

**PREPARED TO LIVE IN VICTORY:  
CALLED TO ETERNAL GLORY BY THE GOD OF ALL GRACE**

*Houses of Light Church • July 8-9, 2023 • Pastor Netz Gómez*

**1 Pet. 5:10-11**

**“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. <sup>11</sup> To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.”**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

A. **“And after you have suffered a little while”** We live in a culture where suffering is avoided at all costs, but Scripture gives us proper perspective about seasons of trial. Here we are **not** told that we are not going to suffer but that **when** we have suffered for a little while we can see it in two ways:

1. **The seasons of our life in which we are tested, which God allows, to be later vindicated by Him.** Throughout Scripture we see people who went through times of testing and were ultimately established by God: Joseph, David, Peter, and Jesus himself after the temptation in the desert.
2. **It can also refer to the duration of our life in which time and again we go through various trials and afflictions which will result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is manifested..**

**1 Ped. 1:6-7 “In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”**

B. Human life is as fleeting as grass and compared to eternity it can be seen as a little while.

**1 Pet. 1:24-25 “for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, <sup>25</sup> but the word of the Lord remains forever.”**

C. So the promise is that if you spend a lifetime of suffering you must keep in mind that an eternal glory is coming that will surpass this temporary suffering millions of times.

**2 Cor. 4:17 “For **this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison.”****

**II. THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD WHO CALLED US**

**1 Pet. 5:10b “the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ.”**

A. **“the God of all grace”** It refers to all the grace we need to reach eternal glory in Christ Jesus. This total grace is the provision of power that Christ gives us which fills our gaps and empowers us to fulfill this call.

**1 Cor. 15:10 "But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me."**

- B. **"who has called you"** The call of God is His action to bring us out of darkness into His admirable light, which began with the new birth. This call is so effective that it makes us come to Him and His sovereign grace makes it come true. Something that we can reflect is if we enjoy being called by God.

**1 Pet. 2:9 "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."**

- C. **"to his eternal glory in Christ"** The great foundation of this eternal glory to which we are called is that it is *in Christ Jesus*, which means that security is total because it is not because of our merits but in the value, the resurrection, the perfection of the justice of the work of Christ.

**Jn. 1:17 "For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."**

- D. Eternal glory begins when this short time of our earthly life is over and we see the fullness of our salvation (1 Pet. 1:4), eternal rewards and our resurrected bodies.
- E. **"will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you"** What the Holy Spirit is telling us here is what **God himself** will do for us after the sufferings that we have lived in this world:

1. **He Himself will restore us:** The Lord will restore all things but particularly also our body that perhaps has been overwhelmed by illness or affliction. If you have been devastated in different ways, you need restoration and the Father has promised to carry it out.

**Phil. 3:21 "[Jesus Christ] ...will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself."**

2. **He Himself will affirm us:** After all the uncertainty, we who live in this world will be placed on a firm foundation forever.

**Rev. 3:12 "The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name."**

3. **He Himself will strengthen us:** You need to be strengthened so that you can do the things that you were not able to do after so much suffering because much of your strength is depleted.

**1 Cor. 15:42-43** *"So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. <sup>43</sup> It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power."*

4. **He himself will establish us:** so that our future is absolutely unshakable.

**Rev. 21:3-4** *"And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <sup>4</sup> He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."*

- F. Considering this restoration, affirmation, strength and establishment is precisely putting our mind into action placing all our hope in the grace that will be brought to us when Jesus Christ is manifested (1 Pet. 1:13) and this is what allows us to persevere until the end. end and resist the devil by standing firm in the faith.

### III. FIRM IN THE TRUE GRACE OF GOD

**1 Pet. 5:12** *"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."*

- A. **"exhorting and declaring that this is the true grace of God."** The entire letter of Peter speaks of the true grace of God: Everything that the prophets saw coming for Christianity is placed under the banner of grace (1 Pet. 1:10). Everything that comes to us with the second coming of Christ, our being freed from the wrath of God and our entry into eternal life is called grace (1 Pet. 1:13). Wives are joint heirs of grace with husbands (1 Pet. 3:7). Everything we do for each other in the body of Christ is possible because we have been given grace (1 Pet. 4:10-11).

- B. **So the emphasis is on God as the origin of everything and us as the beneficiaries of His immense grace.** We need help and He is glorious that He has plenty enough for all of us (Jn. 1:16).

- C. When Peter says **"true grace"** he is indicating that there was a false grace and he distinguishes his teaching as the true grace of God.

**Jud. 1:4** *"For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ."*

- D. **There were preachers of grace, just like today, who changed grace into licentiousness and sensuality and denied Jesus Christ, which is why Peter says: "stand firm in this true grace"** Grace is relief, joy, acceptance, forgiveness, love but we must distinguish it from false grace because it is precisely this true grace that empowers us to be firm doing the will of God and it is not the permission to do what we want.

**Tit. 2:11-12** *"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, 12 training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age."*

- E. This is the true grace in which we must stand, which means that if you take God's grace well, you know that it is both forgiveness to be freed from condemnation but also the power to do good works. So if someone ever preaches to you and doesn't insist that true grace is the power to stand and be holy, they are not telling you about the true grace of God.

#### **IV. REFLECTION QUESTIONS**

- 1. According to this teaching, what are the two ways we understand when Peter says "suffer a little while"?**
- 2. Do you consider that you are placing your hope in the grace that will be brought to us when Christ is revealed? Explain how.**
- 3. How can we distinguish true grace from false grace?**

#### **THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 1. Our Vacation Bible School (VBS) begins Monday July 10 - 14. For children ages 4-12. Donation includes lunch and excursion to Medieval Times. Please sign up today at the table outside.**
- 2. HOLY58 special youth service this Wednesday, July 12 at 7:00 p.m.**
- 3. Level 3 in Spanish online of the Effective Parenting Course begins on Wednesday, July 19. Please register at the report desk or at [housesoflight.org](http://housesoflight.org)**
- 4. World Mission University has already opened its registration for the new cycle. For more information you can go to the information table with Estela. The requirements are: having finished Affirming Your Steps and the Discipleship School.**
- 5. The Passion For Jesus Conference and Leadership Summit offer a discount for those who register early, ending Monday, July 10. Please Register today at the table outside or at [www.nhop.la](http://www.nhop.la)**