once for all*. And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.

“For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified. Whereof the Holy [Spirit] also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before, This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

“Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin. Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the

blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

“Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries” (Hebrews 10:10-27).

This passage of Scripture is dealing with the one offering of Jesus Christ. Through this offering, Jesus Christ put away our sins forever, crucified our old sin nature, and seated us in heavenly places, positionally, with Him the moment we believed on Him. This offering makes it possible for the worst backslider in the

world—once he has confessed his sin—to have the effects of his sin removed and fellowship with God restored instantly. He can come back with boldness and confidence.

By one offering, we are sanctified and perfected forever and given permanent access to the throne of mercy. The blood of Jesus did all the work.

There are three points I want to communicate in these pages: The frustration of Satan over the believer's victory in the one offering; the release from carnality for the humble child of God; and the spiritual shout of faith that cries "Grace, grace!" to the mountains and obstacles in the Christian life.

In order to glean from these three principles, we must receive the Word of God in the exhilarating refreshment of the Holy Spirit's contact with our hearts. If we don't take the one offering seriously, we will never be able to live a quiet, Spirit-filled life before God.

Chapter One
THE ONE OFFERING

The subject in Hebrews 10:10 is the offering of the body of Jesus Christ. It was Jesus' *body* that was offered and it was offered "once for all." Hebrews 10:11 refers to Old Testament priests who offered many sacrifices. But, in Hebrews 10:14, we see that the *one* offering of Jesus "perfected for ever them that are sanctified." One offering was made for the remission of sins.

For this reason, Hebrews 10:22 tells us to "draw near with a true heart." We can draw near because God can't remember our sins. We draw near because where there is remission of sins, there is no need for any more offerings. "For in that [Jesus] died, he died unto sin *once*" (Romans 6:10a). We now have a new and living way through the blood of Christ (Hebrews 10:19-20).

As we draw near with confidence and full assurance of faith, our hearts are "sprinkled from an evil conscience" and our bodies are

“washed with pure water.” All guilt, fear, and insecurity is removed and we hold fast to the profession of our faith without wavering, for God is faithful.

Seated Above, Perfected Forever

Jesus did away with all of the Levitical sacrifices by fulfilling them and giving His life as the supreme sacrifice. He then rose from the grave and ascended to heaven where He is now seated forever at the right hand of the the Father. From this position, the Lord boldly declares to everyone who will receive Him, your “sins and iniquities will I remember no more” (Hebrews 10:17). He will never mention them again because they were all transferred to the one offering.

The moment a person believes in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, he is perfected forever before the Father, accepted in Jesus Christ the Beloved (Ephesians 1:6), and seated in heavenly places with Christ (Ephesians 2:6).

Exhort the Brethren

How can any believer be indifferent toward God’s precious mandates? No Christian can afford to forsake the assembly of believers through neglect, disobedience, apathy, passivity, arro-

gance, or pride.

Because of the truth of the one offering, God wants us to “exhort one another,” to pick up those who have fallen. We are to assemble together as often as we can to receive the Truth. We must assemble more than we ever have and pick each other up with what we have learned. Oh, how the church needs more picker-uppers.

Chapter Two

WHAT IT MEANS TO SIN WILLFULLY

“For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins” (Hebrews 10:26).

Many times during my 40 years of preaching I have been asked what this verse means. Christians who lack precise doctrine are very confused by this verse. Willful sinning isn't going out on the town, or picking up a cigarette. These things are sin, but they are not what this verse is talking about.

Willful sin is refusing to rest in the truth of the one offering. The Christian who sins willfully will not allow the same offering that dealt with his past sins to deal with his present sins. He neglects to draw near to the throne of mercy where he can find grace to help in his time of need (Hebrews 4:15-16).

Sinning willfully is living in depression, discouragement, guilt, fear, judging, and condemnation. Because of the one offering, we have no right to point a finger at ourselves or at any one else.

Willful sin for the Hebrew Christians, to whom this epistle was written, was the reinstatement of the Old Testament sacrifices, because they did not accept Jesus as the complete sacrifice for their sins. The Bible tells us the Old Testament “worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins” (Hebrews 10:2).

