

Hi Brothers and Sisters:

God tells us to come boldly to where He sits. In the Old Testament it was called the mercy seat, but now God calls it a Throne of Grace. God in his mercy forgives but by His grace he gives.... and gives generously.

GRACE = charis..... used 156 times in the N.T. The Greeks were lovers of beauty....in nature, in architecture, poetry and drama. Anything which called out of the heart wonder, admiration, pleasure or joy was designated by this word charis. The word also came to signify the doing of a favor.....generously, spontaneously, or without expectation of return. It was given out of the generosity of the giver and not because a person deserved it. The verb form of grace is: to deal generously with.

"Grace is God giving everything to those who deserve nothing." - Colin Urquhart

"Grace is God's willingness to use His power on our behalf." - Charles Capps

We are saved by grace... through faith. It is towards us! / Eph. 2:1-10
We are standing in grace! It is all around us! / Romans 5:1-2
We are empowered by grace! It is in us! / Philippians 2:12-13, 1 Corinth. 15:10
We give and serve by grace! It is through us! / 2 Cor. 8:1-9, 9:8-15
We approach a throne of grace! It is above us! / Heb. 4:14-16

We come boldly because of the blood of our High Priest Jesus Christ / Hebrews 10:19 He was tempted just as we were, and knows the struggles we face but He was always victorious. He is our BIG BROTHER!

I had been asked to preach at our church in London one Sunday. During the week I had been reading a good book on prayer by John R. Rice called: Prayer... Asking and Receiving. One quote really caught my attention. In it he lamented the fact that most Sunday morning prayers are just formalities and rigamorole that preachers go through without really expecting God to actually answer. I determined right then that when the time came for the public prayers, I would pray boldly with expectation.

That Sunday, when it came time to take prayer requests, there was one from Florrie. Her son Mark and family were to leave the next day for vacation to the USA but their daughter Elinor had started having seizures on Friday. God graced me with great boldness as I prayed.

The next Sunday Florrie came up to me and gave me a great hug of thanks. The very hour that we had prayed the previous Sunday, Elinor had been healed!! The nurse on duty at the hospital said it was the first miracle they had ever seen there. Mark and family were able to take their vacation the next day to the USA!

Brothers and sisters in Christ..... **LET US COME BOLDLY TO THE THRONE OF GRACE!!**

Brother John