

## GRACE BIBLE CHURCH

### *Robert R. McLaughlin Bible Ministries*

#### Doctrine of Supergrace

Phi 4:9-13, “*These things [doctrinal principles] also you have learned [manthano - learned from a teacher under strict academic discipline] and received [or accepted through metabolization of doctrine] and having heard [under discipline] and have understood by means of me [Paul's teaching ministry]. Be putting these into action and the God of prosperity shall be with you, all of you [Supergrace believers]. Not because I am speaking with reference to poverty or lack; for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I have come to know how to be humbled and I have come to know how to live in prosperity. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret [or as we have noted I have been initiated into the mystery] of how to be filled, how to be hungry, how to be prosperous, and how to suffer need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.*” The last statement in verse 13 is only true for a special kind of believer called the Supergrace believer. The level of contentment that Paul is describing in this chapter is the exclusive province of believers who have reached the stage of Supergrace. Paul identifies that fact in verse 5 when he instructs the believers in Philippi to let their Supergrace mental attitude be known to all men. These are the type of believers who can do all things through Him who strengthens them.

Phi 4:14-15, “*Nevertheless, you have done well to share with me in my affliction. You yourselves also know, Philippians, that at the first preaching of the gospel, after I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving but you alone.*” Believers who have reached Supergrace have a phenomenal mental attitude, they know the secret of remaining content in all circumstances, they burst with confidence that He will provide that which is needed to be victorious in all situations. They can take their minds off their own problems, and focus on the needs of others, and they give graciously and sacrificially. There is fruit in the life of Supergrace believers, because they rely on the source of all blessing, and get out of the way and let God work all things together for good. Remember, the Supergrace believer is instructed this fantastic mental attitude be known. This is NOT done by bragging about how advanced you are in the Christian way of life, nor lecturing others about where they fall short, or flaunting your blessings. But, one of the things it DOES mean is that you are a gracious giver. Let us not love in word or with tongue but in deed and truth! This is the life of the Supergrace believer. Grace pours into their laps, and flows out to others. The branch receives all it can hold, and turns around and sends it on its way to bear fruit for others. This Supergrace status is the underpinning of chapter 4, and indeed of the entire book of Philippians.

Chapter 4 of the book of Philippians is divided into four paragraphs. 1) The perspective of the Supergrace life, verses 1-7. 2) The parenthesis on the subject of grace orientation, verses 8-11. 3) A dissertation on the next objective after Supergrace, ultra-Supergrace, verses 12-19. 4) The final objective of the spiritual life on earth, surpassing grace, verses 20-21. This is the stage of the greatest tests and pressures for the individual believer, because this is the ultimate goal that can be attained by the intake of doctrine. Dying grace is actually the reward for advancing through all the other stages. Remember our corrected translation of Phi 1:29 *“Because to you it has been graciously given with reference concerning Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer on behalf of Him.”* Phi 4:1-7 reveals the beginning of no man's land, between Supergrace and ultra-Supergrace, where we finally experience what living in the minority is all about. Chapter 4 starts out with a command to advance to this ultra-Supergrace and not retreat. Phi 4:1 *“Therefore, my beloved brethren [members of the Royal family of God] whom I desire to see [or be with], my source of happiness and wreath of glory, so stand firm [be advancing not retreating] in the Lord, my beloved.”* This is an encouragement to advance in the spiritual life and never quit. This is the most rewarding, and also the most difficult, advance in all of the spiritual life for the believer.

Jam 4:6 says *“But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, ‘God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.’”* The word for greater grace is where we get the phrase Supergrace.

### **The Doctrine of Supergrace.**

Grace is all that God is free to do for man on the basis of the Cross. If God is going to give man blessing, He must be free to do so. Therefore, He must not in anyway jeopardize or compromise any characteristic of His essence. Because of the complexity of divine essence, God must be consistent. No characteristic of divine essence can ever be jeopardized or compromised. Joh 3:16 *“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,”* God would not give mankind anything if it in any way becomes incompatible with His essence or compromises with His essence. So God's freedom to give His only begotten Son is based upon a fantastic principle: God found a way to bless mankind in eternity past. Rev 13:8 tells us that He was the lamb that was slain before the foundation of the world, *“And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”*(KJV) Therefore, God had to be propitiated or satisfied completely.

Propitiation is that work of Christ on the Cross which frees God to bless man under the plan of grace. God is free to bless mankind because the work for salvation has been accomplished and completed perfectly by our Lord (Joh 19:30). Grace is God's freedom and consistency to express His love to mankind without compromising of His essence. Under the principle of grace, God provides a series of blessings for man totally apart from

man's merit, ability, planning, thinking, or energy. Under the policy of grace, God gives and man receives. God does all the work while man does all the receiving. Under the concept of grace everything depends on God's essence. Grace is what God can do for man and still be consistent with His own essence. For example, Hab 1:13 says *“Thine eyes are too pure to approve evil, And Thou canst not look on wickedness with favor.”* How can a God who cannot look upon sin have fellowship with us? The answer is that first He had to do something about our sin, and He did, and then He treated us with grace. Under the **mechanics of grace**, man has a relationship with God in two categories: Before the Fall and after the Fall. The first category is based on creation, man was created an adult.

