

# GROWING IN GOD

PODCAST



## GIG230 – A New Revelation of Grace

When we talk about the Feast of Tabernacles, it is, of course, the feast that begins the civil year. When we come to Passover, we are beginning the spiritual year; but Tabernacles begins the new civil year, and I think that is really appropriate for what we are doing. We really are starting into the new year around us for the natural level. And I know that in God's plans for the nations, God's plan for His Kingdom, the Kingdom would be a part of that civil year; because now He begins to rule and reign in the earth, and we begin to see His Lordship established in the earth. These things I think are very appropriate to this time frame we are in, following up with the election. We do not want to let down on this drive that we have to see things really move forward on the natural level, on the level of governments. There is obviously a lot still happening with Israel, and many other things like that. So, we just want to keep our focus on that, our prayer on that, as we move forward.

I am going to talk a little bit about some of these things that are on my heart right now. I do feel like we are at a turning point. We have been in prayer since the elections in the United States about all that is taking place, and I know that we need to hold that intercession very tightly. It is interesting, just the sense I have had in the realm of spirit in this last week, with the ceasefire coming about and other things being discussed. It is almost like, "It's over." It is like the force behind Israel, it feels like people have dropped back in the intensity of their concern and the urgency of the moment to feel like, "Oh, okay, fine. We are getting to a solution now. Everything is going to be okay." And I do not feel that way at all. I think that it is not time for us to become lax, both for Israel and for the United States, and for the globe. I think that the things that are happening, many of them are behind the scenes and we are not able to view clearly what is taking place among the nations as I wish we could, because I know it would give us a lot more clarity in our intercession. But I think we can get that clarity from the Lord by the Holy Spirit in our intercession, and we need to be forcefully reaching for it.

What I wanted to talk about today is something that has been kind of a burden in my own heart over the last several days, and it has to do with the grace of God. I feel like there is a new level of the grace of God that I really want to reach into myself; and I want to share it with you, because I feel like it may really strike your heart and your spirit as something to reach for also. The title I put on this is *A New Revelation of Grace*, because I feel like that expresses to me what the Lord is making real to my heart, that I need a new revelation of the grace of God. One of the reasons I feel that is because of what I sense that we are moving into, or needing to move into, as God's people.

Grace, of course, is fundamental to us in our salvation. We know that we are saved by grace, and we kind of just have that as the scriptural basis – it is not of works, it is a free gift of God, and He gives us salvation through Christ and we are saved; then we go on in this relationship with God that we are brought into. But like most things in God, I think it is so much deeper than that. I think there is something greater that God wants us to have, individually. I know wants me to have it, individually, because He is really bothering me about this; and I spent a lot of the last couple of days just in repentance before the Lord over many, many things, realizing how much I can leave the grace of God out of what I am doing. That may sound simple, but it has to be that we recognize that whatever we

are doing, however we are moving, whatever we have, is the grace of God in our lives. Well, let me say this: it is powerful because of where I think God wants to take His people.

I have not talked to Silas, but what he is saying about the Catholic Church and what they are doing with this thing about the coming year looking towards the Word is interesting to me, because it goes along with this. I feel like what we are talking about in the intercession that we have to move into during this time for this country, for the nations of the world, is how we as the Body of Christ must move forward. There has to be, according to the Scriptures, a Body of Christ that is moving in the power and the awesome things of God. And I feel like what we must have in order to be that is a new revelation of God's grace. Because in everything God is getting ready to do, God is going to glorify Himself, so we need to keep that picture before us all the time. What is God doing? God is glorifying Himself among the nations. He is glorifying Himself before all of creation.

He stated that that is what He is doing. In Isaiah 48:11-12, it says, "For My own sake, for My own sake, I will act; for how can My name be profaned? And My glory I will not give to another. Listen to Me, O Jacob, even Israel whom I called; I am He, I am the first, I am also the last." We talk about God moving; but if God is moving, He is moving to glorify Himself. He is moving for Himself to be number one. And in whatever God is going to do in acting, He has to be recognized as the one acting. He has to be recognized as the one who is doing the moving, bringing forth His will, the power. Whatever takes place, it has to glorify God, and I think we need that really solidified into our hearts on another level. As He is saying here in Isaiah, "For My own sake, for My own sake" – He says it twice – "I am acting for My own sake." Whatever God is going to do, He is not going to do it because we are upset, or because the Evangelical movement is upset, or because there is more that God needs to do. He is doing it for His own namesake – that is why it is happening, that is why it is taking place. And so, we have to find a way to be kind of the trumpet call of the fact that God is moving, and He is doing it for this reason, that He will be glorified in all of the earth.

