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#### **VOLUME: 21 / ISSUE: 3**

Today's Scripture text is **Exodus** 33:13-14: "Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people. And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest."

Over the past several months I have witnessed many believers becoming terribly discouraged, disappointed, fearful, and full of anxiety. As believers, our focus must remain solely upon Jesus Christ when things don't turn out as we expect or desire.

During this time I have humbly sought the Lord and my daily petition has been simple: "Lord, show me the way." If there was ever a time each of us needs to know the way, it is now.

I want you to understand the setting as Moses petitions Elohim to grant him divine grace in his hour of personal need. We witness in Exodus chapter 32 the man of God has gone up to the mount to receive the 10 Commandments; two tablets, which were the work of Elohim.

In addition, Moses was in the process of receiving divine instructtion concerning the Tabernacle and its components.

While Moses was upon the mountain in the presence of Elohim, the people of Israel questioned why the man of God had been delayed in coming down. Because of this delay, the carnally-minded Israelites coerced Aaron, the high priest, to make a molten calf. They soon perverted themselves into a drunken orgy and sacrificed unto this false God, declaring: "These be thy gods,"

### SHOW ME NOW THE WAY!

# O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt" (Exodus 32:4).

Sadly, the man of God has to grapple and endure this great faction of people who are the embodiment of sin and rebellion.

Needless to say, the task and charge Elohim placed upon Moses is one of great futility. This is why we read: "Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth" (Numbers 12:3).

The man of God was endowed with meekness like no one before or after him, other than Christ Jesus. However, even though Moses fully understands the gravity and the significance of his human fragility in getting God's people to the Promised Land, he understands something far greater than anything else and that is God's grace.

Even though the man of God is living under the Law, he pleads for Grace.

Grace is truly amazing as Jehovah deals with each of us through His unmerited favor. Grace, *khane* in Hebrew, according to Strong's Exhaustive Concordance, means: *merciful*, *pleasant*, *and well favored*.

I find it absolutely amazing; the magnitude and gravity of God's grace that Moses found even while under the Law. Moses was in intercessory prayer when he sought grace from Elohim, and he was desirous to find grace in God's sight.

It is only by God's grace that every believer is able to petition Jehovah in times of trouble.

I'm quickly reminded of the words of the apostle Paul, "Let us therefore come boldly unto the

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throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16). What a blessing indeed, to approach the throne of God's grace with unrestricted boldness.

The Greek word for "boldly" is parresia: to approach the throne of God with frankness, bluntness, assurance, and with sheer confidence. What a powerful, gracious disposition we believers can possess when approaching the throne of grace. We must understand we can never approach the throne of grace based upon our merits; but only because of what Christ accomplished on the cross. If we understand the gravity and magnitude of the cross then we understand why we can now boldly approach Jehovah's throne of grace without hesitancy or fear of rejection.

Jesus paid, as well as paved, the way for every believer to have this unrestricted boldness when approaching the Father. If man needed to merit something in approaching the throne of grace, then Christ death was in vain. Man is completely unable to merit anything concerning Gods riches: furthermore, no one has a stake or a claim on God Almighty.

When reading this Scripture text, the gravity of what was taking place is phenomenal. Moses was imploring the Lord God of Abraham to show him the way to lead the nation of Israel into the Promised Land.

Without a doubt, Israel was backslidden, which was demonstrated by their worship of a false god. Elohim resisted them because of their wickedness and evil sins. In chapter 32, we witness Elohim removing His presence from Israel and remaining outside the camp. Elohim was so angry He no longer wanted to abide in the presence of such a sinful and wicked people. Elohim was truly infuriated with His people.

Instead of going with Israel, Elohim was going to send an angel with Moses: "And I will send an angel before thee; and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite" (Exodus 33:2).

Because of His divine covenant with Abraham, God could not fail His chosen people. Because of Israel's sins, God was angry, and rather than go with them He was now going to send an angel to bring them in.

It is hard to imagine but an angel was not good enough for Moses, he wanted Elohim. By God's mercy, Elohim is willing to return to their camp and suffer His holy presence in their midst. We observe the man of God powerfully pulling at the heart of God. Elohim suddenly reverses His decision and is willing to go with Moses all the way to the Promise Land.

That is the personification of divine grace. It is truly imperative that each of us petition the Lord to show us the way.

Moses knew Elohim would show him the way because he had found grace in His sight. When God's grace is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, that gives each of us guidance and direction. When anyone has God's grace, His unmerited favor, they also possess His divine presence.

Look with me at Exodus 33:17, "And the Lord said unto Moses, I will do this thing also that thou hast spoken: for thou hast found grace in my sight, and I know thee by name." If each of us spent more time in His presence, our desires

would conform to His will. This is exactly what the psalmist, King David, meant when he declared "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass" (Psalm 37:4-5).

When each believer spends enough time in God's presence, what He has willed ultimately becomes our desire. By the means of an intimate relationship with our Father through the Holy Spirit, Jehovah is able to fashion us according to His divine will.

From the very beginning, it was the will of Elohim to bring Israel into the Promised Land, but their sins negatively affected God's ability to lead them.

Moses was a type and shadow of Jesus Christ. While he was negotiating with Elohim under the dispensation of the Law, Elohim granted Moses an immeasurable amount of grace. It was the very grace of God that allowed Moses to speak so intimately with Elohim and to come before His throne of grace. Only the grace of God allows this kind of intimacy.

We all are afforded this divine grace and opportunity, but regrettably few take advantage of it. Most are too preoccupied with the cares of this present life.

Let me encourage you to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset [you]" (Hebrews 12:1). Jesus issues a solemn warning to each of us: "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that they come upon you unawares" (Luke 21:34).

To be "overcharged" means to be overly burdened with our daily lives. There is no doubting; it is very easy to find ourselves overcharged in this hour. If we are overly burdened with the cares of this life, then those things can distract us from the perfect will of God.

I am still asking for God's judgments in America and to expose the evildoers. But we must remember judgment first begins with the Church, His body.

We are warned: "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? And if the righteous scarcely (hardly) be saved, where shall the ungodly (wicked) and the sinner appear?" (1 Peter 4:17-18)

While I am looking for judgment in the earth, I also believe God will soon judge ministries and ministers for their gross sins which they think are hidden.

Thank you so very much for your continued love and support for this ministry. Please pray we can soon have a gathering in the coming months. We all need to be in the divine presence of the Holy Ghost. Every time I have ever experienced a true Holy Spirit filled service, I sense a renewed power as He cleanses, sanctifies, and refreshes me through His divine presence.

Please send us your prayer requests via e-mail or letter and we will sincerely take them to our Lord's throne of grace. You can find those addresses in the letterhead and on our website.

Remember, it is our prayers that provide the incense for His altar: "And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours (or incense), which are the prayers of saints" (Revelation 5:8).

Serving With You All,

David W. Lankford Pastor / Evangelist