Therefore, everything had to be provided on that basis. God provided everything man would ever need in the Garden, and therefore we have an illustration of that grace with the trees. Gen 2:7-9, *“Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed. And out of the ground the Lord God caused to grow every tree that is pleasing to the sight and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.”* Notice that there were trees which were for stimulation of the soul, the eyes, and there were trees that were good for foods, provisions for the body. Then the tree that was related to the human spirit and spiritual sustenance which was the tree of lives (plural), and that tree was capacity to appreciate what God has provided in grace. Man had immediate capacity to appreciate God's grace provision. Then, the tree of knowledge of good and evil which was a test. Good and evil are Satan's policies. This tree was forbidden because good and evil result in spiritual death. However, man in his creation relationship with God was under grace, and there were two things he did not need in that relationship: Good and evil. Evil is the thinking policy of Satan and good is the application of that policy to experience in history.

So, the grace relationship before the fall was based on creation. Everything was provided and one thing was forbidden as an extension of the angelic conflict into human history: Eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. After the fall, the relationship is based on regeneration.

However, at the time of the fall, man ate of the forbidden tree. The first sin was a sin of negative volition toward the plan of God. This is a sin that the majority of humans, including believers, are still committing today. Once man ate from that tree, he immediately understood good and evil, was immediately under the rulership of Satan, and immediately performs human good: Operation fig leaves. So the original parents had a choice to choose God's plan or Satan's plan and they chose Satan's, therefore the salvation plan of God came into effect. Under God's plan, grace is all that God can do for man from salvation until eternity, and this is totally apart from man's merit, ability, and planning. Grace therefore is the genius of God, and doctrine is the revelation and manifestation of that genius.

Now that we have looked at our definition of grace, we are now ready to see the

different categories of grace that exist in God's plan: 1) **Saving grace**, Eph 2:8-9, "*For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast.*" This is the work of the Trinity. The Father planned it in eternity past, the Son executed it on the cross, and the incarnation, and the Spirit reveals it in time. 2) **Logistical grace** (Mat 6:25-33). This is all that the Trinity provides by way of power, security, and provision to keep the believer alive in the devil's world, so that the divine objective in the angelic conflict can be achieved. This includes both spiritual provisions such as the Bible as the text book, the local church and the pastor-teacher as the communicator. There are temporal provisions such as food, shelter, clothing, and money. 3) **Supergrace** is the tactical victory of the angelic conflict, or spiritual maturity (Jam 4:6). This is experiential sanctification or the balance of residency between the filling of the Holy Spirit and Bible doctrine resident in the soul. Jam 4:6 says "*But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, 'God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.'*" The word *greater* is the Greek adjective *meizona* which means greater, even more, to a greater degree, or all the more. 4) Ultra-Supergrace is the sphere of the angelic conflict between the unfairness of the devil's world and the total fairness of God to mature believers, whom God places under maximum testing and pressure (2Ti 2:10; 3:11-12). The blessings of Supergrace are intensified and protected by God even under the most intense pressure, persecution, and attack from Satan. Beyond Supergrace is even a higher plane whereby you still have all of the blessings that you had in Supergrace, but they are completely surrounded by suffering, pressure and adversity which intensifies the blessings. It doesn't remove them, it only makes them better.

That's ultra-Supergrace. It's a conflict between the unfairness of the devil's world and the total fairness of God to the Supergrace believer. It's the fairness of God verses the unfairness of Satan. 2Ti 2:10-14, "*For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen [or the elect], that they also may obtain [or acquire not the salvation but] the deliverance which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory [escrow blessings in the eternal state]. It is a trustworthy statement: For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him; If we endure [in suffering for blessing], we shall rule with Him [as mature believers]. If we deny Him [rejecting the PPOG] He will deny us [rewards, escrow blessings]. If we are faithless, He remains faithful; for He cannot deny Himself. Remind them of these things, and solemnly charge them in the presence of God not to wrangle about words, which is useless, and leads to the ruin of the hearers.*"

Moses and Paul are two illustrations of ultra-Supergrace. Both of them were geniuses and reached ultra-Supergrace where their lives were enshrouded with continual pressure and suffering. 2Ti 3:8-11, "*And just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men [the reversionistic believers and unbelievers at the time Paul wrote this] also oppose the truth [Bible doctrine], men of depraved mind [corrupted mentality], rejected as regards the faith. But they will not make further progress; for their folly [their own lack of sense, which is their madness from reversionism] will be obvious to all, as also that of those two came to be. But you followed my teaching [doctrine], conduct [my self-discipline], purpose [his teaching and building up the body of Christ], faith [faithfulness],*

*patience* [which is his steadfastness], *love, perseverance or endurance, persecutions, and sufferings* [there is the shroud that wraps itself around the ultra-Supergrace believer], *such as happened to me at Antioch* [pressure from legalism], *at Iconium* [there was a conspiracy to stone him] *and at Lystra* [legalism and he was actually stone to death and God brought him back from the dead]; *what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord delivered me!*” This is the highest honor that God can give to a believer in time. It is the highest dignity ever bestowed on a member of the human race. It was bestowed upon Moses and Paul; as the demons said in Act 19:15 *“I recognize Jesus, and I know about Paul, but who are you?”* These men wear the highest honor that can come to the human race, to have total blessing and wear a shroud of pressure and disaster all the time they're in that total blessing. The highest dignity ever bestowed upon any born again believer is the shroud of pressure and suffering which belongs to the ultra-Supergrace believer. It is an intensification of their blessing while they are under intense pressure from Satan. It is the demonstration of the power of doctrine, and the exploitation of doctrines' power to the maximum.

