

THE DOCTRINE OF THE SIX STAGES OF GRACE (#7) **Dying Grace (#2)**

We are currently studying the doctrine of the six stages of God's Grace in the Christ Way of Life (CWL).

- Saving Grace
- Logistical Grace
- Growth Maturity Grace
- Undeserved Suffering Grace
- **Dying Grace**
- Surpassing Grace.

Dying Grace is the link between grace blessings on earth and grace blessing in heaven for the CAB.

(Phil.1:20-21) "According to my earnest expectation (ten apokaradokia) [Word of God] and hope (elpis) [God of the Word], that I should **not** be put to shame in anything, **but** with all boldness, Christ shall even now, as always, be exalted (megalunao / f.p.ind.3ps) [magnified] in my body, whether by life (zoe) or by death (thanatos). For to me, to live (zao / p.a.infin) **is Christ**, and to die (apothnesko / a.m.infin) is gain."

R.B. Thieme said it well, "Saving grace is the best for time, dying grace is better, and surpassing grace is better than the best."

This lesson will study six aspects of DYING GRACE.

1. Three deaths are associated with AOS (Adam's original sin) (Gen.2:17).

- **Spiritual death:**
 - Referring to separation from God in time
 - (Rom.5:12; 1 Cor.15:22; John 5:24).
- **Second spiritual death:**
 - Referring to separation from God in eternity
 - (Rev.2:11; 20:6, 14-15; 21:8).
- **Physical death:**
 - Referring to the separation of the soul and spirit from the body
 - (Eccl.3:2; 12:7; Job 14:5; Heb.9:27; Ps.103:14-17).

2. There are three doctrinal obituary classifications of physical death.

- **The Unbeliever:**
 - At death, the unbeliever goes to the place of torment to await the Great White Throne Judgment (Rev.20:11-15; Luke 16:22-31). It is to die without HOPE of eternity with God (phase III) (1 Thess.4:13).
- **The Reversionistic (back-slider) Believer:**
 - (Prov.14:14) At death, the reversionistic believer leaves time (Phase II) under unpleasant soul conditions (Isa.38:18; 1 John 5:16; Jude 23; Luke 17:32). It is to die in fear of phase III (Heb.10:26-31) This believer has not lost his salvation because it's based upon God's character, not his or hers.

- **The Spiritually Advancing believer:**

- At death, the spiritually advancing believer dies under ideal soul conditions and timing in the plan of God (Phil.1:20-21; Ps.116:15; 2 Tim.4:6-8). It is to die secure about phase II and III, both in time and in eternity. (Job.5:24)

3. Dying grace is dying under perfect timing in the plan of God and under ideal soul condition (Heb.9:27). It has nothing to do with means or manner of physical conditions of death.

Paul	Beheaded	(2 Tim.4:6-8).
Peter	Crucified upside down	(John 21:18-19; 1 Pet.3:14; 4:7-8, 19; 2 Pet.1:14-15).
Stephen	Stoned to death	(Acts 7:54-60).
Heroes of faith:	Suffering unto death	(Heb.11:37-38)

“They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were put to death with the sword; they went about in sheepskins, in goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, ill-treated (**men of whom the world was not worthy**), wandering in deserts and mountains and caves and holes in the ground.”

4. Dying grace is the transfer of the believer’s soul and spirit from phase II (the believer in time) to phase III (the believer in eternity) in the plan of God.

Peter wrote that entrance into the eternal kingdom would be abundantly supplied for.

(2Pet.1:11) “For in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied.”

Dying grace is going from living grace in time (phase II) to the surpassing grace of eternity (phase III)

(Phil.3:20) “For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.” (Heb.11:13, 22)

5. Dying grace is the ultimate grace promotion in phase II for the spiritually mature believer. (Phil.1:21; 2 Pet.1:11, 14) (Luke 15:24, 32).

Dying grace is arriving at the door of death with the soul vigor of spiritual maturity (ideal soul condition) –

(Job 5:26) “You will come to the grave in **full vigor**, like the stacking of grain in its season.”

(Luke 2:25-32) [Simeon]

(Gen.25:8) “**Abraham** breathed his last an died in a ripe old age, an old man and satisfied with life; and he was gathered to his people.” (Gen.15:15)

(Job 42:17) “And **Job** died an old man and full of days.”

6. Under dying grace, God selects and secures the means of the transfer of the soul from time to eternity (2 Tim.4:6-8); Ps.33:18-22; 116:15).

How the body dies is never the issue, but the condition of the soul when transferred is! (Luke 23:46; Acts 7:59).

Example: Samson (Judges 16:28-32) “Let me die with the Philistines!” He is listed with other judges in Heb.11:32.

Dying grace depends on who and what God is and not on death itself (2 Tim.4:18).

Cycling the doctrine of dying grace will give the Church Age Believer (CAB) confidence in life about death.

(Ps.23:4) “Even though I walk through the valley of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me.” (Heb.13:5)

(Job.5:24) “You will know that your tent is secure, for you will visit your abode and fear no loss.”

“Therefore comfort one another with these words.” (1 Thess.4:18)