GRACE ORIENTATION (part 1)

In our Introduction lesson, we learn that teleiology is the study of meat (solid food) doctrines essential for spiritual growth maturity of the Church Age Believer (CAB).

(Heb.5:14) "But solid (meat) food <u>is for the mature</u> (teleios), who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil." (1 Cor.2:6-10).

Today, we will study six points of the first of twelve meat doctrines of teleiology called "Grace Orientation".

1. The Hebrew word that is normally used in the OT for grace is chen. It is normally translated by the English word favor – "But Noah found <u>favor</u> in the eyes of the Lord." (Gen.6:8)

The Hebrew word <u>chen</u> is a synonym for the Greek word <u>charis</u> and the English word "grace".

Charis is used this way in the Gospels and especially in the Book of Luke.

(Luke 2:52) "And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and <u>favor (charis</u>) with God and men" (1 Pet.2:18-21).

(Luke 1:28) "Hail, favored one (charitoo / perf.p.ptc.VSF)! The Lord is with you" [Gabriel to Mary].

"The idea of grace more than any other idea binds the two testaments together into a complete work, for the Bible is the story of the saving work of God, that is, the grace of God." (Theological Word Book of the Bible, pg.101)

2. The biblical concept of Grace depends completely (100%) upon the Character and Plan of God and never upon man – "The God of all grace." (1 Pet.5:10)

"Grace proceeds entirely from within God and is no way conditioned by anything in object of His favor." (I.S.B.E, vol.2, pg.1290)

(Rom.11:6) "But if (1cc) [and it's true] it is by grace, it is <u>no longer</u> on the basis of works, otherwise grace is <u>no longer</u> grace."

God's grace is always sufficient

(2 Cor.12:9) "<u>My grace is sufficient</u> (arkeo / p.a.ind.3ps) for you, for power is perfected (teleioo / p.p.ind.3ps) in weakness."

For God to meet a human need, it must be compatible with His character and word:

(Acts 20:32) "And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified."

3. God's grace can only be freely bestowed where the judicial charges of Adam's Original Sin (AOS) have been pardoned by faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ (1 Cor.15:1-4; Rom.1:16; Acts 20:24) [the gospel of the grace of God] (Titus 2:11-14).

- (Eph.2:8-9) "For by grace **you have been saved** through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast."
- (Rom.3:24) "Being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus."
- (Rom.3:28) "For we maintain that a man is justified by faith <u>apart from</u> works of the law;

(2 Tim.1:9; Titus 3:5)

Grace salvation is based entirely upon the merit of the person and work of Jesus Christ and not upon man.

- (Acts 15:11) "But we believe that we are saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, in the same way as they also are." (Heb.2:9)
- (Eph.1:7) "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses (AOS), according to the <u>riches of His grace</u>."

4. Grace is the unrecompensed gift of God without any payment, work, or debt upon man.

(Rom.4:4) "Now to the one who works, his wages is not reckoned <u>as a favor</u>, but as what is due." (Rom.5:15-17; 6:14; 11:6)

Human merit can no more maintain righteous standing before God than it can attain it (Titus 3:5-7; Gal.2:16) – (2 Tim.1:9) "Who has saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, <u>but according</u> to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity."

5. God's grace operates through the following three phases of the plan of God

(Ps.5:12) "For it is Thou who dost bless the righteous man, O Lord, Thou dost surround him with favor with a shield."

The bible closes with this grace Amen salutation, "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen." (Rev.22:21)

Three phases of the Plan of God

٠	Ph. I	Salvation	(Eph.2:8-9; Rom.5:1-2)
٠	Ph. II	The Believer in Time (CWL)	(2 Pet.3:18; James 4:6)
٠	Ph. III	The Believer in Eternity	(1 Pet.1:13; 2 Pet.1:11-15)

"Man is permitted to do nothing until God has done all that His grace designed." (Grace by Chafer, pg.10)

6. There are six important categories of God's grace in the CWL

(Eph.3:2) "If indeed you have heard of the <u>stewardship of God's grace</u> which was given to me for you." (Church age dispensation)

The CWL functions under these six categories of Grace Operating Assets (GOA) and by works of the law or legalism.

(2 Cor.8:9) "And God is able to make <u>all grace abound to you</u>, that always having **all sufficiency in everything**; you may have an abundance for every good deed."

Six categories of Grace Operating Assets in the CWL

	Saving grace Logistical grace	Eph.2:8-10; 1:5-7 Phil.4:19; Acts 13:43
	Spiritual growth maturity	2 Pet.3:18; Heb.13:9; 2 Tim.2:1
•	Suffering grace	2 Cor.12:9-10; Phil.1:27-30; 1 Pet.5:10
•	Dying grace	Phil.1:20-23; 2 Cor.5:6-10; 2 Tim.4:6-8
•	Surpassing grace	Eph.2:7; 1 Pet.1:13; 2 Pet.1:11-15; Titus 2:13

(2 Thess.2:16-17) "Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace, comfort and strengthen your hearts in every good work and word."