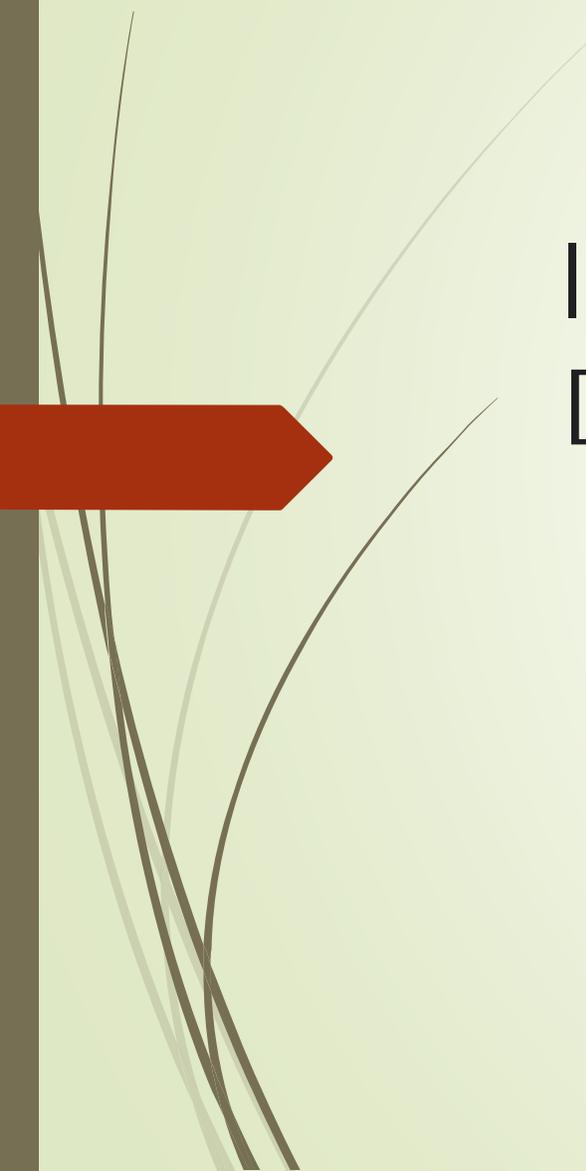




Grace

Janellen Capps | Kirtland Restoration Branch 2017



In The Beginning Grace was
Defined As....



Why Do We Struggle With Grace?

- ▶ Is it a doctrine or a “get out of jail free card”?
- ▶ Hebrew Translation of the Word Grace
 - ▶ Chen – Pronounced (Het-Nun) translation means “Kindness or Favor”
 - ▶ Halakhah – a set of Jewish Rules and practices.
 - ▶ A society based on a pendulum of either Honor or Shame
- ▶ Levitical Law: Merited and Unmerited Favor
 - ▶ Exodus 15:19-30
 - ▶ Numbers 11:1-12



The Book of Ruth

Type and Shadows of God's Grace Towards Us

- ▶ Naomi and Ruth lose all that held near and dear.
- ▶ Call me not Naomi, but call me Mara. (Bitter)
- ▶ Ruth's Name actually means "Mercy"
- ▶ Naomi makes a decision to return to her covenant people
- ▶ Ruth makes a 5-part commitment
 - ▶ I will go where you want me to go
 - ▶ Where you lodge I will lodge
 - ▶ Your People will be my people
 - ▶ Your God will be my God.
 - ▶ Where you die I will die



Chapter 2 – Boaz a ‘Type’ for Christ

- ▶ 2:1-8 Boaz/Christ bids us to come drink of His living waters.
- ▶ 2:9 Christ requires us to labor in the field, but puts a hedge around us.
- ▶ 2:10 When we become destitute, we beg for His mercy
- ▶ 2:11 Because we have had Grace upon others, He will have grace upon us.
- ▶ 2:12 The Lord will recompense us with a full reward.
- ▶ 2:14 The Lord bids us to come sup with Him. We are delivered. (Set-free).
- ▶ 2:15-18 The Lord longs to bless you abundantly.
- ▶ 2:16 He will “Find Favor” with you.
- ▶ 2:17 He encourages a good industry, a good harvest.
- ▶ 2:19 Let us not be found in any other field, where we may lose His Grace.



What Does Boaz teach us about Christ?

