

GRACE ORIENTATION

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 is for the mature (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 favor in the eyes of the Lord.” (Gen.6:8)**

The Hebrew word chen is a synonym for the Greek word charis 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 favor (charis) with God and men”
(1 Pet.2:18-21).

(Luke 1:28) “Hail, favoured 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 no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace.”

God’s grace is always sufficient

(2 Cor.12:9) “My grace is sufficient (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 apart from 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.

(Eph.1:7) “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses (AOS), according to the riches of His grace.”

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

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

(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.”