I want to look at another Scripture too, John the fifth chapter, starting with verses 18-20. It says,

For this reason therefore the Jews were seeking all the more to kill Him [speaking of Yeshua], because He not only was breaking the Sabbath, but also was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God. Therefore Jesus answered and was saying to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself is doing; and the Father will show Him greater works than these, so that you will marvel."

So, we have this reality, and I thought about this with Christ. Christ moved in a way that was unprecedented. We all know – the miracles, the signs, the wonders, raising the dead, speaking a Word that nobody had heard before, seeing things that no one had seen before. And what happened was that it brought the attention onto Christ; Christ had to firmly come back and say, "Listen, none of this is about Me. This is not about Me, this is about the Father." And I thought, "That was really a problem." Those who were watching Him were attributing the works to Him and were ready to stone Him, because they said, "He is taking away from the glory of God. He is taking away from the focus on the Father by making Himself something." Christ had to come forward and say, "No, I am not making anything of Myself. I can do nothing of Myself."

The more that we mature in God, the more that we grow in God, the more that we are anointed in God and performing miracles, or signs, or healings, or whatever, the more and more difficult it becomes for

us to separate ourselves from the works, or from what is transpiring. And I think we see that is true in other people's minds. We have seen it in the church. This is why it is difficult, because man gets the glory. People start focusing on a person, they start following a person. They will run to the meetings of the person who is doing healings, or is doing this or doing that. So, it is very difficult in the eyes of the world, in the eyes of people, to keep the focus on God. And this becomes a real issue, because God says, "Listen, I am going to act because of My own namesake. I am going to do it to glorify My name and to glorify Myself." And if it starts glorifying someone other than Him, then you watch how quickly these things stop happening.

We have seen this in the church. How many times have we seen outpourings of the Holy Spirit begin? and how many times have we seen those die out? – because the focal point became the vessels who were involved. Not always, not every time, but most times we have seen outpourings, and they have a life to them. So, what we realize, and what I am talking about on this thing with grace, is that it not only applies in the minds of people, it applies in our own mind. I was thinking about this this morning, and I thought, "Boy, did Christ have to have a revelation of grace. He had to have a revelation that this was not Him." And yet, He was the one laying on hands. He was the one that was calling out to the grave for Lazarus to come forth, and raising the dead. I felt that this is something we need to really believe for in our own hearts, that we are absolutely convinced that whatever is happening, it is God moving, and it is only by grace that we are involved in it at all.

Christ had to have that revelation Himself. So He goes on in the Scripture that we are reading in John 5, and in verse 30 He says, "I can do nothing on My own initiative." And I just think, "Lord, solidify that into our being." This has to be a part of our being, that no matter how God uses us, no matter what happens through the Body of Christ, both collectively and individually, we must absolutely know. The Scripture talks about us having the mind of Christ – okay, here is a good place to start having the mind of Christ: "I can do nothing on my own initiative." We are incapable of anything. The works are not our works, it is God working. And Him working through human instruments, interestingly enough, is one of the things He is doing to glorify Himself. What a catch-22 we have! When He starts moving through individuals in order to glorify Himself, the first thing that happens is either the people are giving the glory to that individual other than to the Father, or the more and more those works are getting bigger and bigger, it is starting to get tainted in their own minds about, "Gosh, am I the one doing this?"

I was so struck by this. I do not feel like I am getting it across very well, but I wish it would impact us to realize that God needs to work something, for sure in me, but I think this is not just talking to me; I think He is talking to all of us, saying, "As I begin to use you...." Of course, it is easy going along when we are doing little things and it is no big deal, even in our own minds, to not take the glory to ourself, because there is no seeming glory to be had. Yet, when it starts to be that there are signs and wonders and miracles taking place, oops, we just fell into another category. I think what we are saying – and that is what is so great about what Silas is talking about – is that God is ready to take the Body of Christ into another level where, in a sense, we can say it is moving forward. But I would say realistically that it is moving backwards into what the Church was in the beginning, of God moving through His people. And we must be absolutely ensconced in the revelation of the grace of God in order not to blow this.

In John 17:4, Christ said, speaking to the Father, "I glorified You on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do." I think that is so key for us to realize. How did Christ glorify the Father? He did glorify the Father through the works which He was performing; and His purpose in performing the works, in doing the works, was simply and only to glorify the Father. That was the reality

of Yeshua in the flesh on the earth, to glorify the Father. And He said, "I succeeded. I glorified You, because I completed all of the things that You gave Me to do." God is going to give us things to do.

