The Word For The Weak

— Weekly Newsletter —
By R. C. Theophilus
"For when I am weak, then I am strong."
2 Corinthians 12:7-10

NL-09-2023 (PDF link)

THE WEEK OF: 17-23 December — In The Acceptable Year of **Christ Jesus Our King** 2023 A.D.

THE WORD IS: "GRACE"

SAYING THESE THINGS:

Yesterday evening (Sunday) I drove my wife to a restaurant so she could join a few of her lady-friends from her high school days for a Christmas Dinner.

Being a member of the leading male gender, I was not permitted to attend the dinner.

Instead, I went to a different restaurant, The Outback, within walking distance (next to the same adjacent parking lot), and had a Christmas dinner in the presence of the Lord Holy Spirit.

After being seated, I placed on the table to my right my cell-phone along with three of my "**Jesus** Loves Us" business cards within plain view, to see if the Lord would provide an opportunity for the Gospel to be shared.

And sure enough, after a few trips to my table, my waitress said she saw my card, and that she agreed with the message. Further words indicated that she and I were indeed one in the Family of **Christ Jesus**.

Even though I missed my wife's company, I was pleased to discover that another member of The Royal Family was present.

Right before I departed I wrote and left a note along with the tip and the three business cards, for the waitress.

The words in the note said:

"OUR CONFESSION IS THE GIFT."

Meaning that our confession about Jesus is His gift to us, and our gift to our Father in Heaven.

And these words were gifted to me by the Lord at that very moment.

This was all a work of the Grace of God.

So now, let's discover what the internet says about "GRACE".

From WIKIPEIDA.COM:

"In Western Christian theology, grace is created by God who gives it as help to one because God desires one to have it, not necessarily because of anything one has done to earn it. It is understood by Western Christians to be a spontaneous gift from God to people – "generous, free and totally unexpected and undeserved" – that takes the form of divine favor, love, clemency, and a share in the divine life of God. In the Eastern Orthodox Church, grace is the uncreated Energies of God. Among Eastern Christians generally, grace is considered to

be the partaking of the Divine Nature described in 2 Peter 1:4 and grace is the working of God himself, not a created substance of any kind that can be treated like a commodity. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grace in Christianity"

From BRITANNICA.COM:

1) [noncount]: a way of moving that is smooth and attractive and that is not stiff or awkward She walked across the stage with effortless grace.

2a) [noncount] : a controlled, polite, and pleasant way of behaving She handles her problems with grace and dignity. He has shown remarkable grace during this crisis.

People say you have the (good) grace to do something when they approve of what you do and consider it to be polite and proper.

She has the grace [=she is polite/nice enough] to listen to everyone's complaints. At least he had the good grace to admit that he was wrong.

2b) graces [plural]: skills that are needed for behaving in a polite way in social situations She is quite lovable despite her lack of social graces. https://www.britannica.com/dictionary/grace

In performing a word search in the Scripture, I discovered these interesting facts. The very first few uses of the word "GRACE" in the New King James Version are these:

Genesis 6:8

8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD (click here for artistic drawing of this verse).

Exodus 33:13

13 Now therefore, I (*Moses*) pray, if I have found **grace** in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You and that I may find **grace** in Your sight. And consider that this nation is Your people."

Ezra 9:8

8 And now for a little while **grace** has been shown from the LORD our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a peg in His holy place, that our God may enlighten our eyes and give us a measure of revival in our bondage.

And the Psalms, speaking of the Messiah, says this:

Psalms 45:1-2

My heart is overflowing with a good theme;
 I recite my composition concerning the King;
 My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.
 You are fairer than the sons of men;
 Grace is poured upon Your lips;
 Therefore God has blessed You forever.

Then, in the New Testament writings we have these:

Luke 2:40

40 And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the **grace** of God was upon Him.

John 1:16-17

16 And of His fullness we have all received, and **grace** for **grace**. **17** For the law was given through Moses, but **grace** and truth came through Jesus Christ.

And finally we have the First and Last occurrences in the Book of Revelation.

Revelation 1:4

4 John, to the seven churches which are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne,

Revelation 22:21

21 The **grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

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All these are but a sample of the total number of occurrences of **Grace** in the Bible - there are 173 instances in the New King James Version, and 193 in Young's Literal Translation.

P. S. When I started to write this newsletter, I was reminded of last week's word, "SINGULARITY", and saw that the first three letters of that word spell the word "sin", which in turn reminded me of this Scripture:

Romans 5:20-21

20 Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where **sin** abounded, **grace** abounded much more, **21** so that as sin reigned in death, even so **grace** might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

May our Father grant us His Light to Know, Live, and Love His Word.

Amen.

THE WORD FOR THE WEAK NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY ON THE SIXTH DAY OF THE WEEK
— 'GREATER IS HE THAT IS IN YOU' —