2Ti 3:12 *“And indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus [live the spiritual life] will be persecuted.”* So it goes on in every generation. Ultra-Supergrace provides everything found in the blessings of Supergrace plus the intensification of these blessings completely enshrouded in maximum pressure and persecution from the satanic forces of evil. 5) Dying grace is the greatest blessing for passing from time to eternity (Phi 1:21). This blessing is even greater than the greatest blessings of time. It means leaving behind great blessings by association to friends, loved ones, family members, etc. 6) Surpassing grace which is the blessing, awards, and decorations for the mature believer for all eternity, Eph 2:7 *“In order that in the ages to come [that is in the eternal future] He might show the surpassing riches of His grace or His surpassing grace riches in generosity toward us in Christ Jesus.”* This refers to Supergrace and ultra-Supergrace believers, and both are related to the power of God. It is a demonstration of maximum power in grace. Eph 1:18-20, *“I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might [that's the power of the Holy Spirit and the ruling power of TLJC and the invisible assets from the Father] which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,”* Supergrace and ultra-Supergrace are described as pursuing grace (Psa 23:5-6; Eph 1:6).

We know that David was a Supergrace believer because God's testimony concerning David is found in Act 13:22 *“I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My heart, who will do all My will.”* When he reached Supergrace, the first thing that God gave him was wealth, he was one of the greatest millionaires of all time, and he never left Supergrace. This doesn't mean he was perfect, Supergrace and ultra-Supergrace believers sin too (1Jo 1:8, 10). But there's a great deal of difference between carnality and reversionism. David made his mistakes and tells us of the resulting discipline while in

operation Bathsheba (Psa 38 and Psa 51). However there was instant recovery when he rebounded. The discipline on a Supergrace believer when he's carnal is obviously there and it can be strong. When a person is in reversionism his life is an intensified compound of misery piled upon misery until he dies the sin unto death. There's no way to get around it, David was a Supergrace believer before operation Bathsheba and after operation Bathsheba. Paul describes Supergrace very beautifully in Eph 1:6 *"to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved."* The blessings of each, Supergrace and ultra-Supergrace, are beyond human imagination. Eph 3:20-21, *Now to Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly or infinitely more beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works [effectively] within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen."* In 1Ti 1:14 both are described as *abundant grace*, *"and the grace of our Lord has super-abounded with doctrine and love which is in Christ Jesus."* By definition, therefore, Supergrace is the highest adult stage of the spiritual life in the Royal Family of God. It is the place where you are qualified to increase the grace to ultra-Supergrace. Supergrace is maximum glorification of Jesus Christ complementing His strategic victory of the angelic conflict with the believer's tactical victory. Supergrace is the status of spiritual maturity while ultra-Supergrace is maximum growth and blessing attended by maximum suffering, which only intensifies the blessing. Supergrace is where the normal function of the royal priesthood and the production of divine good begins.

### **Synonyms for Supergrace.**

The Theological synonym is greater grace, [*meizona charin*] (Jam 4:6). The Hebrew word *chakmah* means wisdom, the nomenclature for maximum Bible doctrine in the soul, in the Greek *epignosis*. This is language nomenclature from the standpoint of doctrine to represent the Supergrace life. We have a priestly synonym: The altar of the soul in Heb 13:10 *We [the royal priesthood] have an altar, from which those who serve the tabernacle have no authorization to eat."* The altar in the soul is constructed and when it is constructed, the believer has reached Supergrace and maturity. Building: The edification complex of the soul (Eph 4:12,16). Once the edification complex is completed, the believer is said to be in maturity or Supergrace. There is a sanctification synonym: *Eusebeia* translated *godliness* meaning to live the spiritual life (1Ti 6:3-6; 2Ti 3:12; 2Pe 1:3). The corrected translation of 1Ti 6:3-6 says, *"If anyone advocates or teaches a different doctrine, and does not agree with sound doctrines, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, even with the doctrines pertaining to spiritual life he has received blind arrogance and understands nothing [of doctrine]; but he has a morbid obsession about controversies and verbal conflicts, out of which arise [the first one is called] jealousy, discord, evil speculations [or presumptuous sins], and constant friction between people of a distorted mind and devoid of doctrine, constantly presuming that gain is godliness or living the spiritual life. But living the spiritual life keeps on being a great means of prosperity, when accompanied by contentment or capacity for life."* There's a chemical synonym: *Salt* (Mat 5:13). The salt of the earth or the salt of the land is the Supergrace believer or the ultra-Supergrace believer being a blessing to his nation and to others by association. There is a