If we really believe that we are in the end times, one of the things that has to happen is a Body of Christ moving in a way that is going to blow people away. Christ Himself said, "As the Father sent Me, so send I you." That means He sent us to perform works in the earth that glorify the Father, because that is what He was sent to do; and it means that we are going to be a part of that Body. "As the Father sent Me, so send I you." "Greater works than these shall you do, because I go to the Father." How is Christ in His ascension to the Father glorified? because of the works that the Body of Christ is performing. And I just thought, "Lord, why are You doing this? This is tricky. You are God – can't You just do these things out of the sky or something? Why do You have to include us in it? This is putting us in a bad light." Just like Christ, they are coming to stone Him to death because they say what He is doing is with the motivation of taking away the glory from the Father; and He goes, "Hey, I can only do what the Father gives Me to do."

It is an interesting point, and I think it is a touchy point. In John 1:15-16, it says of John the Baptist, "John testified about Him and cried out, saying, 'This was He of whom I said, "He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.'" For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace." That terminology of "grace upon grace" struck me, because I thought, "The more that the fullness of what Christ is imparting to us comes, the more that we have to have layer upon layer of grace into our life so that there is absolutely no question, certainly in our own minds, of where these things are coming from, or how they are flowing." We can do nothing of ourselves, only that which we are given and have been imparted to us to do. And if other people will not believe that is where it is coming from, we better believe. We better believe more than anything else in the grace of God. That has to be absolutely solid in our faith.

Romans 11:6 says, "But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace." Whatever happens, it can no longer be works to us, it has to be an expression of grace. How do you move in God? By grace. How is this anointing released to the earth? By grace. Everything is by grace. It no longer works, because it is only the Father, it is only Christ, the Holy Spirit, moving through us; and on our part, it is nothing but grace.

We really have to have this. Go into the writings of Paul, because Paul works with this, and you can see the struggle of it, the reality of the struggle in it, when you look at the life of Paul. In 1 Corinthians 15, verse 7, Paul is talking; read the whole chapter. But he says, in verses 7-10,

Then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also. For I am the least of the apostles, and not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me did not prove vain; but I labored even more than all of them, yet not I, but the grace of God with me.

I love this, because Paul actually comes to the place where he realizes, "What is coming out of me is only grace." You could say, "It is not anointing, it is not gifts, it is not works – it is only grace coming out of me, because that is what God put in me." "I am unworthy, I persecuted the church, I am the least of all of these; but I am what I am by the grace of God. And His grace towards me" – this is where the difficulty comes – "His grace towards me did not prove vain, but I labored even more than all of them; yet not I, but the grace of God." It was this grace of God that moved through Paul, and Paul knew it; he was convinced of it. And with that, I encourage you to go back to Second Corinthians and just start

reading chapters 10, 11, 12, and 13, all the way through 13. I will pick up some points, but the whole of these chapters is Paul, sometimes tongue in cheek, sometimes kind of in a rebuke, talking to the church about how they are looking at him, how they are receiving him, what they are thinking about him; and he is having to deal with this reality that they are either thinking about him completely in a negative, wrong way, or in a wrong way because of all the things that he is doing.

But Paul had this reality – because the grace was given to him, and it was only grace, and it was real to him that it was grace, he was able to move in more than all of the other apostles. It was not given to him in vain, but he labored more than they all; he was able to labor more than they all because he understood it was only grace. And it was that revelation, in my mind, that allowed Paul to move in all that he moved in. I think if you will go look at these chapters 10 through 13, you will see really clearly what I am talking about. I will just grab a few verses here. In Second Corinthians 12, verses 7-9, it says,

Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations [talking about the revelations that Paul had], for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me—to keep me from exalting myself! Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me. And He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.” Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

Paul goes through all of these chapters talking about the reality – he tells what he went through, how much he labored, how much he suffered, how hard he worked at things, and how concerned he was for the churches and all of that. Really, really, please read it. But when he gets into 2 Corinthians 13 and he is ending the whole of these chapters, he comes to verse 14 and says, “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.” What was his main concern? That the church be filled with this grace.

He understood grace. He understood that the power, the works, all that he did, all that he had, was only one thing – it was grace. And as the grace was alive to him and real to him, through even the sufferings that he had – this messenger, whatever that was; he says there was a thorn in his flesh. To me, when I think of it, I think it was probably just the fact that his flesh was such a thorn to him. Being in the flesh itself is enough of a thorn, at least to me. He may have had something bigger, but that is fine; I will just try to deal with what I have. But he had this thorn, God gave him circumstances in his life. What did the circumstance do? It kept him at that place of grace; he was always moving from a place of grace, and understanding that all that he had was grace.

