



Beginners **CHRISTIANITY** with David Gonzalez

Lesson 9 – Day 1

How I am Researching Grace

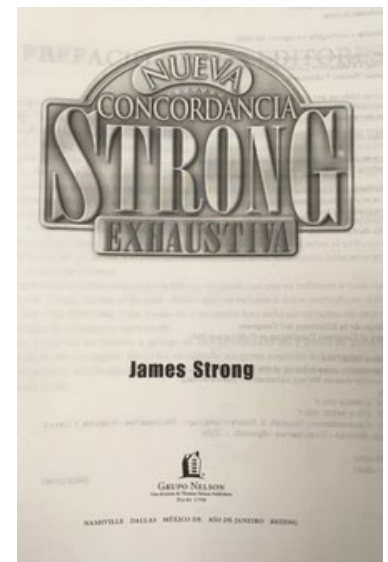
When many people think about grace, they believe the subject is the prayer that many grew up with at the dinner table, the prayer of grace over the food. Grace has some powerful anointings in it, and it is much, much more than a prayer, it is an anointing from God.

Grace is a spiritual force to beautify a personality, of a person, of a thing, even of a building or of a piece of land. Let's look at the first usage of the word "grace" in the New Testament in Luke 2:39-40,

"When they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city of Nazareth. The Child continued to grow and become strong, increasing in wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him."

The word "grace" here in the Greek text is the word "charis". The reason that I want you to know the Greek or Hebrew words behind the English translation, is many thoughts and ideas get lost in translation. So we want to know the original meaning and intent of the passage that the authors intended. Both the Greek and the Hebrew writers used "shades of meanings", to give the reader a specific idea or impression. We will do this first with this word charis. To investigate this word charis, we will also refer to what is known as "The Strong's Concordance". To give you understanding as to how I do research using the Strong's Concordance, here is Wikipedia's page on the origin and operation of Strong's.¹

"The Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible, generally known as Strong's Concordance, is a Bible concordance, an index of every word in the King James Version (KJV), constructed under the direction of American theologian James Strong. Strong first published his Concordance in 1890, while professor of exegetical theology at Drew Theological Seminary.



¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Strong%27s_Concordance

Strong's Concordance provides an index to the Bible. This allows the reader to find words where they appear in the Bible. It also lets the reader directly compare how the same word may be used elsewhere in the Bible.

Strong's numbers. Each original-language word (Hebrew or Greek) is given an entry number in the dictionary of those original language words listed in the back of the concordance. These have become known as the "Strong's numbers". The main concordance lists each word that appears in the KJV Bible in alphabetical order with each verse in which it appears listed in order of its appearance in the Bible, with a snippet of the surrounding text (including the word in italics). Appearing to the right of the scripture reference is the Strong's number. This allows the user of the concordance to look up the meaning of the original language word in the associated dictionary in the back, thereby showing how the original language word was translated into the English word in the KJV Bible."

This is where my research begins. Anyone who wants to become a serious student of the Bible, makes the Strong's Concordance the 2nd book added to his library, after the Bible. To purchase a copy of the Strong's, see the link at the bottom of this page.²

In later lessons, I will take you behind the scenes, and show you my library and body of work and filing systems, that I have developed over the last 40 years.

Now that you know why I am referencing "Strong's", let's look at an actual excerpt on this word Grace, in Greek, "charis".

Our prayer for today,

NT:5485

NT:5485 **ΧΑΡΙΣ** **charis** (khar'-ece); from NT:5463; graciousness (as gratifying), of manner or act (abstract or concrete; literal, figurative or spiritual; especially the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life; including gratitude):

Father, I thank You today for giving me a spirit of wisdom and show me the deeper things of Your word! As I study Grace, I know that Your Spirit will reveal Himself to me, in Jesus' mighty name, amen.

