

Choose to Rest
Sunday August 18, 2024
Dr. Pete Norris

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, **Ephesians 2:8 NKJV**

Grace is what God does independent of us. His work has nothing to do with us or it wouldn't be grace. It takes faith on our part to release the grace of God. You can't force God to do anything. He has already done it. What does God want me to do? He wants you to understand, believe and receive what He's already provided. Faith is not something you do to get God to do something. Faith is just your positive response to what God has already done by grace.

So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit. **John 19:30 NKJV**

Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness— by whose stripes you were healed. **I Peter 2:24 NKJV**

God doesn't move when you believe Him. If you believe God for healing, He doesn't respond to you and heal you.

And what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power **Ephesians 1:19 NKJV**

You don't need God to heal you. He has already done it. You need to understand what has already been provided by grace and learn how to release that provision out into your soul and body by faith. You don't need God to do anything. You don't need God to bless you. You don't need joy and peace. You are complete in Christ.

To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.
Colossians 1:27 NKJV

For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power. **Colossians 2:9, 10 NKJV**

It's much easier to defend what you've already got than it is to try to get something that you don't have.

Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

Hebrews 13:5 NKJV

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; **Luke 4:18 NKJV**

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, **II Corinthians 1:21 NKJV**

But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. **I John 2:20 NKJV**

Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting." **Matthew 17:19-21 NKJV**

While He was still speaking, some came from the ruler of the synagogue's house who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?" As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not be afraid; only believe." **Mark 5:35-36 NKJV**

Then He came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and saw a tumult and those who wept and wailed loudly. When He came in, He said to them, "Why make this commotion and weep? The child is not dead, but sleeping." And they ridiculed Him. But when He had put them all outside, He took the father and the mother of the child, and those who were with Him, and entered where the child was lying. Then He took the child by the hand, and said to her,

“Talitha, cumi,” which is translated, “Little girl, I say to you, arise.” **Mark 5:38-41 NKJV**

And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.” Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!” **Mark 9:22-24 NKJV**

For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works. And in this place again, If they shall enter into my rest. Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief: Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts. For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief. **Hebrews 4:3-11 KJV**