crucifixion synonym: Take up your cross (Mat 10:38; Mar 8:34; Luk 9:23, 14:27). We've seen this with Epaphroditus and his willingness to gamble his life away for the work of Christ. This is the consistent function of perception, metabolization and application of Bible doctrine. Following Christ is the result of Supergrace. There are three military synonyms: *"Put on the full armor of God,"* (Eph 6:11-18); *"running the race with endurance,"* (Heb 12:1-2 which is *"following the colors to the high ground,"* Heb 12:1-2; or *"establishing a command post of the soul,"* (Col 2:5-8). All three of these are military synonyms for the Supergrace status. There's a central control system called inner strength: The inner rule or dictator of the soul, Eph 6:10 *"From now on, keep on becoming strong by means of the Lord, and in the strength of His might or inner rule."* Bible doctrine is the inner dictator, the central control system in the soul of the mature believer.

### **Blessings of Supergrace.**

Category one: Spiritual blessings. Sharing the perfect happiness of God, occupation with Christ is maximum category one love which is intensified in Supergrace and ultra-Supergrace. There are all kinds of blessings because of your maximum for the Lord Jesus Christ. The Supergrace believer also has great capacity for life, love, happiness, blessing, and total appreciation for grace, all of these are intensified in Supergrace. Also, there is the tremendous ability to face undeserved suffering in life without any complaining at all. For the Supergrace believer, the intensification of spiritual blessings comes when you wear that shroud of maximum suffering, unremitting suffering, suffering that never seems to terminate and does not terminate until departure of this life. Remember the corrected translation of Phi 1:29 *"Because to you it has been graciously given with reference concerning Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer on behalf of Him,"*

This is for the Supergrace believer and the ultra-Supergrace believer. Under spiritual blessings, the Supergrace believer also has the ability to correctly interpret contemporary history, to evaluate current events in the light of the Word of God. He has freedom from slavery to the circumstances in life and adaptability to changing circumstances. The mature believer is the greatest innovator in time of historical disaster because he has grace orientation, freedom orientation, authority orientation, common sense; a total sense of security, whether in prosperity or disaster. Category two: Temporal blessings. This includes wealth, either received or acquired. You can be wealthy and enshrouded in the great suffering mantle. You can have professional prosperity which means having a great influence on others, leadership dynamics, success, promotion, recognition in one's sphere of life. Believers like Moses who advanced as a ruler, Paul was the greatest communicator of all time, and he advanced in his communication, and Jeremiah who was the greatest prophet of all time. So, when God promotes you, you are qualified for the job. Under Supergrace, you will have the ability to assume responsibility and authority without emotional inspiration or pseudo motivation. You will also have great social prosperity, great friends, and you will also have sexual prosperity with your right one of the opposite sex. That's where Moses when once he received that mantle over a period of eighty years, he got his right woman the second time around and she was both the source of social and

sexual prosperity. His first wife was a witch who threw her son's foreskin at his feet and complained about his calling (Exo 4:25-26). There's also technical prosperity or mental prosperity which is the ability to think and concentrate increases. This will give you a greater capacity for life and you will have a great deal of interest toward life. Every day will be meaningful. You will have cultural prosperity which is maximum enjoyment of drama, art, literature, music, history. Establishment prosperity includes enjoyment of freedom, privacy, protection of life and property from criminals and reprisal. There is also prosperity in the area of health. Category three: Blessings by association. Those around a mature believer are blessed by their association or relationship with that person. They are blessed either directly by God or indirectly from the Supergrace believer as a result of the overflow of his Supergrace blessings. The Supergrace believer shares his blessings with others, he is very gracious.

There are peripheral areas of blessing by association such as loved ones, in business life, in social life, and to those in a local church. There are also geographical blessings to the Supergrace believer's city, state and nation. Category four: Historical blessings (2Ti 1:5). This is the doctrinal principle that the mature believer carries his generation. He stabilizes his generation and becomes a stabilizer for future historical generations. The ebb and flow of history does not disturb the tranquility or impact of the mature believer. He is the Mat 5:13-14 individual, *the salt of the earth* and *the light of the world*. The Supergrace believer is on the right side of history, while the reversionist is on the wrong side of history. The reversionist is caught up in the disasters of history and swept along with them. Eph 4:14 *“As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;”* The Supergrace believer rides on the crest of the wave of blessing. He rises above historical disaster and is not tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming. Category five: Undeserved suffering. Only in time does God have the opportunity to give us pressure, disaster, and undeserved suffering to prove to Satan and the fallen angels that Bible doctrine can handle any situation. God gives us the ability to handle suffering and turn suffering into blessing (Rom 8:28, Deu 23:5). A mature believer knows when he is under divine discipline or undeserved suffering. The former is unbearable suffering, the latter is bearable. The Supergrace believer's ability to handle undeserved suffering glorifies God and becomes evidence against Satan in his appeal trial. Undeserved suffering is also used by God to help you keep your eyes on God and your focus on eternity (Rev 2:10; 2Co 12:9-10). Undeserved suffering also teaches us the value of Bible doctrine Psa 119:67-71, *“Before I was afflicted I went astray, But now I keep Thy word. Thou art good and doest good; Teach me Thy statutes. The arrogant have forged a lie against me; With all {my} heart I will observe Thy precepts. heir heart is covered with fat, {But} I delight in Thy law. It is good for me that I was afflicted, That I may learn Thy statutes. The law of Thy mouth is better to me Than thousands of gold and silver {pieces}. Thy hands made me and fashioned me; Give me understanding, that I may learn Thy commandments. May those who fear Thee see me and be glad, Because I wait for Thy word. I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are righteous, And that in faithfulness Thou hast*