If I am conscious of my sins, which were paid for by the one offering, then I am sinning willfully. If I do sin, I name it, forsake it, forget it, and move on. Why? Because the one offering took care of my sin and perfected me forever.

Adversaries of the Offering

“But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. He that despised Moses’ law died without mercy under two or three witnesses. Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sancti-

fied, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?" (Hebrews 10:27-29).

Those who add to grace and make unconditional love conditional are adversaries to the supreme sacrifice of Jesus Christ. They do not understand the principle of the one offering. Therefore, they do not accept it. God says that because they are His adversaries, they can expect fiery indignation.

Though no one could keep the Mosaic law in its entirety, David and many other Old Testament saints loved it (Psalm 119:97). God has always preserved a remnant who love His Word. Yet, there were those who despised His Law, and they died without mercy. The problem was not that they broke the Law—everyone broke it—but that they *despised* it by neglecting it and lightly esteeming its worth.

Anyone under the New Covenant who doesn't respect the one offering can expect worse punishment than the Old Testament saints. We are more accountable than them because we have received a greater revelation of the Finished Work. This is completely misunderstood by many, many Christians who think that an isolated failure is willful sin. This is a terrible interpretation of truth.

Those who do despite to the grace of God will not accept the blood of the New Covenant—the Finished Work agreement between the Father and the Son. They have trodden underfoot the Son of God. The blood of the covenant isn't *enough* for them. They have to add to it. They have to judge and criticize and dictate to people. They trample under foot the *very* blood that sanctified them. This is the worst sin anyone can commit because it's a sin against the Finished Work. To me, this is so clear.

I cannot understand how someone can teach that willful sin refers to overt sins. Not one word in Hebrews 10 supports that view. By not accepting the blood of this covenant they insult the Spirit of grace.

Recently, I heard a radio sermon. I didn't listen for very long—just long enough to hear that sinning willfully meant to go out drinking and smoking. It was a hideous, stupid message; even a mannequin should have had sense enough not to fall for it.

These people get all worked up. They are frightened and they are teaching others how to live in fear. They don't know the first thing about being liberated. They don't know how to frustrate the devil. They live in defeat—all be-

cause someone with a seminary education preached a weird message without one iota of truth in it.

Do you suppose there could be a little bit of legalism in you? Are you thinking that you are doing God a favor by staying pure in your legalism? Let me tell you that people who receive the truth about the one offering will live purer lives than you ever could hope to live in your legalism.

Chapter Three
SHOUTING “GRACE, GRACE!”
TO THE MOUNTAIN

“...This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the LORD of hosts. Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it” (Zechariah 4:6-7).

In the book of Ezra we find the miraculous history of the rebuilding of the temple at Jerusalem. Zerubbabel was the civic leader of Israel at this time; Zechariah was the spiritual leader. Cyrus, a heathen king, was stirred by God to rebuild the temple, and he declared it to all the nations, thus fulfilling the prophecy of Jeremiah.

The children of Israel went back to their land and laid the foundation for the temple, but were unable to complete it due to great opposition. Friends and relatives stood against the work. A

spirit of religion came against them, as well as many visible enemies.

God taught His people how to handle the mountain of opposition: He told them to shout, "Grace, grace!" He declared, "Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain" (Isaiah 40:4). "And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be exalted" (Isaiah 49:11). By shouting, "Grace, grace," the mountain became a way for Israel. Their darkness was made light and the crooked places were made straight (Isaiah 42:16).

Israel had sinned deeply and had been led away captive into Babylon. They were asked by their captors to sing one of the songs of Zion, but they could not. They wept and hung their harps on the willows, saying, "How shall we sing the LORD'S song in a strange land?" (Psalm 137:4). They thought about their days in Zion; but now, they couldn't go back. Through their own deceit, their way had become crooked. They had no joy, no song, and they could not experience grace.

Finally, after 70 years in captivity, Cyrus sent them back to Jerusalem. They had learned from

God how to shout, "Grace, grace" to their obstacles and eventually, the temple would be rebuilt.

"And the elders of the Jews builded, and they prospered through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. And they builded, and finished it, according to the commandment of the God of Israel, and according to the commandment of Cyrus, and Darius, and Artaxerxes king of Persia. And this house was finished on the third day of the month Adar, which was in the sixth year of the reign of Darius the king" (Ezra 6:14-15).

Abraham and Jacob

After Abraham sinned with Hagar, there was a space of 13 years that he did not speak to God. He was miserable. He was wretched. The father of our faith was silent. Now he was in a valley facing a terrible mountain. It was a dark and crooked place and Abraham had no grace, no joy, no song.

But then, God visited him. "And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.

And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying, As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations" (Genesis 17:1-4). Through this personal visitation from God, Abraham received the strength to cry "Grace, grace" to his mountain.

Jacob made one mistake after another. He was deceitful, crooked, and double-minded. He couldn't overcome his mountain. He wavered back and forth. Like his grandfather Abraham, Jacob found himself in a valley. How would he ever get out of it? By shouting, "Grace, grace!"

"And God appeared unto Jacob again, when he came out of Padan-aram, and blessed him. And God said unto him, Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name: and he called his name Israel. And God said unto him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins; And the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land" (Genesis 35:9-12).

Every mountain, every hill, every crooked place, must bring us to God. Instead of turning our backs on Him, we can come to Him and

hear Him say, "This is the way, walk ye in it" (Isaiah 30:21).

Shout to the mountain. Shout to the valley. Shout in the crooked places. Shout at failure, sin, and guilt. Shout against those who criticize and judge. Shout against the legalists who add works to grace and make their religion a hindrance to true Christianity (Romans 11:6). Shout, "Grace, grace!" to the mountains. It is the only answer for our problems.

The Gates of Hell Shall Not Prevail

Jesus said, in Matthew 16:18, "...I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." How in God's name can the gates of hell prevail against Jesus Christ's perfect offering? They can't. And the gates of hell cannot defeat the man who is in Christ forever as the object of His grace.

Why worry when we are free to go to God through the blood of Jesus Christ? Why should we feel guilty when His Blood will instantly wash away the guilt? How can we ever be accused when we stand justified in Christ before the throne of mercy? How can we be condemned when there is now no condemnation?

We don't need to be double-minded; we can

have a single eye of faith. There is no reason for restlessness when we have the God of all peace living inside of us. The God of all patience can help us when we are impatient.

Don't fret about what your spouse might be doing. Let God bless *you*. Go directly to His throne and watch the all-powerful Christ release heaven's power through grace.

After the foundation of Zerubbabel's temple was laid (Ezra 3:10), Israel faced a cunning attack from their enemies. Public enemies and government officials stood in the way, hindering any further progress on the temple. In the midst of opposition, the Holy Spirit told Israel to start shouting because it was through the Spirit that their victory would come, not by their own power and might. Shout to those mountains of opposition in your life.

Shout to the mountains of guilt.

Shout! and watch God remove the obstacles.

Shout! about God's victory over the devil.

Shout, "Grace, grace!"

The shout of victory frustrates the devil, releases the carnal Christian, and makes a person spiritual the moment he approaches the throne of mercy through the appropriation of the shed blood of the one offering—Jesus Christ.

CONCLUSION

Please keep in mind what Hebrews 10:26 really says about willful sinning. If we sin, we break fellowship with God, but repentance will immediately restore that fellowship (Psalm 51:17). What does despite to the Spirit of grace is rejection of the one offering, *not* isolated failure.

The Word of God says that if we walk in the light, the blood of Christ keeps cleansing us from all sin. It will wash away any defilement as we keep coming to Him. Let's simply accept His one offering. When we try to add to it, we insult the spirit of grace. The gift of grace depends completely on the character and nature of the Giver, and never on the character and nature of the receiver. We must simply receive it.

We cannot ignore the Finished Work and go around mentally upset and emotionally injured. The purpose of the Cross was to get rid of the effects of everything we have done wrong and to give us a new life. Sin and guilt have been taken

care of; we stand *in* Christ—permanently. Satan, however, is waiting for us to deny the Finished Work so he can cause us to live in frustration.

May each of us continually receive the truth about our position until it shakes us, moves mountains, and makes us free in our experience.