

# THE GOD OF ALL GRACE

## I PETER 5:1-14

**BACKGROUND:** As you end with the God of all grace, so you began: “Grace and peace be yours in abundance. (**I Peter 1:2**) For Peter, and for you and me, grace is unearned and unmerited favor. Spiros Zodhiates, The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament, p. 1469.

**REWARDS** the elder that serves like Jesus. That is (1) like a shepherd that watches over his flock, (2) like one that serves willingly, (3) like one that serves not for financial gain, and (4) like one that is not overbearing or domineering but by being an example to the flock. For those who have served faithfully, Jesus Christ, the chief Shepherd, will reward the crown of glory that does not fade. (**I Peter 5:1-4, fn 5:1, fn 5:2-5, I Timothy 3:1-7, fn 3:1, Hebrews 13:7, fn 13:7, Hebrews 13:17, fn 13:17**) *What is important to remember as you serve Christ?*

**GIVES** grace to the humble. Humility is “lowliness of mind, the esteeming of ourselves small, inasmuch as we are so, the correct estimate of ourselves... For the sinner humility involves the confession of his sin and a deep realization of his unworthiness to receive God’s marvelous grace.” Spiros Zodhiates, p. 1366. When a small group or church clothes itself with humility, the abundance of grace is evident. (**I Peter 5:5-7, fn 5:5, fn 5:7, James 4:6, 10, fn 4:6-7, 10, II Corinthians 12:6-10, fn 12:7-8, II Timothy 2:1, fn 2:1, Hebrews 12:14-15, fn 12:15**) *How could you daily experience more grace?*

**RESTORES.** Be alert as you fight your battles of fiery ordeals against the many schemes of the devil. He may use believers, unbelievers, and maybe your own flesh and blood or your earthly body; so we must stay alert to his ways. These trials are temporary, and you will be strengthened, confirmed, and established as the God of all grace restores you. (**I Peter 5:8-11, fn 5:8-9, fn 5:10, II Corinthians 4:16-18, fn 4:17, fn 4:18, I Peter 4:12, I Peter 3:13, I Peter 2:20-21, I Peter 1:6-7**) *What are the benefits of suffering?*

*Are you taking time to experience the presence of the Holy Spirit with the Living Word teaching you and giving you His joy, His love, and His peace?*

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