

AND AFTER YOU HAVE SUFFERED A LITTLE WHILE ...

HOPE

GLORY

GRACE



THIS IS THE TRUE GRACE OF GOD
STAND FIRM IN IT

OUTLINE ... (1 Peter 5:10-14 ESV)

1. **THIS IS THE TRUE GRACE OF GOD—we will suffer for “a little while,” 5:10.**

- (1 Peter 5:10 ESV) And after you have suffered a little while, **the God of all grace**, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

Peter clearly shows us throughout his letter that our suffering is planned, purposeful and essential in God’s work of grace in our lives.

- A. **Suffering for “a little while” is an essential part of the plan of “the God of all grace,” 5:10a.**
- B. **It is a “grace thing” when we suffer for doing his will (“mindful of God”).**

- (1 Peter 2:19 ESV) For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly.
- (1 Peter 3:17 ESV) For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil.

- C. **We should not expect God’s support if we sin—doing our will.**

- (1 Peter 2:20 ESV) For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God.
- (1 Peter 4:15–16 ESV) But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. 16 Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.

- D. **It is God’s grace that we are called to suffer.**

- (1 Peter 2:21 ESV) For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps.

- E. **We experience God’s blessing when we suffer for righteousness’ sake.**

- (1 Peter 3:14 ESV) But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled.

- F. **Joy is the proper response as we share in Christ’s sufferings and anticipate the revelation of his glory.**

- (1 Peter 4:13 ESV) But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

- G. **Trusting God is our obedient response when we suffer for doing God’s will.**

- (1 Peter 4:19 ESV) Therefore let those who suffer according to God’s will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

2. **THIS IS THE TRUE GRACE OF GOD—God will complete his work, 5:10-11.**

- (1 Peter 5:10–11 ESV) And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. 11 To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

God will complete his work of grace in our lives and we will recognize that he has done this by his sovereign power and will praise him forever.

- A. **The true grace of God is the decision OF God and the action BY God to save us.**

The true grace of God is the action of God by which he saved us—made us alive together with Christ when we were dead. He saves us by and through his power, authority and riches. This saving action is totally unmerited and undeserved on our part.

- (Ephesians 2:4–5, 8 ESV) But God, **being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us**, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—**by grace you have been saved**— ... **For by grace you have been saved** through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.

THE DECISION OF TRUE GRACE IN CHOOSING US ...

- i. God chose to make us alive with Christ apart from our human will.
 - (Romans 9:15–16 ESV) For he says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.” 16 So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.
 - (1 Peter 1:1–2a ESV) Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, 2 according to the foreknowledge of God the Father.
- ii. God chose to make us alive with Christ because he is rich in mercy and chose to love us in this way.
- iii. God **disapproves** of and **resists** the proud but **approves** of and **supports** the humble. He may for a time oppose those he is saving for the sake of discipline.
 - (1 Peter 5:5b ESV) Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

Grace means that God is for us ...

- (Romans 8:31–32 ESV) What then shall we say to these things? **If God is for us, who can be against us?** 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

THE ACTION OF TRUE GRACE IN SAVING US ...

- iv. He makes us alive with Christ by his grace—his unmerited, undeserved favor.
- v. The action by which he makes us alive with Christ is based on and drawn from his power, authority and riches.
- vi. The power with which he made us alive with Christ is immeasurable.
 - (Ephesians 1:19–21 ESV) And what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might 20 that he worked in Christ

when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

- vii. He made us alive with Christ according to the riches of his grace.
 - (Ephesians 1:7–8 ESV) In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight.
- viii. He made us alive with Christ so that he might forever show us the immeasurable riches of his grace.
 - (Ephesians 2:7 ESV) So that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

B. The true grace of God is seen in the completeness of his saving work in preparing us for his eternal glory.

- (1 Peter 5:10 ESV) And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.
 - i. God will himself **restore** you ...

He will prepare you; make you ready or suitable; equip in advance for his purpose. He will mend and repair what needs to be mended and repaired. He will put in order, arrange and adjust to his perfect and complete satisfaction. He will make you what you ought to be; fitted for heaven and glory.

- ii. God will himself **confirm** you ...

He will strengthen your soul by confirming you in truth in general and truth in your life in particular as he teaches you and affirms the genuineness of your faith and the godliness of your character.

- iii. God will himself **strengthen** you ...

Because of his work of grace you will be marked by firm determination and resolution. He will make you stable as he places you firmly

and sets you fast, fixed on his will and strengthened to carry out his purpose.

iv. God will himself **establish** you ...

He has laid a foundation in Christ upon which your life will be stabilized, not only in this life, but forever with him in glory.

C. The person who understands the true grace of God in salvation by his sovereign power and authority will praise him forever, 5:11.

- (1 Peter 5:11 ESV) To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.
- (Colossians 1:5–6 ESV) Because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in **the word of the truth, the gospel, 6** which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, **since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth.**

3. THIS IS THE TRUE GRACE OF GOD—we are to stand firm in what we stand, 5:12.

- (1 Peter 5:12 ESV) By Silvanus, a faithful brother as I regard him, I have written briefly to you, exhorting and **declaring that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it.**
- (Romans 5:1–2 ESV) Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into **this grace in which we stand,** and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

CLOSING

Greetings and blessing: Peace to all of you who are in Christ, 5:13-14.

- (1 Peter 5:13–14 ESV) She who is at Babylon, who is likewise chosen, sends you greetings, and so does Mark, my son. 14 Greet one another with the kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

ANTITHETICAL PARALLELISM

EXAMPLE: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble" (1 Peter 5:5b, James 4:6b). "Opposes" is antithetical to "gives grace to" and "proud" is antithetical to "humble".

The **ACTION OF GOD** toward the **PROUD** is to **WITHHOLD/OPOSE**

But the **ACTION OF GOD** toward the **HUMBLE** is to **GIVE/SUPPORT**