<https://davidgonzalezministries.org/?product=the-new-strongs-expanded-exhaustive-concordance-of-the-bible-hardcover>

² <https://davidgonzalezministries.org/?product=the-new-strongs-expanded-exhaustive-concordance-of-the-bible-hardcover>





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Lesson 9 – Day 2

Understanding Grace

Let's look at the definition of Grace from the Strong's Concordance,

NT:5485

χάρις charis (khar'-ece); from [NT:5463](#); graciousness (as gratifying), of manner or act (abstract or concrete; literal, figurative or spiritual; especially the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life; including gratitude):

The word for grace in the Greek is *charis*. As you can see above, this Greek word has a root word. Both Hebrew and Greek languages use the concepts of “roots”, when determining the origin and deeper meaning of a word. Here, as shown in the box above, it says, “from NT:5463”, meaning that *charis* sprouts from another word in the Greek. Let's look at NT:5463,

NT:5463

χαίρω chairo (khah'-ee-ro); a primary verb; to be "cheerful", i.e. calmly happy or well-off; impersonally, especially as salutation (on meeting or parting), be well:

KJV - farewell, be glad, God speed, greeting, hall, joy (-fully), rejoice.

Grace's root word “chairo”, is a verb, meaning a type of something in action, and this action means; “to be cheerful, calmly, happy, to be well-off.” In the KJV version of the bible, the word is interpreted as; be glad, joy, rejoice.

Grace then, gives a person a cheerful disposition, it makes their temperament calm, and they appear on the surface to have a happy countenance. So, when it is said of Jesus in Luke 2:40,

“The Child continued to grow and become strong, increasing in wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.”

This means that Jesus had a great personality as a baby and child, and was very likeable to those that He came into contact with. What an insight into the early life and personality of Jesus!

In the next lesson, we will study the Hebrew word for grace. Grace changed and expanded in power, when Jesus was conceived in the earth, from its operation under the old covenant. To fully understand this change, let's look at these two verses in Matthew 12:41-42,

“The men of Nineveh will stand up with this generation at the judgment, and will condemn it because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.”

“The Queen of the South will rise up with this generation at the judgment and will condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.”

Jonah's preaching was extremely effective. Despite running from God and trying to get away from his calling, Jonah in the action of his call, that is preaching to the city of Nineveh, had dramatic results! The king and all the people repented, because of what Jonah was preaching and declaring. As a result of Jonah's preaching, an enormous city was spared from destruction! Grace, objective beauty, was upon Jonah. Jesus is revealing that a greater grace is upon Himself than was upon Jonah.

Solomon's wisdom and intellectual attractiveness was in everything that he did. The queen of Sheba was astonished at the wisdom and beauty of everything that Solomon said, did, and built. Solomon had grace and favor, so that nothing compared with him, until Jesus! Jesus declaring, *“something greater than Solomon is here.”*

It was the New Covenant of grace from God that made the difference in Jesus' effectiveness.

Our prayer for today,

Father, pour out upon me Your Grace today, in Jesus' name, amen!





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Lesson 9 – Day 3

Grace is Supernatural

In the previous lesson, we found that Solomon had grace and favor, so that nothing compared with him, until Jesus! Jesus declared, “*something greater than Solomon is here.*”

Both Solomon and Jonah had “grace and favor”, an anointing “grace” under the old covenant. Jesus, under the new covenant, brought in a more robust action of grace than anyone had previously witnessed. Many times in the Old Testament grace is interpreted as “favor”. We can see this about Noah in Genesis 6:8,

“But Noah found favor in Yahweh's eyes.” WEB

Here is the Hebrew word for Grace or Favor in the Old Testament. Like the Greek word for grace, the Hebrew word also has a root word, so let's look at them both together. Notice that OT:2580 is from OT:2603.

OT:2580

יָחַן chen (khane); from [OT:2603](#); graciousness, i.e. subjective (kindness, favor) or objective (beauty):

KJV - favour, grace (-ious), pleasant, precious, [well-] favoured.

