Ro 10:6 But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven?

Ro 11:6 And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.

Ro 1:17 For therein is **the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith**: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. Hab 2:4 Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith. Ga 3:11 But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith. Heb 10:38 Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

Ro 10:8 But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; 9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

De 30:14 But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.

John 3:18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. 6:29 Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent. 47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. 63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

1Jo 2:5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

Joh 5:38 And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not.

John 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; 32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

John 12:48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

John 15:20 Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.

John 17:14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

2Co 4:2 But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

Php 2:16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

2Th 3:14 And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed.

1Jo 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. Re 3:8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

Heart for the Lord

De 13:3 Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

Jer 29:13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. Joe 2:12 Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:

De 10:16 Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no more stiffnecked. 11:13 And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the LORD your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, 16 Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;

Ps 62:8 Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah. 69:32 The humble shall see this, and be glad: and your heart shall live that seek God

Pr 23:26 My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways.

Jer 3:15 And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding. 4:4 Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the foreskins of your heart, ye men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem: lest my fury come forth like fire, and burn that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings 17:10 I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings. 24:7 And I will give them an heart to know me, that I am the LORD: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God: for they shall return unto me with their whole heart. 32:39 And I will give them one heart, and one way, that they may fear me for ever, for the good of them, and of their children after them:

Eze 36:26 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. 1Ch 28:9 And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.

The Sixth Dispensation is of, **Grace** is from the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ to the work of Righteousness in the day of the Lord.

The testing under grace will be with Judgment, love, mercy, and faith.

Mic 6:8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Jas 1:27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

Mt 23:23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

Lu 11:42 But woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

Luke 17:26 And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.

2Pe 2:5 And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;

Luke 17:30 Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.

Ro 5:17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

Ro 5:21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Ga 2:21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

**The Day of Grace** began the day Jesus Christ arose from the dead and He showed Himself alive by many infallible proofs.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is well documented for the entire world to know.

Acts 1:3—*To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:*

4:33*—And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.*

Romans 1:3*—Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;* 4*—And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:*

1Cor. 15:3*—For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;*4*—And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:*

1Peter 1:3*—Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead*

Joel 2:1 *Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand;*

12 *Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:*

15 *Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly:*

**The Day of Grace has included the Day of Pentecost.**

Joel 2:23—***Be glad*** *then, ye children of Zion,* ***and rejoice*** *in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.*

A call for celebration

***Be glad*** *then, …* ***rejoice*** *in the LORD your God for he hath given*

Isaiah *27:13 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the great trumpet shall be blown, and they shall come which were ready to perish in the land of Assyria, and the outcasts in the land of Egypt, and shall worship the LORD in the holy mount at Jerusalem.*

*Jas 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.*

*Ho 6:3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.*

*Zec 10:1 ¶ Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain; so the LORD shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field.*

*Isa 61:10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.*

*11 For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations.*

*Re 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.*

*8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. {white: or, bright}*

Joel 2:28*—And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:*  29*—And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.* 30*—And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.* 31*—The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.* 32*—And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.*

4:8*—Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,*

10*—Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.* 10:40*—Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly;* 44*—While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.* 45*—And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.*

Acts 2:17*—And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:* 18*—And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:* 19*—And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:*  20*—The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:*

21*—And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

Acts 2:17-21 The Work of God in the **Last Days**: these are the last days, the days of God's last work on earth. Standing there before thousands, Peter declared:

Today, this day, the great prophecy of Joel begins to be fulfilled (Joel 2:28-32)

Today, this day, begins the *last days* of earth's history.

Today, this day, begins the *last days* of God's work on earth.

Today, this day, begins the last days, the final age of God's plan for human history.

Today, this day, begins the last days, the dispensation of God's grace (the church), the age of the gospel.

**T**he "last days" mean all the above. The *last days* began when Christ came to earth and they will end when Christ returns to earth.

1.  The last days include the great outpouring of God's Spirit.

a.  The word "pour" (*ekcheō*) means to pour out, to pour forth, to shed forth. It means that God gives His Spirit...

•  to *dwell in* the believer John 14:17; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; II Cor. 6:16

•  to *abide with* the believer forever (John 14:16).

•  to fill, to overflow, to abundantly *fill* the believer (Ephes. 5:18).

•  to give special *manifestations* of Christ to the believer (John 14:21).

b.  God pours out His Spirit upon *all flesh*...

•  upon son and daughters.

•  upon young men and old men.

•  upon His slaves, servants, and handmaidens.

The point is this: God's Spirit shows no discrimination. The Spirit of God is available to all: male and female, young and old, slave and free, rich and poor.

c.  God pours out His Spirit with very special gifts...

•  the gift of prophecy: proclaiming and predicting the truth, this gift is given to both men and women. This was part of the Scriptural promise.

•  the gift of seeing visions, especially among young men. The Greek word "visions" (*horaseis*) means appearance (Rev. 4:3) or an ecstatic revelation (Rev. 9:17). In Scripture the Greek word is used for both what a man can envision (see, imagine, think, cause to appear) within his own mind and what is given him by God through a special revelation (Rev. 9:17).

•  the gift of dreaming dreams, especially among older men. The idea is that a dream is given by God.

History has shown and Scripture warns that spiritual gifts are often misused and abused, tragically and destructively so.

1)  We must guard against accepting every dream and vision as being of God. God's Word is the revelation of God. What God wants to reveal to us is therein. We must stand upon God's Word and measure every vision and dream by God’s Word.

2)  A study of the visions and dreams in the Book of Acts shows that everyone of them had to do with witnessing, with reaching people for Christ. