

DOCTRINE OF LIVING GRACE

- I. Description and definition:
 - A. Living grace is one of five categories of grace including (*See Doctrine of Grace*):
 - 1. Saving grace. Act.15:11; Eph.2:5,8
 - 2. Dying grace. Heb.2:9
 - 3. Surpassing grace. Eph.2:7
 - 4. Greater grace. Jam.4:6
 - B. That it is a grace provision indicates that its source is a part of the policy and plan of God irrespective of one's own merits.
 - C. Living grace for the believer is all that God has to do to keep one alive and functioning physically and spiritually in Ph₂ so that said believer can seize and hold maturity (i.e. nothing depends on me/energy of the flesh).

- II. Living grace includes:
 - A. Air to breath. Gen.1:6-8
 - B. Food, shelter, clothing. Gen.1:29-30; 3:21; 28:20,21
 - C. Protection from both seen and unseen enemies. Deu.23:9,14; Psa.18:prologue,1-3,48; 31:15; Joh.17:15
 - D. Each day to live. Ps.118:24
 - E. Laws of the Divine institutions (volition, right man/right woman, family, nations).
 - F. GAP (the grace apparatus for perception), Bible Doctrine, and a Pastor-Teacher.
 - G. God sustaining life until death. Job 34:14-15; Psa.30:3; 66:9; Psa.118:18; Act.17:28

- III. Living grace depends on God's sovereignty and not human volition.
 - A. The provision came before the believer's need (creation account Gen.1ff).
 - B. Jesus Christ controls history and issues living grace as it is needed. Mat.6:8

- IV. The believer is commanded to pray for living grace "*Give us this day our daily bread.*" Mat.6:11

- V. The believer is to receive the living grace God provides with thankfulness and sanctify it by prayer. 1Tim.4:3-5

- VI. The believer is commanded to faith-rest living grace. Mat.6:25-34

- VII. Jesus Christ is the perfect example of faith-resting His living grace in His humanity and was tested in it.
 - A. Christ depended upon God providing protection from the environment in His ministry. Mat.8:20; Luk.9:58
 - B. He manifested the reality that God provides even by making the impossible, possible, through the feeding of the multitudes. Mat.14:13-21; 15:32-38
 - C. His living grace was tested in the 40 day wilderness test. Mat.4:1-4
 - D. God sent angels to administer sustenance for His humanity after the 40 day test. Mat.4:11; Mar.1:13

- VIII.** Living grace will be tested.
 - A.** Economic catastrophe. Gen.12:10
 - B.** Military and political catastrophe. Job 5:20; Rev.13:16-17
 - C.** Through a plethora of circumstances out of our control. Psa.91; 2Cor.11:24-27
- IX.** God provides living grace for both the reversionist and the mature believer. Mat.5:45
- X.** Unusual cases where God provided living grace.
 - A.** The Jews in the wilderness. Exo.16
 - B.** Water for Samson. Jud.15:14ff
 - C.** Elijah in the wilderness. 1Kgs.17:1-6
- XI.** God withdraws living grace in the administration of the sin unto death (i.e. the Jews in 586BC and 70AD). Cp.Deu.28:15-63
- XII.** Living grace does not depend on giving. You cannot bribe God. Deu.10:17; 2Chr.19:7
- XIII.** The reversionist consistently fails the living grace test (i.e. the Exodus generation).
- XIV.** There are two possible reactions when living grace is tested. In either case, you will receive living grace unless it is the sin unto death.
 - A.** You trust God for it. Heb.13:5-6
 - B.** You test God for it. Exo.17:2,7; Num.14:22; Psa.78:14,41,56; Heb.3:7-10.
- XV.** The adjusted believer is to be content with the living grace God provides. 1Tim.6:8
- XVI.** Believers and the local church are to emulate God in application by assisting other believers under living grace tests when the resources are available. Eph.5:1 cp. 1Cor.16:1-4; Jam.3:15-16; 1Joh.3:17-18
- XVII.** Believers are commanded not to apply living grace to those that will not work. 2The.3:10
- XVIII.** God is glorified when He provides living grace to the believer. Exo.16:7a
- XIX.** Living grace testing will no longer be an issue in Ph₃. Rev.7:16