I want to read one other Scripture, out of Acts the fourth chapter, and look at this picture of the church; because, again, I think that is where we find ourselves. I think we find ourselves in this place right now. We are praying for all that is happening moving forward. I think we are going into a year where I believe we could see phenomenal things happen in the church, through the Body of Christ. That is why this message to me is so important, because unless we have a new, powerful revelation of the grace of God in our lives, I think it will be a showstopper. So I am believing for this new grace revelation to impact us and just absolutely put us on our faces before God.

In Acts the fourth chapter, we see the church moving, right after the Day of Pentecost. We know that the apostles were called up before the leaders and they were told to no longer preach in the name of Christ and speak the Gospel, and all of that. When we get down to Acts the fourth chapter, I will pick it up from verse 23. It says, “When they had been released, they went to their own companions and

reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them.” After they get out of jail, they go to the family that is there praying for them, and they tell them everything that has gone on.

Verses 24-30,

And when they heard this [speaking about the family, when the body had heard this], they lifted their voices to God with one accord and said, “O Lord, it is You who made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and all that is in them, who by the Holy Spirit, through the mouth of our father David Your servant, said, ‘Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples devise futile things? The kings of the earth took their stand, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord and against His Christ.’ For truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose predestined to occur. And now, Lord, take note of their threats, and grant that Your bond-servants may speak Your word with all confidence, while You extend Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of Your holy servant Jesus.”

One thing I love about this is that it starts with intercession. I feel like that is exactly where God has us. I feel like there is a spirit of intercession resting upon us, because of all that is transpiring and all that God is getting ready to do. Verses 31-33 go on to say, “And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.” All of them, the body was speaking the Word of God with boldness. Not just an apostle here or there, not just a few. The body rose up together, and as one man saw the place shaken, saw the place filled with the Holy Spirit. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they all began to speak the Word of God with boldness.

And the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul; and not one of them claimed that anything belonging to him was his own, but all things were common property to them. And with great power the apostles were giving testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace was upon them all.

They were moving out of this grace that was resting upon them. They knew where these things were coming from; they knew that what was motivating them, what was allowing them to move in the power of God, was the grace of God. And I do not know that we have ever seen the grace of God this way. It is almost like a gift. We talk about the gifts of the Holy Spirit, tongues, and moving in miracles, and signs, and discernment, and wisdom, and all these things; but I think the key gift is grace. Because if we are filled with grace, if we have a solid revelation of the grace of God being the only thing in our lives, I think then all of the gifts follow that. And that is what Paul goes on to tell is how all that he did – he worked more than they all – but what he is emphasizing is grace.

So, as we get into this time – we are ready to move into December, and everybody is going to be thinking about holidays and time off, and this party and that thing – I think we are going to be holding ourselves into the presence of the Lord. I want to see an intercession like the early Church had, where when we are finished, the place is shaken. But when the place is shaken, that is not the end of the story; we are all filled with the Holy Spirit, and filled with the grace of God that allows us as His Body to move in the power and to speak the Word of God with boldness. That is what I believe for. That is what I bless us to do and to become. I bless us to follow in those footsteps of Paul, who knew where all the works were coming from; and Christ Himself, “I can do nothing.” We can do nothing of ourselves, but through His grace we can do all things through Him who strengthens us.

I bless this to our hearts, believe for it to move in you and through you, and we will be back together in a few weeks. But Lord, let's see phenomenal moving during this time. We believe for it. Amen.

Mitch White, can you seal this with a prayer for us?

**Mitch:** Father, we open our hearts and we take this deep revelation of the grace of God, that it works in every area. That we are not too weak for You to use, we are not going to be surprised at Your moving through Your abundant grace, but we are going to look to You in everything; and You will acknowledge Yourself and be glorified in us, in the name of the Lord. Thank You, Father.

**Gary:** Amen. Lord bless you all. Lord, bring Your Spirit, Your Presence, to each one during this month. And while they are having times with family and friends, let them be a light to this world, Lord. Let them be a testimony of You, of Your Word and all that You are doing in the earth.

Lord, bless them with health, bless them with abundance, that they might have more than enough to share with this world. Bless their finances in every way. Lord, bless their households, that there be peace, and that there be Your Presence and Your Word that fills their lives each day. We believe for it in the name of Yehoshua HaMashiach. Amen.

Bless you guys. I love you very much.