

The Ark Community

105: THE GRACE OF GOD

by Emiliana **Palmer** (EU)

"We are not saved by faith....we are saved by GRACE..!!!!"

Many of us think that it is Faith that saved us. We are not saved by faith but by the Grace of our good and Holy Father. Faith is the channel that carries the saving Grace. God was moved by mercy and sent His only Begotten son to save us, this was grace; a gift that no-one deserved.!

We are God's creatures. He made us from absolutely nothing, and without him we are still absolutely nothing. So all that we are, and all that we do, we are and do only by virtue of God's creative power. And as St. Paul put it, with characteristic firmness, to the Corinthians: ***"What do you have that you did not receive? And if you received it, why do you boast as if it were not a gift?"***

As God's creatures, we are bound to employ our lives in his service anyway He asks. We owe; *quite literally*, we owe everything to Him. So we do God no favors when we obey his word. We have done nothing to deserve this precious gift. **Grace is the power of mercy in operation.**

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God." [Eph 2:8]

All our actions, even the best ones, are blemished, for we are all fallen creatures, and constantly prone to selfishness and pride. And if we look deep into our own hearts, we will soon realize that our motives are often mixed. Our love for others is often mingled with self-regard, and our highest altruism inevitably tainted by vanity and self-gratification.

We need to humble ourselves and truly realize that **it is by the gift of grace that we live, breath and are able to love.**

Today I would like to behold the Grace of God and celebrate it..! I would like to remember this unmerited gift and thank Him with all of my being, in the same time lets hold on to this Grace and never let go..! Let us also not forget to be gracious unto others. Let our minds and hearts be full of the things of the Kingdom of Heaven and NOT the carnal things so that our soul will not be defiled and therefore God's grace cannot be abused.

With all my love and grace,

Emiliana