- ▶ In Boaz, we see a foreshadowing of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ. "Ruth's inability to do anything to alter her estate typifies our absolute helplessness. ([Rom. 5:6](#)).
- ▶ Boaz's willingness to pay the complete price (4:9) foreshadows Christ's full payment for our salvation.
- ▶ Christ Rewards Us By Offering Rest. Enter into His Rest. Now Naomi said to Ruth, "Should I not try to find a home [Hebrew: *manoach*, which, like the related word *minuchah*, means "a condition of rest and security.
- ▶ Ruth was boldly asking Boaz for a pledge from him to marry her. This same expression is used for God's relationship with Israel: "I spread the corner of my garment over you" ([Ezekiel 16:8](#)).
- ▶ Yahweh is the kinsman of the fatherless and widow and pleads their cause through his saving grace... Jesus is Boaz' later descendent.



The Book of Ruth and Ester Contain 17 Similar Spiritual Patterns of Grace

- Boaz and King Ahasuerus are both symbols of God's Grace.
- Both men hold positions of high power and own many properties.
- Both Ruth/Ester were foreigners, living with relatives.
- Both Ruth/Ester were ready to lay down their life for their cause.
- Both Ruth/Ester have a relative that is mentoring them. (Naomi/Mordecai)
- Both Ruth/Ester have a well laid plan toward a specific goal.
- Both Ruth/Ester fell/laid at the feet of Boaz/King Ahasuerus. (Ester 8:3)
- Both Ruth/Ester petition for favor (Ester 8:5)
- Both Ruth/Ester were dressed in special clothing for the banquet.
- Both Ruth/Ester "Entered into rest" (Ruth 3:1,



17 Similar Patterns of Grace, Continued

- ▶ Both stories include 'servants' who mentored/prepared each woman. (Naomi/Hegai)
- ▶ Both stories use similar words and phrases. "Grace/in favor of" and "virtuous/virgin."
- ▶ Both stories include a wedding and a marriage contract.
- ▶ Both stories include a banquet or feast before solidifying a covenant.
- ▶ Both stories involve three key individuals; The Master, The Servant, the Preparer
- ▶ Ruth is read by Jews at the Feast of Pentecost; Esther is read at the Feast of Purim.
- ▶ God redeemed Ruth to perpetuate the line of our Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ. God saved Esther to protect the nation through whom the Redeemer would be born.

The Chinese symbol for Grace is Lamb covering the image of a man.

羊 我 = 義
Lamb Me



It Was A Dark And Dreary Day...Then Came Christ. (Our Spokesperson, Our Example)

The real sacrifice that no one wants to talk about is the daily laying down of His Will, so that He could accomplish the will of His Father. It was the daily laying down of His life for each one of us, making himself of no reputation, as the scriptures say. Having no place to lay His head. Giving up any desire for the dreams of life that we all succumb to in order that He might spend His life sharing HIS **LIGHT** and **TRUTH** so that we all might **LIVE**. It was the daily imparting of His word that revealed Him to us, so that we could know him. So that we could understand all of His Heart, and have a desire to follow him. To be with Him Forever. A perfect example of giving Himself to us in every way, but keeping a part of Himself secret, until we have pursued Him with all diligence, at which time He will give the **FULL revelation** of Himself to us, after we have committed ourselves to him in fullness.



To be strong in grace, you must understand your new position in Christ through God's abundant grace.

- ▶ John 8:1-10 Grace Trumps the Law. (This scripture is also an analogy of seeing Grace in other people)
- ▶ I Nephi 1:113 God Trumps the Law.
- ▶ Isaiah 55:8-9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.
- ▶ I Corinthians 13:13. And now there remain faith, hope, and charity, these three: but the greatest of these is charity. Why is that? Faith and hope are gifts to grow in Grace in this world, but acts of charity are rewarded in both this world and then next. Law of Promises.



I Timothy 1:1-16

- ▶ Paul exhorts Timothy about his position in Christ, how we have been raised up with Him and must, therefore, keep seeking the things above. In other words, legalism never produces genuine godliness because it only deals with the flesh, not with the heart. Through grace, we have died to the flesh and we are made alive in Him. Living in view of these glorious truths is the key to holiness. (John 8)
- ▶ He exhorts Timothy not to be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, but to join Paul “in suffering for the gospel” (1:8). He mentions how Christ “brought life and immortality to light through the gospel” (1:10). In the context, the deposit which Timothy is to guard is the gospel (1:14).



