(1 Peter 5:10)

"And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast."

Understanding Grace

Grace is God's unmerited favor — His kindness and blessings given to us though we don't deserve them (Ephesians 2:8-9). It's not based on our works but on God's sovereign goodness. This is foundational to Christian salvation, emphasizing that we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone (sola fide). As John 1:17 states:

"For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ."

This shows the New Covenant (in Christ) brings a fuller revelation of God's grace than the Old Testament Law.

Different Kinds of Grace God Provides

1. Saving Grace (Grace of Justification)

This is the grace that justifies sinners before God. It is the gift that enables us to be forgiven and accepted into God's family (Romans 3:24):

"and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus."

Salvation is God's free gift, not earned by works (Eph 2:8-9).

2. Grace for Ministry and Service (Charismatic Grace)

God empowers believers to serve through spiritual gifts given by grace (1 Corinthians 12:4-7). For example, Paul and Barnabas were set apart by the Holy Spirit for mission (Acts 13:2):

"While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."

This grace enables effective ministry beyond natural ability.

3. Sustaining Grace (Grace to Persevere)

God gives strength to endure suffering and remain faithful (2 Corinthians 12:9):

"But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

This grace sustains believers through trials and empowers spiritual growth (James 1:2-4).

4. Empowering Grace for Holy Living (Sanctifying Grace)

Grace transforms believers enabling them to live holy lives pleasing to God (Titus 2:11-12):

"For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say 'No' to ungodliness and worldly passions..."

Walking by the Spirit (Galatians 5:16) is an outworking of this grace.

5. Grace for Generosity and Giving

God's grace enables believers to give generously and cheerfully (2 Corinthians 9:8):

"And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."

Jesus' own example of self-giving motivates this grace-filled generosity (2 Corinthians 8:9).

6. Grace for Wisdom and Provision

God gives grace for practical wisdom and provision (James 1:5):

"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault..."

Deuteronomy 8:18 reminds us that God is the source of the ability to gain wealth and success.

7. Grace for the Future Glory

Believers live in hope of the eternal grace that will be fully revealed when Christ returns (1 Peter 1:13):

"Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being soberminded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

This is the ultimate grace—glory in the new heavens and new earth.

Grace is God's undeserved favor extended to us in many ways: to save, empower, strengthen, sanctify, provide, and prepare us for eternal glory. The Bible clearly teaches that all these graces come from the same God who calls us into eternal fellowship with Him through Jesus

Christ (1 Peter 5:10).

If you have not yet received the grace of salvation, God invites you today to trust Jesus Christ and receive this free gift (Romans 10:9-10).

May the God of all grace richly bless you and empower you for every good work. Amen.

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