



Title: A year of grace
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Grace defined: God's undeserved goodness and favour shining upon us.

Great grace was upon them all:

Acts 4:32–33 (NKJV) ³² Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; ... ³³ And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all.

Grace flourishes in the right context

2 Corinthians 12:9–10 (NKJV) ⁹ And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ For when I am weak, then I am strong.

When we come to the end of ourselves that is when God starts.

Grace is released through a promise

The door to grace

- **A promise is the door where grace will flow into our lives.**
Seek the promise and you will find grace.
- **A promise gives a new context (& a new expectation)**

Genesis 12:1–3 (NKJV) ¹ Now the LORD had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, From your family And from your father’s house, To a land that I will show you. ² **I will make you** a great nation; **I will bless you** And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. ³ **I will bless** those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

- **The promise anchors our souls** – it brings hope (strong expectation)

Hebrews 6:19 (AMP) ¹⁹ [Now] we have this [hope] as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul [it cannot slip and it cannot break down under whoever steps out upon it—a hope] that reaches farther and enters into [the very certainty of the Presence] within the veil.

- **The promise of God leads us into the presence of God**

Hebrews 6:19 NLT ...it leads us through the curtain into God’s sanctuary...

Keep standing (at that door)

Revelation 4:1 After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven...

Ephesians 6:10–13 (NKJV) ¹⁰ ... be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able **to stand** against the wiles of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to **withstand** in the evil day, and **having done all, to stand.**

- **Position yourself and stand.**
- **Keep knocking:** *Knock and the door will be opened to you...*
- **Stopping short:** *“My people don’t trust Me till breakthrough. They stop short.”*
- **Don’t kick the door down, God will open it:** *He promised, therefore He will perform it.*
 - Impatience will get us into trouble.
- **Doing it in our own strength**

- To believe the promise is to “see” the promise as a done deal;

Hebrews 11:11 (AMP) because she considered [God] Who had given her the promise to be reliable and trustworthy and true to His word.

- The promise will come, if you don't doubt – so don't give up!

The fulfilment of the promise

Hebrews 11:1-2 AMP *Now faith is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see and the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses]. 2 For by [faith—^ptrust and holy fervor born of faith] the men of old had divine testimony borne to them and obtained a good report.*

Hope: The Greek term *elpis* or *hope* denotes “**confident expectation**” or “**anticipation**”— not “wishful thinking.” Hope is consequently an expectation or belief in the fulfillment of God's promises, Biblical hope is hope in what God will do in the future.¹

Taking possession: Claiming God's promise.

Conclusion

1. Get a promise
2. Position at the promise. Keep standing, until you receive title deed. Then take possession of your promised land...

¹ Carpenter, E. E., & Comfort, P. W. (2000). *Holman treasury of key Bible words: 200 Greek and 200 Hebrew words defined and explained* (305). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers.