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## To Appropriate Grace

*It is only by your grace that I will not fail to appropriate the grace by which I will not fail you, to do the things pleasing in your sight.*

*Appropriate* means to take for oneself (what is freely given to sustain life and peace).

We fail to appropriate because we fail to go to the throne of grace to receive the grace that belongs to us to fight the good fight, for which our spirits are suited (Eph 3:12; Heb 4:16). Or rather we *mis-appropriate* it as soon as we receive it. We pilfer it as soon as we get it. We don't cherish it as a precious gift, that is, we're not thankful. To *mis-appropriate* is to mis-apply it.

*Appropriation* means allocation, allotment of grace earmarked for the purpose it is given, set apart for the specific reason, unless as Paul said in 1 Cor 15:2, we received grace in vain.

Do we receive grace in vain? Do we fail to appropriate what is ours to use for only doing the will of the One who gave it to us (Isa 53:10)?

Why do we receive grace? Why does He dispense it to us? Why don't we receive grace to live a life pleasing to Him so His purpose can be done on earth? Without grace His purpose cannot be done, unless His will can be carried out by the flesh (1 Pet 4:11). Like it says, *in vain do the bellows blow* (Jer 6:29). Why do we sin, or why do we not do what is pleasing to Him (1 Jn 3:22)?

## Free Access to Grace

Grace! What is it? How do you get it? It is the same as with wisdom — wisdom is gotten by *getting* it. There is free access to the getting place.

As Sons of God He has given you His gas card on His account. But you have to go get the gas. All you have to do is go and give the card to the attendant and he fills you up. We have received the *card* to get grace. We can say *No* to ungodliness, not because we have the card alone, but because we use the card for the purpose it was given.

To have free access with boldness and confidence is like having a card. If you pulled up to the gas station without the card (and the only way you can get gas at the station is by the card) you would not have any confidence or boldness. The card gives you the boldness and the confidence. It's like having His faith in your pocket (heart).

It's like having a wrist band at a rock festival. You can go outside and come back without any fear. You can go boldly and confidently in through all the guards, and they just nod their head and smile at you. You have confidence not because of anything else except the fact that you have the *pass*, administrative authorization, qualification, etc.

In Eph 3:12 it says through our union with Him and through our faith which we have. We never lose the faith. It is a gift, and we always carry the *card* with us for all the grace we need in our time of need (1 Cor 10:13; Heb 4:16). We don't have to run on empty — the gas station is always in sight. A person in union can have communion any time he *wants* to. Do you *want* to?

Is it appropriate to appropriate His grace in a time of need? 1 Cor 15:2 — to receive the card in vain. Paul was saying the card was the grace. Having the card is the same as having a full tank. It's almost like a person's lungs. Paul could have said you have lungs in vain — everyone dying from lack of oxygen. The card is grace — the Spirit of Eph 1:13.