*afflicted me.*

Category six: Dying blessings or dying grace. Every believer has a choice in time between being positive to Bible doctrine and receiving dying grace, or being negative to doctrine and dying the sin unto death. For the Supergrace believer, the curse of death with its pain and fear is removed (Heb 2:15). It is the greatest experience in life; it is the antithesis of the sin unto death. The perfect happiness of the Supergrace believer in time is exceeded by his +H in dying grace. Therefore, the mature believer has the best of life, better in dying, and better than the best for all eternity. That's why Psa 116:15 says "*Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His godly ones.*" Dying grace is taught in 2Ti 4:6-8, "*For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure [death] has come. I have fought the good fight [the glorification of TLJC in the angelic conflict], I have finished the course [God's plan for his life], I have kept with doctrine; in the future [at the Judgment Seat of Christ] there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.*" This crown is awarded at the Judgment Seat of Christ to the Church-age believer who fulfills the PPOG and advances to spiritual maturity.

Category seven: The blessings of surpassing grace at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

Surpassing grace is the optimum in spiritual achievement. It is the maximum place of blessing and reward, and the ultimate in glorifying Jesus Christ. Surpassing connotes something beyond Supergrace and beyond time.

Surpassing grace is the status of special blessings and rewards in eternity for the believer who breaks the maturity barrier. Jam 1:25 "*But one who looks intently at the perfect law [Bible doctrine], the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer [that's perception, metabolization and application of Bible doctrine], this man shall be blessed or have + H in what he does.*" There are no surpassing grace blessings without the attainment of Supergrace blessings (1Co 3:11-16). The Judgment Seat of Christ is the time of distribution of surpassing grace blessings.

### **Point 6: The Importance of Retaining the Objective of Supergrace and Moving on to Ultra-Supergrace (Phi 3:12-14).**

Getting to Supergrace is one thing, retaining the objective is something else. In Phi 3:12-14, we not only have the concept of retaining the objective but its implication in the field of the ultra-Supergrace status. Phi 3:12-14, "*Not that I have already obtained it [or received ultra-Supergrace status, he was in prison at this time in Supergrace but not ultra-Supergrace], or have already become perfect [the objective for the writer the apostle Paul is ultra-Supergrace], but I press on in order that I may lay hold of that [ultra-Supergrace] for which [ultra-Supergrace] also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet [ultra-Supergrace]; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind [reversionism in Jerusalem] and reaching forward to what lies ahead [ultra-Supergrace], I press on toward the goal [I keep advancing toward that objective] for the prize of the upward call [the upward call is ultra-Supergrace] of God in Christ Jesus.*"

There are two reasons why the objective of Supergrace must be held: To reach the further objective of ultra-Supergrace. To enter into the blessings of dying grace as a Supergrace believer or ultra-Supergrace believer and receiving surpassing grace at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

### **Point 7: The Promotion Principle of Supergrace (Psa 84).**

Remember that very simple but profound principle that if God doesn't promote you, you aren't promoted. Even more important, if God doesn't provide it, it isn't worth having. Psa 84 deals with the promotion of the Supergrace believer and the ultra-Supergrace believer. Here is the attitude of anyone who reaches Supergrace or ultra-Supergrace. Psa 84:1 (For the choir director; on the Gittith [harp]. A Psalm of the sons of Korah.) *"How lovely are Thy dwelling places, O Lord of hosts!"* At the time of writing the dwelling places had to do with the Tabernacle or the Temple which is the place that the believer learned Bible doctrine. The phrase *O Lord of the hosts* means *O Lord of the armies*, a title for the Lord Jesus Christ as a defender of those with PVTD. Psa 84:2 *"My soul longed and even yearned for the courts of the Lord; My heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God."* David's soul longs for the place where Bible doctrine was being taught. The word for *longed* is the Hebrew verb *kacaph* which means to desire, to yearn for, to long for deeply. The Hebrew word for *yearned* is *kalah* which means to be consumed by something or to be so determined that you'll do anything to get it. The courts of the Lord was the place where the scholars would get up and communicate the Word of God. The Supergrace attitude longs for the communication of the Word of God, Bible doctrine. The Supergrace believer needs it more than his daily food, as Job said in Job 23:12 *"I have not departed from the command of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth [doctrine] more than my necessary food."* The Supergrace believer is willing to be like the Queen of Sheba who went over 1,000 miles to come to Bible class.

