"this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand"(1Pe_5:12)

Psa 63:7-11

Psa 63:7 Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.

Psa 63:8 My soul followeth hard after thee: thy right hand upholdeth me.

Psa 63:9 But those that seek my soul, to destroy it, shall go into the lower parts of the earth.

Psa 63:10 They shall fall by the sword: they shall be a portion for foxes.

Psa 63:11 But the king shall rejoice in God; every one that sweareth by him shall glory: but the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stopped.

Surely Christ took our stripes upon himself (<u>1Pe 2:24</u>) and resisted sin unto the shedding of blood (<u>Heb 12:4</u>). He stood in the "true grace" and was enabled by the power of the holy spirit and the angels of God that ministered to him throughout His life to be able to "stand" (<u>Psa 91:12</u>, <u>Mat 4:6</u>, <u>Pro 24:16</u>) setting an example for us of how we can "stand" and be as Christ is in this life (<u>1Jn 4:17</u>).

Whether we resist sin to the point of literally being martyred and having our blood shed is not the point of this verse in Hebrews 12 that talks about resisting sin unto the shedding of blood (Heb_12:4) but rather is a reminder or admonition for God's elect that we as one collective spiritual body are dying daily by standing in the "true grace" of God which washes the saints with the blood of Christ (Rev_7:14, Act_14:22) transforming the carnal mind of the first man Adam in each of us (Rom_12:2) so that we can be fitly framed and set in the body as God has determined (1Co_12:18) united by the same blood or word of God that we share and don't think above (1Co_4:6) having the same mind (Php_2:2) being formed through the gift that God has given the elect in this age to resist sin unto the shedding of blood which is another way of saying we are putting off our fleshly carnal ways or conversations of seeing and thinking (Eph_4:22) as we become sanctified vessels of honour that glorify God in this earth (Joh_17:17, 2Co_3:18).

We are being mercifully grafted into His body and not rejected but accepted in the beloved (<u>Eph_1:6</u>) through this process of grace and faith that is needful and necessary for the elect to endure through today if we are going to become that healthy branch that God will use to show mercy to the rest of the world who will be grafted into the body of Christ in due time (<u>Rom_11:7-18</u>)

We take care to not have dominion over each other's faith which is a gift given to each of us (2Co_1:24, Eph_2:8) and God willing are part of that process of faithfully helping each other inherit this inheritance through the washing of the word (Eph_5:26) and resisting of sin unto the shedding of blood (Heb_12:4) receiving as joint heirs in that faith the salvation that God is giving us through Christ (Rom_8:13, Rom_8:17).

We confess our faults to each other (<u>Jas_5:16</u>) and follow the pattern of sound words in Matthew 18 that reconcile us to Christ in one another and in following these patterns we see yet again another example of how we resist the carnal ways of our first man Adam who does not want to deal with the messiness of sin both within ourselves and our family (<u>Mat_18:15</u>).

Covering a transgression can only happen after that sin becomes evident within us (<u>1Jn_1:6</u>). If we disregard sin in the body it will eventually be found out and God will bring it to light (<u>Num_32:23</u>, <u>Gal_6:7</u>, <u>Pro_17:9</u>, <u>Pro_28:13</u>).

This study will look at the "true grace" that we are blessed to be experiencing in this age as God gives us what we need to be able to "stand" in this age as the body of Christ that is being cleansed through this process of grace and faith which enables us to stand ($\underline{\mathrm{Eph}}$ 2:8, $\underline{\mathrm{Eph}}$ 6:13).

Psa 63:7 Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.

If God is our helper (Heb_13:6) who can be against us comes to mind as we read this part of verse seven in Psalms 63 "because thou hast been my help", but what we also note as being very significant is where God provides that help which is "in the shadow of thy wings" (Rev_4:8-11). Anything that has a shadow has to have a physical object to cast it, and God is invisible and cast no shadow (Jas_1:17, Heb_11:27) telling us that this shadow of his wing is referring to the body of Christ which has the spirit of God in earnest and have been raised in heavenly places (Eph_2:6) although we yet see through a glass darkly (1Co_13:12) because of the shadow that flesh still casts in our hearts (Joh_1:5, Isa_45:7, Psa_139:12, Eph_1:14). When Christ was resurrected and the spirit was sent on Pentecost the church of God became "the shadow of thy wings". This shadow is something that we "rejoice" in knowing that there is peace and love and strength there, but this shadow and earnest joy that we share today as the body of Christ is going to pass away unto something much greater and uninhibited by the restrictions that flesh brings upon us (1Co_15:50, 2Co_5:16).

Heb 13:6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Rev_4:8 And the four beasts had each of them six wings about *him*; and *they were* full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

Rev 4:9 And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever,

Rev 4:10 The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, Rev 4:11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Eph 2:6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

1Co 13:12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

Jas 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the

Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Heb 11:27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

Joh 1:5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

Isa 45:7 I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these *things*.

1Co 15:50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

2Co 5:16 Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we *him* no more.

2Co 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Any comments on this verse?

Psa 63:8 My soul followeth hard after thee: thy right hand upholdeth me.

If we "followeth hard after thee" it is because Christ "right hand upholdeth me" that we can continue to endure this following hard wrestling match with the Lord through the night (<u>Gen_32:24</u>). Whether we know it or not <u>we</u> are being dragged (<u>Joh_6:44</u>) into spiritual combat when we are dragged to the Lord where <u>we</u> are cleansed of darkness because <u>we</u> are being drawn to walk in the light of Christ (<u>1Jn_1:7</u>).

Gen 32:24 And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.

Joh 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

1Jn 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

The whole world lives and moves and has their being within Christ (Act 17:28) and He is the author of every book of life and how those books intertwine with our own books. We can see from that perspective that there is no lack of spiritual resources (*books written and being written to intertwine with our own*) that God can use to accomplish what He has already declared from the beginning will be accomplished in each of us (Isa 46:10).

Act 17:28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

Isa 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times *the things* that are not *yet* done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

It is an evil experience that we are called unto in this life and it humbles us both from what happens to us individually and how we see the Lord working with the rest of the world the other fold, but we ought to take great refuge and hope in the fact that "thy right hand upholdeth me" because it is through this process of being held up that all the giants of our land within and without become bread for us (Num 14:9) and enable to become more than conquerors through Christ (Rom 8:37).

Num 14:9 Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not.

Rom 8:37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

We do more than overcome the beast within, we become more than conquerors through Christ in time after we are strengthened by the experiences of evil that we go through and the much tribulation which follow us throughout this life (Ecc 1:13, Act 14:22). These experiences in a converted mind strengthen us and help us bring the beasts that we are into subjection unto Christ within each other so that we then receive the benefit of every joint that supplies to the body of Christ (1Pe 5:10, Luk 22:32).

Ecc 1:13 And I gave my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all *things* that are done under heaven: this sore travail hath God given to the sons of man to be exercised therewith.

Act 14:22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, *and* exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

1Pe 5:10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*.

Luk 22:32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

Give us this day our daily bread (*bread for us*) (Mat 6:11) should take on a new meaning to God's elect now, as we are commanded to follow after Christ day by day denying ourselves and carrying our cross (Mat 16:24). It is therefore in the carrying of our cross that we are nourished, and it is because we are given to follow hard after Christ that we in fact are able to labour for the meat which does not perish (Joh 6:27). The meat is not just the word of God but the word being tried and tested through the daily experiences that God mercifully drags us into where we learn that "thy right hand upholdeth me"(Rom 10:17, 1Pe 1:7)

Mat 6:11 Give us this day our daily bread.

Mat 16:24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Joh 6:27 Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth

unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

Rom 10:17 So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

1Pe 1:7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

A message to the elders

- **1Pe 5:1** The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:
- 1Pe 5:2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight *thereof*, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;
- 1Pe 5:3 Neither as being lords over *God's* heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.
- 1Pe 5:4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

A message to each of us

- 1Pe 5:5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all *of you* be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.
- 1Pe 5:6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:
- 1Pe 5:7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.
- 1Pe 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:
- 1Pe 5:9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.
- 1Pe 5:10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*.
- 1Pe 5:11 To him *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

A message to a faithful brother

- 1Pe 5:12 By Silvanus, a faithful brother unto you, as I suppose, I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand.
- 1Pe 5:13 The *church that is* at Babylon, elected together with *you*, saluteth you; and *so doth* Marcus my son.
- 1Pe 5:14 Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity. Peace *be* with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Any comments on this verse?

Psa 63:9 But those that seek my soul, to destroy it, shall go into the lower parts of the earth.

Those who hate us without a cause, or seek my soul, to destroy *it*, shall go into the lower parts of the earth reminds us of Saul falling to the ground, the lower part of the earth which event typified where Saul was at this point with earthly and sensual understanding not knowing that He was persecuting Jesus Christ but mercifully the Lord was about to reveal himself and bring him to see that he is blind.

Act 9:1 And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

Act 9:2 And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem. Act 9:3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

Act 9:4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

Act 9:5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: *it is* hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

Act 9:6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord *said* unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

Jud 1:19 These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit.

Jud 1:20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

Jud 1:21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

Jud 1:22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:

Jud 1:23 And others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

Jud 1:24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

Jud 1:25 To the only wise God our Saviour, *be* glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Any comments on this verse?

Psa 63:10 They shall fall by the sword: they shall be a portion for foxes.

To "fall by the sword" is not a bad thing, neither to see that stage in our life when we are a "portion for foxes" knowing that our old man or corruptible flesh must be put off and fall by the sword of the spirit (<u>Eph 6:17</u>) as our own iniquities chasten us which is the meat that the gentile fox in us receives of our Lord (<u>Luk 13:32</u>).

Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Luk 13:32 And he said unto them, Go ye, and tell that fox, Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures to day and to morrow, and the third *day* I shall be perfected.

Any comments on this verse?

Psa 63:11 But the king shall rejoice in God; every one that sweareth by him shall glory: but the mouth of them that speak lies shall be stopped.

Today we live in a world where "the mouth of them that speak lies" are not stopped and yet the day is coming when the world will understand why we 'rejoice in the Lord and again I say rejoice' in this age (Php 4:4-6).

Php 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

Php 4:5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

Php 4:6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

As we learn to present ourselves a living sacrifice we become careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving we will let our requests be made known unto God and learn that "every one that sweareth by him shall glory" because it is God who enables us to go from "glory to glory" and bring us to a place where we are no longer "of them that speak lies".

We all start off "speaking lies" because we are of our father the devil who was a liar from the beginning (<u>Joh_8:44</u>) however our great hope of glory is that God will stop us from speaking lies in this age and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works (<u>Deu_7:6</u>, <u>Tit_2:14</u>).

Joh 8:44 Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Deu 7:6 For thou *art* an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that *are* upon the face of the earth.

Tit 2:14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Any comments on this last verse?