CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

THE THRONE OF GRACE

SCRIPTURE READING:

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Heb 4:16).

INTRODUCTION:

- A. The Throne of Grace refers to God's Throne, accessible through faith in Jesus Christ, where Believers can receive mercy and grace in time of need. Believers are to approach God's Throne with complete confidence. Dependent on God's Grace, especially in times of need.
- **B.** According to Dr. Daniel Estes, "In Hebrews 4:14-16 ... Christ helps us Believers when we hurt. We do not have to face the challenges alone, but Christ is there to encourage us. We may feel pain, but we can count on His presence to support us in our need."
- **C. Behold the Throne of Grace.** The promise calls us near. There Jesus shows us a smiling face. And waits to answer prayer." John Newton
- The Throne of Grace is always available to us. For the Christian, it isn't and never will be a throne of judgment. All of the judgment for all of our sin was laid upon our Perfect Savior.
 Jessica Thompson

PROPOSITION:

In this Bible Study, we will focus on three key points in relation to The Throne of Grace: (1) The Manner of Approach; (2) The Place of Blessing; and (3) The Result of Blessing.

I. THE MANNER OF APPROACH (v. 16a)

"Let us come boldly ..."

- o "Come Boldly" means to draw near, to approach with confidence, confidently.
- A. Believers are to Approach God Without Fear and Shame

It is God's desire that the Believer approach Him confidently, not in fear or shame.

- 1. To come boldly before God is indicative of the Believer's accessibility to God through faith in Jesus Christ. The Believer has direct access into God's presence through prayer.
- 2. God will welcome His children with open arms through faith in Jesus Christ.
 - o "For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father" (Eph 2:18).
 - o "In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him" (Eph 3:12).

B. The Reason to Come Boldly Before God

Jesus, our High Priest, has passed through the Heavens and sympathizes with our weaknesses, so that we have a trustworthy and secure way to approach God (Heb 4:14). According to Leviticus 16, on the Annual Day of Atonement, the High Priest first atones for his own sins with a bull offering, then entered the Holy of Holies – once a year – to make atonement for the sins of the whole Jewish nation.

C. The New Covenant

1. The New Covenant that was established by Jesus Christ protects Believers from the Wrath of God. Not for a year, but for forevermore.

2. Jesus shed His precious blood for sin one time (it is not an annual event).

- o "For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God" (Rom 6:10).
- o "Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself" (Heb 7:27).
- o "Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us" (Heb 9:12).

D. Jesus Christ is the Mediator between God and Man

o "5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time" (1 Tim 2:5-6).

Christ as our Mediator, He intercedes for us before God. He assures us of God's forgiveness.

E. Keep a Short Account of Sin with God

Keeping a short account means you review and settle the account frequently through prayer and confession. When you realize you have sinned, you deal with it right away by repenting and seeking God's forgiveness. This keeps the slate clean, preventing a heavy spiritual debt from building up.

o "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

II. THE PLACE OF BLESSING (v. 16b)

- "... The Throne of Grace ..."
- A. The Throne of Grace is a figure of speech for the presence and authority of God through prayer.
- **B.** The Throne of Grace is where Believers can find God's peace, comfort, love, mercy, and grace. We must approach God wholeheartedly in times of need. The Throne of God is the metaphorical seat of Jesus where prayers and cries for help are heard and answered.

C. The Woman With the Issue of Blood (Mark 5:25-34)

This story is a prime example of immediate help.

- o **The call for help.** For 12 years, a woman suffered for a chronic, bleeding illness that had left her an outcast. Believing in Jesus's power, she pressed through a crowd, thinking that simply touching His cloak would heal her.
- The result. The moment she touched His robe, she was instantly healed. When Jesus asked who touched Him, she came forward, and He affirmed her faith, saying, "Daughter, your faith has made you well".

D. The Story of Dallas Theological Seminary and the Cow

In 1924, shortly after its founding, Dallas Theological Seminary faced bankruptcy and was threatened with foreclosure. Before the deadline for payment, the faculty gathered to pray for the school's provision. One of the founders, Bible teacher Harry Ironside, offered a bold prayer that famously referenced Psalm 50:10: "Lord, you own the cattle on a thousand hills. Please sell some of those cattle to help us meet this need".

While the faculty was still praying, a Texas cattle rancher arrived at the seminary with an unexpected gift. He told the school's business manager that he had just sold two carloads of cattle and felt inexplicably compelled to give the money – exactly \$10,000 – to the seminary. The cattle rancher had no prior knowledge of the school's desperate need, making the timely donation a miraculous answer to Ironside's prayer.

 God want to answer prayers so that He may be glorified through His Son Jesus Christ. God is able and willing to answer our prayers.

o <u>If You Call On Jesus</u>

If you call on Jesus, He will answer prayer.

If you call on Jesus, He will answer prayer.

Call Him when you need Him, He will answer prayer.

Just call Him when you need Him, He will answer prayer.

III. THE RESULT OF BLESSING (v. 16c)

"... obtain mercy, and find grace to help in the time of need"

A. We Obtain Mercy

- "Mercy" is not getting what we deserve, which is judgment for our sins. God forgives our sins.
- o "8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast" (Eph 2:8-9).
- "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost" (Titus 3:5).

B. We Obtain Grace

"Grace" is receiving what we do not deserve which is God's unmerited favor and help. The Grace of God will help us to conquer and triumph over all circumstances and situations.

- o "⁴I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ; ⁵That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge" (1 Cor 1:4-5).
- o "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Phil 4:13).
- o "So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me" (Heb 13:6).

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- A. Approach The Throne of Grace (presence of God in prayer) confidently.
- B. Jesus is the New Covenant. He died and shed His blood one time.
- C. Jesus is the Only Mediator between God and Man, thus reconciling us back to God.

o Grace and Mercy

Mercy includes three elements: (1) "I see the need"—that's recognition. (2) "I am moved by the need"—that's motivation. and (3). "I move to meet the need"—that's action. Having a feeling of sorrow over someone's bad situation I now want to try to do something about it.

Mercy is more than a feeling, but not less than that. Mercy begins with simple recognition that someone is hurting around you. But mere seeing or feeling isn't mercy. Mercy moves from feeling to action. It is active compassion for those in need or distress.

One needs to distinguish between **grace** and **mercy.** Grace is shown to the undeserving, while mercy is compassion to the miserable. Grace is God's solution to man's sin. Mercy is God's solution to man's misery. Grace covers the sin, while mercy removes the pain. Grace forgives, while mercy restores. Grace gives us what we don't deserve while mercy withholds what we do deserve. Stated in a similar way...

Grace is getting what we do not deserve. Justice is getting what we do deserve. Mercy is not getting what we do deserve.

- (Source: Precept Austin Heb 4:16)
- Reflect on areas where you need God's help, whether it be dealing with temptation, weakness or improvement in spending time with God in prayer and Bible Study.

MEMORY VERSE:

"So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation" (Heb 9:28).

CONCLUSION:

A. Ask the Savior to help you, comfort, strengthen, and keep you.

He is willing to aid you; He will carry you through. – (Source: Yield Not To Temptation)

B. ABC's of Salvation

- o A Admit that you're a sinner and that you cannot save yourself (Rom 3:23, Eph 2:8-9).
- B <u>Believe</u> that Jesus died on the Cross and rose again for your sins (Rom 5:8, 1 Cor. 15:3-4).
- o C <u>Confess/Call</u> on Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior (Rom 10:9-13)



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"... the word of our God shall stand for ever" (Isa 40:8).