OT:2603

יָחַן chanan (khaw-nan'); a primitive root [compare [OT:2583](#)]; properly, to bend or stoop in kindness to an inferior; to favor, bestow; causatively to implore (i.e. move to favor by petition):

KJV - beseech, ^xfair, (be, find, shew) favour (-able), be (deal, give, grant (gracious (-ly), intreat, (be) merciful, have (shew) mercy (on, upon), have pity upon, pray, make supplication, ^xvery.

Root words reveal a lot about the character of a word that is built from it. Thus, we see here that the root word “Ka-nan”, is where “Kane”, grace or favor, comes from. What unique idea can we see expressed in the definition of OT:2603 above?

“To bend or stoop in kindness to an inferior.”

So, this favor or grace, in its usage describes an act by God, to bend or stoop to you and I, as inferiors, in giving us a spiritual blessing called grace. Grace then is spiritual, and it is a spiritual condition that God, in His infinite mercy, gives justly to human beings when we meet His conditions.

Grace is a spiritual condition. Jonah had this spiritual gift upon him to preach. Solomon had this spiritual gift upon him to lead the vast numbers of the people of Israel in peace for 40 years. Jesus had grace upon Him to carry out His pre-ministry schooling, when He was twelve, i.e., Luke 2:49,

“And He said to them, ‘Why is it that you were looking for Me? Did you not know that I had to be in My Father's house?’”

And Jesus had grace to successfully conclude and reach the “goal” of His ministry when He said in Luke 13:32, ***“Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I reach My goal.”*** The successful carrying out for God’s plan for your life, becomes easier, with the spiritual blessing of the grace of God. It is a spiritual condition that God bestows upon His inferiors, namely, us!

Our prayer for today,

Father, bestow upon me Your spiritual blessing of grace, and have me walk in a way that is pleasing to You, in Jesus’ name, amen!





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Lesson 9 – Day 4

Grace is like Faith

Grace defined is “to bend or stoop in kindness to an inferior”. Faith is described in Hebrews 11:1,

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” KJV

Although faith exists, you cannot see it. It is a supernatural substance that serves us. You cannot see faith, but you can see the results of faith. In Matthew 21:21, Jesus explains the results of faith.

“And Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Truly I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ it will happen.’”

Faith makes things happen for no natural explainable reason. Just as faith is a supernatural force, grace also is a supernatural force. Faith is our responsibility, and we are to demonstrate our faith. Grace is more a gift from God, bending down in kindness, with a supernatural force, to an inferior being. You cannot see the force of grace, but you can see the results of grace.

The Old Testament scriptures translate the word grace (khane) as favor. Where grace is understood as something spiritual and invisible, favor is understood as something natural and noticeable to others. Although the Hebrew word is the same, the Old Testament writers liken grace and favor together; and modern translators are more inclined to give a word in English that shows the results of the power of grace. Here are a few examples of the word ‘khane’ being translated as favor, rather than as grace.

Genesis 6:8,

“But Noah found favor in Yahweh's eyes.” WEB

Exodus 3:21-22,

“I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, and it will happen that when you go, you shall not go empty-handed. But every woman shall ask of her neighbor, and of her who visits her house, jewels of

silver, jewels of gold, and clothing; and you shall put them on your sons, and on your daughters. You shall despoil the Egyptians.” WEB

This next verse is complicated, but when properly translated, it gives us a clue as to why God bestows grace and favor. The Hebrew word behind the word favor here, is actually the word FACE. When we seek His face, things begin to happen. Psalm 119:58,

“I sought Your favor (face) with all my heart; Be gracious (khane) to me according to Your word.”

When we seek God’s face, He confirms His own Word and bestows grace, that results in obvious favor to you and around you.

Our prayer for today;

Father, as I seek Your face in obedience to Your Word, be gracious to me, in Jesus’ name I pray, amen.





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Lesson 9 – Day 5

The Depth of Grace

In this week's lesson, we have studied several concepts of grace. Now I want to give you the full measure of the definitions of grace from the viewpoint of advanced theological interpretation. Many historical studies of biblical Hebrew have traditionally attempted to sum up this spiritual gift from God. To do this, let's first look at Psalm 84:11,

“For Yahweh (Elohim) God is a sun and shield; Yahweh gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.”

