

Fear, Grace and Gratitude

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Is. 6:1-8

Col. 3:15-17 *Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts*, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And **be thankful**. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs **with gratitude in your hearts to God**. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, **giving thanks to God** the Father through him.

The key to peace, the key to fulfilling our purpose, the key to success in the kingdom is gratitude.

Psalm 100:2 *Serve the Lord with gladness*; Come before His presence with singing.

The problem is our gratitude and our peace are seasonal, conditional, circumstantial and fleeting.

Col. 3:15 Let the **peace of Christ rule in your hearts**, since as members of one body **you were called to peace..... And be thankful.**

What is the source of true gratitude?

The key is in the dynamic tension between Godly fear and the grace of God.

Romans 11:22 Therefore consider **the goodness and severity of God**: on those who fell, **severity**; but toward you, **goodness**, if you continue in *His* goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.

Psalm 147:11 the LORD delights in **those who fear him**, who put their **hope in his unfailing love**.

1. I saw the Lord

Isaiah 6:1 ... I saw the Lord seated on a throne, **high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple.**

Isaiah 6:3 "**Holy, holy, holy** is the LORD Almighty; **the whole earth is full of his glory.**"

Job 42:5-6 My ears had heard of you but **now my eyes have seen you**. Therefore **I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes.**"

Exodus 15:11 "Who among the gods is like you, O LORD? Who is like you-- **majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?**"

2. Woe is me

Isaiah 6:5 "Woe to me!" I cried. "**I am ruined!** For **I am a man of unclean lips**, and **I live among a people of unclean lips**, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty."

Ephes. 2:1-3 As for you, you were **dead in your transgressions and sins**, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, **we were by nature objects of wrath.**

Hebrews 9:27 ... man is **destined to die once, and after that to face judgment,**

2 Cor. 5:10 For **we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ**, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

Rev. 20:15 If anyone's **name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.**

3. Your guilt is taken away

Isaiah 6:7 With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; **your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.**"

Romans 5:8 But **God demonstrates his own love for us** in this: **While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

Ephes. 2:4-9 But **because of his great love for us**, God, who is **rich in mercy, made us alive** with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is **by grace you have been saved**. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the **incomparable riches of his grace**, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is **by grace you have been saved**, through faith--and this not from yourselves, **it is the gift of God**-- not by works, so that no one can boast.

4. Here I am send me

Isaiah 6:8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "**Here am I. Send me!**"

Psalms 116:1-7 I love the LORD, **for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy**. Because **he turned his ear to me**, I will call on him as long as I live. The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the grave came upon me; I was overcome by trouble and sorrow. Then I called on the name of the LORD: "**O Lord, save me!**" The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion. The LORD protects the simplehearted; **when I was in great need, he saved me**. Be at rest once more, O my soul, for **the Lord has been good to you.**

1 John 4:10,19 This is love: **not that we loved God, but that he loved us** and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ... **We love because he first loved us.**