When you get to the place where you are rejoicing over the living God, it is because you are very close to or have attained the goal of Supergrace. Singing for joy over the living God is an expression of your love and gratefulness and gratitude to God (Act 16). The Bible teaches that singing is one of the methods of praise. In fact, the singing service has much to do with praise.

God's people have always been a singing people, and God's deliverance has prompted many song services. When the Jews left Egypt and were freed from slavery, Moses and the Israelites broke out in a song of praise (Exo 15:1). Singing is one of the most natural ways of expressing praise and gratitude toward God. In the New Testament, Col 3:16 says, *"Let the doctrines of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do in word or deed [such as singing] , do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father."* Hymns are expressions of praise to God. Psa 136 is an example of an Old Testament in which God is praised for His past actions. Every verse in Psa 136 ends with the phrase that

the grace of God endures forever. The songs should have a spiritual content and that's why our song leader changes the words of songs every now and then to make them line up with Bible doctrine so that they will be spiritual. The words of the songs we sing should reflect the words and teaching of Scripture. The more doctrinal our songs are the more glorifying will our singing be to God.

In Psa 84:2.....*My heart [right lobe] and my flesh [the body which is the house for the soul] sing for joy or rejoice over the living God.*

In Psa 84:3, we have an illustration, *"The bird also has found a house, And the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, Even Thine altars, O Lord of hosts, My King and my God."* The Hebrew word for *bird* is *tsippowr* which is a sparrow, one of the lowest birds in the bird family. In fact, when grace is portrayed, the sparrow is used. Mat 10:29 *"Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? And yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father."* The point is that if the Father takes care of the sparrows, which is the lowest bird of all, how much more will he take care of you? So, the sparrow is the lowest bird in the bird family, and it represents the fact that David had such an attitude of humility that he realized that he was a nothing, but a nothing can reach Supergrace.

1Co 1:26-29, *"For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, and the base things of the world and the despised, God has chosen, the things that are not, that He might nullify the things that are, that no man should boast before God."*

A man can cause himself to be a courageous spiritual man not by dressing up the outward appearance but by dressing up his soul. The same thing is true for the woman. She can cause herself to be a fantastic beautiful woman not by dressing up the outward, but by dressing up the inner soul with the result that her character and integrity will reveal what's inside. That's why Paul said in 1Ti 2:9-10, *"Likewise, I want women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly garments; but rather by means of good works, as is fitting for women making a claim to living the spiritual life."*

So Psa 84:3 *"The sparrow also has found a house, And the swallow a nest for herself,"* If the sparrow is taken care of by God, and if the sparrow has found a house in Supergrace, how much more can you develop that Supergrace capacity to receive from God? That's what God wants you to do. He wants you to have within your soul a Supergrace capacity to be blessed by Him. The sparrows and the swallows are the two most helpless of all the birds, and they have found a nest, and the word nest means a *resting place*. It is the Hebrew noun *qen* which means a resting place, a chamber or dwelling. The sparrow and the swallow have one thing in common, both of them live low to the ground and both of them are secure when they nest. So, they have found a resting place, and it is found in verses 1

and 2, in the courts of the Lord; the Tabernacles of the Lord. Notice that the emphasis is on the place where the Word of God is being communicated. That's the place that your soul should long for. The ministry is nothing, and the man is nothing, but it's the words that are coming forth from the pulpit that give life, and that's the place your soul should long after. That's the place that's giving you a capacity to reach Supergrace so that God can give you what He wants.

So, notice that it's the Tabernacle of God and the Courts of the Lord that provide you with a resting place and with security. Your resting place is the place where doctrine is taught. It is in the body of Christ. This is because that's where God communicates to you His mind so that you can have a capacity to have rest and security in the upcoming trials of life. In other words, you can't get it by yourself. You must get it communicated to you in the place that God has ordained for the communication of Bible doctrine. You wander around until you find your right pastor and then that becomes your home. As our Lord said in Mat 11:29 *"Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls."* And when a group of individuals do this, then people work together and they can do so much more than just one person.

Psa 84:3-4, *"The sparrow also has found a house, And the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, Even Thine altars, O Lord of the armies, My King and my God. How blessed or happinesses to those who dwell in Thy house! They are ever praising Thee. Selah."* They will be at peace, at rest, and they will continually be praising and giving thanks to the Lord. You praise God when you set aside time to perceive, metabolize and apply Bible doctrine. You end up praising God by your faithfulness and support and daily intake of the word of God. Remember that if you have the privilege of having a local doctrinal ministry then you should live in the light of Heb 10:25 *"not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near."*

The Hebrew word *`ashreey* is the plural of happiness and it is used because there are seven categories of happinesses, spiritual, category one, temporal, category two, association, category three, historical impact, category four undeserved suffering, category five, dying blessings, category six, blessings at the Judgment Seat of Christ, category seven. The word *Selah* at the end of the verse means take a rest singers and go on and play orchestra, in other words, you can rest on this, that's why it was used.