I Timothy 2:1-13

- ▶ 2:1-7, Paul encourages Timothy to exercise his gifts to be a fruitful Christian. He is saying: To be a fruitful Christian, there is a person that you must be, (**strong** in grace; 2:1); there is a **task that you must do** (entrust the gospel to faithful men, who will teach others also; 2:2); and, there is a **price that you must pay**; 2:3-7).
- ▶ He uses three examples of those who suffer hardship for a greater goal: the **soldier** (2:3, 4); the **athlete** (2:5); and the **farmer** (2:7). Then (2:8-13), he gives three more examples of how present suffering leads to future glory: Jesus Christ, risen from the dead (2:8); and Paul, suffering so that God's elect will obtain eternal glory (2:9-10)
- ▶ To be a fruitful Christian, you must be strong in the Grace that is in Christ Jesus.



What are the qualities of the Soldier, the Athlete and the Farmer?

Soldier

Mentally

Endurance
Skill
Persevere
Single-Minded

Goal is to
Please His
Commanding
Officer

Athlete

Physically

Training
Discipline
Focus
Played By Rules

Pushes Harder
Towards The
Finish Line

Farmer

Spiritually

Patience
Strong Belief
Patterns
Faith

Works Solely For
The Harvest



II Peter 1:8-12

Growing Grace to Grace.

- Why Did Paul (Early Apostles, Early Restoration Saints) Endure Hardships?
- 8: Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me; but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God.
- 9: Who hath saved us, and called us with a holy calling (**He Found Favor**), not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and **Grace**, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.
- 12: For the which cause I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed.



Continued

- 19: We have therefore a more sure knowledge of the word of prophesy, to which word of prophecy ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light which shineth in a dark place, **until the day-dawn and the day-star arise in your hearts.**
- 20: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scriptures is given of any private will of man.
- 21: For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.



Acts 20:32

- ▶ Now I commit you to God and to the word of his **Grace**, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified...
- ▶ Life is not what it seems to men. If men would really live they must die to self, and recognize that even here, in this principle is absolutely no guarantee that their physical lives will be preserved. – **Arthur Oakman**



Grace As It Applies To Our Church

Ruth and Ester's Pattern of Grace

- 1. The People Struggle
- 2. A Spokesperson is Identified
- 3. Spokesperson Communicates with God Face to Face
- 4. Spokesperson Petitions on Behalf of the People
- 5. Grace is Received/Covenant
- 6. Rest is Rewarded. Sanctification
- 7. Prosperity is Blessed

Sanctified 'Churches' - Same Pattern of Grace Found

- *Genesis 33:11-14.*
- *Alma 10:3-6; 9:61*
- *III Nephi 10-12*
- *Church History Vol 2, p.46*

Moses/Children of Israel and Joseph Smith/ Early Restoration Saints Were Unable To Reach Steps 6 and 7.



Arthur Oakman

- The word of prophesy would create in those who had this “more sure knowledge” a disposition of spirit akin to the ‘day-star’. I am the Bright and Morning Star.” The ‘more sure knowledge” given to us by the Grace and testimony of Jesus has the power to cause to arise in the hearts of men that same spirit and Grace which activated the Lord Jesus. A Sanctified Life.
- D&C 50:6b. That which is of God is light, and he that receiveth light and continueth in God, receiveth more light, and that light growth brighter and brighter, until the perfect day. *This is the rising of the Son of God in the hearts of men in the last days.*
- “As the light of the morning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be.”



Earl Curry

- ▶ Our obedience as individuals cannot merit salvation; but it is the only evidence that we are partakers of the gift of God, which is eternal life through Jesus Christ, considering how many temptations we are compassed with, and what corrupt desires we have in our bosoms, we have great need to keep our hearts with all diligence. Those cannot walk aright, who walk carelessly.
- ▶ The **Grace** of God will correct and cure the spirit by nature in us; and where he gives **Grace**, he gives another spirit than that of the world. The proud resist God: in their understanding they resist the truths of God; in their will they resist the laws of God; in their passions they resist the providence of God; therefore, no wonder that God resists the proud.



Enter Into Rest (Hebrew Translation: *Manoach*)

- ▶ Holy Spirit of Promise
 - ▶ D&C 85:1c
 - ▶ D&C 85:2a, b
 - ▶ D&C 104:9
- ▶ D&C 85:6d Ye who are quickened by a portion of the celestial glory, shall then receive of the same, even a fullness.
- ▶ DC 43:6a,b,c Understanding follows obedience, not vice versa. Men must be inspired to do the will of God before enlightenment can come fully to them.
- ▶ Section 51:8d. Behold, ye are little children, and ye cannot bear all things now; **ye must grow in Grace**, in the knowledge of truth.