## Good Gracious Me

2 PETER 3:18

• 2 Peter 3:18 - <sup>18</sup> But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever. Amen. • The Hebrew word for grace is chen (khane) which means: graciousness, kindness or favor.

• There is a personal quality or relationship for grace to be given.

• The Greek word for grace is charis which means: graciousness in manner or act.

• Spiritually it means: the divine influence upon the heart and its reflection in the life. (Strong's Exhaustive Concordance)

• 2 Peter 1:2-3 - <sup>2</sup> Grace and peace [that special sense of spiritual well-being] be multiplied to you in the [true, intimate] knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. <sup>3</sup> For His divine power has bestowed on us [absolutely] everything necessary for [a dynamic spiritual] life and godliness, through true and personal knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. (AMP)

• Without grace, there is no salvation or sanctification process.

• How can we tell when we are growing in grace? We being changed daily more and more into the image of Jesus Christ

• Grace transforms the way we think and therefore transforms the way we talk.

• Colossians 4:6 - <sup>6</sup> Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

• Ephesians 4:29 - <sup>29</sup> Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

• <sup>29</sup> Do not let unwholesome [foul, profane, worthless, vulgar] words ever come out of your mouth... (AMP)

• Once the thoughts are entertained, then we are guilty even if we did not utter a word.

• Proverbs 23:7 – As a man thinks in his heart, so is he...

• Colossians 3:15-17 - <sup>15</sup> And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

• "I can safely say, on the authority of all that is revealed in the Word of God, that any man or woman on this earth who is bored and turned off by worship is not ready for heaven." – A.W. Tozer

• The more we are influenced by the Holy Spirit, the more our natural response to Jesus is worship.

• "We are saved to worship God. All that Christ has done in the past and all that He is doing now leads to this one end." – A.W. Tozer

• When I take grace for granted, I cease to be enthralled with worshiping God.

• Grace moves me closer to Christ and the closer I get, the more unworthy I know I am and the more worthy I know He is.

• 1 Peter 4:10-11 - 10 Just as each one of you has received a special gift [a spiritual talent, an ability graciously given by God], employ it in serving one another as [is appropriate for] good stewards of God's multi-faceted grace [faithfully using the diverse, varied gifts and abilities granted to Christians by God's unmerited favor]. 11 Whoever speaks [to the congregation], is to do so as one who speaks the oracles (utterances, the very words) of God. Whoever serves [the congregation] is to do so as one who serves by the strength which God [abundantly] supplies, so that in all things God may be glorified [honored and magnified] through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. (AMP)

• As we grow in grace, we also grow as servants. Servants do not try to be the master, only please their master.

• Servants serve from a place of humility, grace reminds us of who we are and where we would be without Jesus.

• Ephesians 3:7 - 7 Of this [gospel] I was made a minister by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of His power. (AMP)

• 2 Timothy 1:9 - 9 For God saved us and called us to live a holy life. He did this, not because we deserved it, but because that was his plan from before the beginning of time—to show us his grace through Christ Jesus. (NLT)

• 2 Timothy 2:1-3 - So you, my son, be strong [constantly strengthened] and empowered in the grace that is [to be found only] in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> The things [the doctrine, the precepts, the admonitions, the sum of my ministry] which you have heard me teach in the presence of many witnesses, entrust [as a treasure] to reliable and faithful men who will also be capable and qualified to teach others. <sup>3</sup> Take with me your share of hardship [passing through the difficulties which you are called to endure], like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. (AMP)

• The more I grow in grace, the more I realize how much I need Jesus.

• The more I embrace my weakness and bring them to Jesus, the more grace the Holy Spirit can pour out in my life.