In Psa 84:5 *"How blessed or happinesses again to those whose strength [Supergrace status] is in You; In whose right lobe are the highways to Zion or Supergrace and ultra-Supergrace!"* Happinesses belong to those whose strength or power comes from God. They're receiving power, and they are receiving capacity to become Supergrace people and to be blessed by God.

Psa 84:6 *"Passing through the valley of Baca, they make it a spring, The early rain also covers it with blessings."* Ultra-Supergrace believers go through the valley of Baca. The valley of Baca is the place of sorrows, the place of suffering, it is a place of pressure.

Notice that these Supergrace men and women pass through the valley of tears and pressure. They're not buried by the valley of tears and pressure. They pass right through it because happinesses belong to them.

Does it mean that they don't cry? No!

Does it mean that they are not under pressure? No!

Does it mean that they don't have legitimate times of tears? No!

But when they go through those times, ultimately, they don't let the pressure get to them. They may fail momentarily, but they rebound and move forward! Instead what they do is that they overcome the situation through Supergrace. In other words, they begin to draw from the resources of God in ultra-Supergrace. Psa 84:6 *"Passing through the valley of Baca, they make it a spring or a pool, the early rain [different categories of blessings from Supergrace] also covers it or saturates it [their undeserved suffering] with blessings."*

Ultra-Supergrace is the place of the maximum suffering which intensifies the blessings of Supergrace. So, as they pass through the places of tears, they begin to draw resources from God to give them the power to overcome the pressure. They've got Supergrace so they've got the power to do anything because everything is provided for them when they go through times of trial, adversity, sorrows or suffering. That's why the Bible says in Mat 5:10 *"Happinesses to those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake."* This means that happiness can belong to you when you go through times of being persecuted because you have Supergrace capacity to receive from God.

The problem is that many people don't even have the capacity. Until you have a capacity to reach Supergrace, you will never be a mature person in the Christian life. It doesn't matter how much knowledge you get, if you don't have a capacity to enter into Supergrace and to enjoy rest and happinesses, you will never ever become a mature Christian. This is one of the reasons why the church is so weak today because we don't have many Supergrace people in it at all. Psa 84:6 *"The early rain [different categories of blessings from Supergrace] also saturates it [their undeserved suffering] with blessings."*

The rain represents the blessings from God, and the word springs tells us that these people have a capacity to fill up their lives with the blessings from above. God wants you to have a spring in your life as an empty vessel. Look at Jer 48:11 *"Moab has been at ease since his youth; He has also been undisturbed on his lees, Neither has he been emptied from vessel to vessel, Nor has he gone into exile. Therefore he retains his flavor, And his aroma has not changed."* In this passage, the children of God would not fight the good fight of faith and it says that they had settled down on their lees. Lees is like a foam that comes on the top of wine when it settles for a long time, and it says that because they didn't pour out their cup and they tried to retain what was theirs, they didn't have anymore capacity to get fresh new blessings from God. The principle is this, unless you begin to share your blessings with those who are around you because of what Christ has done for you, unless you begin to let your cup be empty, you won't have a capacity for fresh new blessings. You see, many people reach a point in Christianity where they think they've got it all down pat,

and they don't have to continue with learning doctrine. They think they have arrived and they no longer need to be taught anything. Or they think because they have more knowledge than someone else that they can't receive anything from them, and that is ridiculous. They're full, but they're not fresh, you can be full but not fresh. They don't have a capacity to be blessed by God because their springs are filled with water from yesterday, it's yesterday's manna, instead of a fresh new relationship with God today.

So in Psa 84:7-9, "*They go from strength [Supergrace] to strength [ultra-Supergrace], Every one of them appears before God or is seen by God in Zion [Supergrace status]. O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; Give ear, O God of Jacob! Selah. Behold our shield, O God, And look upon the face of Thine anointed.*" The shield represents the Word of God that's in your life. Take up the shield of what? Faith-*Pistis*.

*Pistis* is that which is believed, and this is the super-grace believer saying to God, "*Behold our shield, Oh God.*" He is saying "*Behold it, we've got the shield You've given us which demands a blessing from You.*" The Word of God commands a blessing, it commands a healing. Psa 107:20 "*He sent His word and healed them, And delivered them from their destructions.*" So that in Psa 84:9 "*Behold our shield, O God, And look upon the face of Thine anointed.*" Notice the confidence the writer of this Psalm has, he says, *look at my shield, and look at my face. I'm your anointed.* Only a super-grace believer will be able to have confidence like this. Only a Supergrace believer will be able to have what 1Jo 4:17 says, "*confidence in the day of judgment;*" The problem with many believers today is that they try to compete and compare because they aren't confident in whom Christ has made them to be.

Then in Psa 84:10 "*For a day in Thy courts is better than a thousand outside.* [therefore, this is the attitude of the Supergrace believer.] *I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God [as a Supergrace believer], than dwell in the tents of wickedness [or reversionistic pleasure].* This verse brings out the principle that it takes a day at a time attitude. Therefore PSA 84:10 One day in Bible class is better than a thousand days in reversionism, that's what it means! One day in Bible class is worth all the activities and pleasures that life can ever give you because you could go out there and chalk up a thousand days of pleasures and activities, but if you don't have a capacity to receive blessing, what good is it when you get them? You'll only want more because you won't be able to appreciate what you have today. You see, God wants every one of us to live one day at a time. You live one day at a time, enjoying the Christian life, because you don't even know what tomorrow will bring. God forbid, but let's face it, you could die on the way home tonight. What's the use of worrying about what you're going to do next week, next month and next year and not enjoying today? Then, when you get to heaven, you'll say, "I had a lot of happinesses stored up for me in the future"; big deal, the future never came."

Psa 84:11 "*For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.*" The word grace refers to

Super-grace. The Lord's going to give you more grace, and more promotion. God desires to promote us and if you're not promoted, it's because God hasn't done it yet. Many people try to get promoted in the church of God. However, promotion comes from grace, and unless you are rightly related to the grace of God, you're not going to get promoted. The most frustrating thing in the world is when someone who has not been promoted by God is living in a position that they shouldn't even be in because they placed themselves there rather than allowing their promotion to be the results of God's grace. There are many men behind the pulpit today who are there because they placed themselves there rather than allowing God to place them where they should be. As a result, they have to have all kinds of gimmicks and programs and dog and pony shows to get and keep a congregation. Just as the sun provides so many things for life, here it becomes an analogy to grace provision. The shield represents protection. No good thing [divine good] does He withhold from those who walk uprightly or with honor. Who walks with honor? The Supergrace believer and the ultra-Supergrace believer.

Then the conclusion Psa 84:12 *"O Lord of the armies, How happy or happinesses to the one who depends on You!"*

The word trust here means to depend upon God. God has so many blessings for all of us but the only thing that holds us back is not having the capacity to receive what is rightfully ours that was given to us before the foundation of the world. However, for many different reasons, most believers are not on that highway where those blessings are. So, God desires for each of us to get back on that highway of Supergrace and to receive what is rightfully ours.

Point 8. Supergrace is the objective of the believer after salvation (Eph 3:14-19).

Eph 3:14 *"For this reason, I bow my knees before the Father,"* Any prayer when recorded in Scripture has great significance. Notice again that the pattern of prayer is set, God the Father is the recipient of all prayer. Eph 3:15 *"from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name,"* The word *family* is noun *patria* which is where we get the word patriot from and which describes what we really are, members of the Royal family of God. Every family in heaven refers to the believers who are now home with the Lord. The phrase *on earth* refers of course to the members of the royal family who are still living in the Church-age. So the family of God in the Church-age is divided as to its location.

Eph 3:16 *"that He would graciously give to you, according to the riches of His glory,"*

Here again we see the principle of Supergrace. God's purpose and God's plan demands that He gives to us, and in giving to us, He is glorified. We are not only totally helpless before salvation but we are totally helpless after salvation. So as a child of God, we are to become recipients of His grace in a very special way. For many people, one of the most difficult things in the world is to be a receiver of something you did not earn or deserve. Grace makes it very difficult to take credit. At no time can you stand back and say, I did that, I

earned it, I deserved it. There is a total destruction of pride that makes it very difficult for us to be receivers. In verse 16, the Greek verb for *give* is *didomi* and the interesting thing is some translations have it in the optative mood which means to graciously give, to give one something for the advantage of the giver or the receiver. It is to the believer's advantage to receive grace from God and God is glorified as the Giver of that grace. Here the word is in the subjunctive mood which means maybe He will, maybe He will not. The optative mood merely presents the action as conceivable but not definite, still contingent. It expresses the mood of strong desire not yet being fulfilled. We have studied the different classes of the word *if* in the Bible, the four conditional clauses; First, If, and it's true. Second, If, and it is not true. Third, If, maybe it is, maybe it is not. Then the fourth, I wish it were true but it is not! The fourth class condition, presents a subjunctive in the less probable future and it usually revealed by the optative mood of the verb. The point is that when Paul said in Eph 3:16 *"that He would graciously give to you, according to the riches of His glory,"* At this time the Ephesians were not receiving all of the blessings that God desired to give them. There were few, if not any, who were on the road to Supergrace and ultra-Supergrace. God desires to graciously give to you, and grace you out, but there must be a norm or standard for His giving. The phrase *according to the riches* refers to the abundant Supergrace provisions and benefits which flow from the grace of God.

So, Eph 3:16 *"that He would graciously give to you, according to the riches of His glory, for you to be strengthened with His power [dunamis] through His Spirit in the new man [the new creature or the new spiritual species];*

God's way of conveying His plan and His way of providing for us and revealing Himself to us is to communicate to us the power and strength to do so.

Eph 3:17 *"so that Christ may be at home in your right lobes by means of doctrine; and that you, being rooted and grounded in virtue-love,"*

The purpose of the Holy Spirit in verse 16 strengthening the inner man is to build a structure in your soul and to establish divine viewpoint as your frame of reference. The key here is the Greek verb for *may dwell*, which is *katoikeo* which means to be at home or to be comfortable. We have all been in places where we did not feel comfortable. Christ is not at home in every life, He's only at home in those believers who are under the principal of Bible doctrine.