This is a powerful and revealing scripture. God says that He is a shield, that He is brighter than the sun, and that His warmth extends to us. Then He says, *“Yahweh gives grace and glory...”* These two words “grace and glory”, are first spiritual, then become material and natural. Grace is a spiritual force, and as a result always begins a blessing. Grace is first a spiritual blessing, and glory is the result of grace in the material form of favor and glory. What good would a blessing be if it had no effect on our livelihood? Grace, as it matures into visible favor, will cause others to treat you differently. Many good things that happen in this fallen world might be the result of the unseen spiritual force of grace.

In chapter 4 of this lesson, we found that the English words grace and favor are interchangeably used in translating the Biblical Hebrew of the Old Testament. I believe the reason is that the understanding of the spiritual force of grace was not spiritually appraised before Christ appeared. Favor is the result of grace. The inspiration of the Holy Spirit upon the writers of scripture, put the grace of God in the light of understanding of that time period. Grace is a gift of God, bending down and stooping to an inferior being, and thus appearing to the natural senses as favor.

Favor, when it originates with the power of God, we call this supernatural favor. So, grace is God's gift to us, which produces over time, supernatural favor, which appears in the natural as glory.

Again, the definition of grace; the qualities of a person or thing that give pleasure to the senses, objective beauty, loveliness, charm, graciousness, whatever is pleasant and agreeable, to be beautified, to encamp about (thus to hang around).

TAKE THIS QUIZ

(Remember, grace and favor, can be upon people, places and things.)

1. If a house has grace, what would it be like and look like?

2. If a restaurant has grace and favor, what would the atmosphere and food be like?

3. If a park has grace, what would it be like and what would be in it?

4. If a ministry has grace, how would it function?

5. If you have grace, what kind of miracles would happen around you?

6. If a country has grace, how would it operate and treat its citizens?

7. If a house has grace upon it, how would be different than the houses around it?

Our prayer for today.

Father, reveal to me the grace, favor, and glory that You have continually guided me by. Reveal to my mind Your grace flowing to me daily. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.





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Lesson 9 – Day 6

Releasing Grace as a Blessing

Since we've discovered that God Himself releases blessings, and grace is stooping down to an inferior being in an act of kindness, let's see how we can duplicate that same act of love. Here are a few scriptures that Jesus gave us.

Luke 6:27-28, 31-33, 36-38,

“But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

“Treat others the same way you want them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.”

“Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; and do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure — pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return.”

Notice: those who bless are blessed back in return. Those who pardon are pardoned. By the same measure and level of your blessing, shall you be blessed back in return.

Romans 12:14-21,

“Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men.

“If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY,” says the Lord. “BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD.”

“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”

All blessings and curses are given verbally, or can be written down and released once the document leaves your possession.

Now I encourage you to release a blessing of this grace to yourself, your surroundings, your home, and your place of work or business. Release your blessing of grace upon your spouse, your children and extended family. Release this blessing of grace over your state, your country and where you live. Release your blessing of grace for this ministry, your ministry, and those that feed you spiritually.

(read aloud)

Father, in the name of Your Son Jesus, I release Your Spirit of grace upon my life. I release Your grace upon my family and my spouse, upon my children and grandchildren. I release Your grace upon my home, my vehicles, my land(s), and all my property. Grace be upon my personal possessions and furniture, my kitchen and appliances, and my clothing and tools. I release Your grace upon my spiritual growth, my finances, my debts, and my health. 3 John 2 says, *“Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers.”*

In the name of Jesus, I release Your Spirit of grace upon our country and state, upon our school systems and our legal systems and government bodies.

I ask for grace to be released upon my church and pastor, and upon all those who are in this ministry with me. In Galatians 6:10 it says, *“So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.”* Father, make visible this blessing of grace continually, in Jesus’ name, amen!

“But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace.” Romans 11:6

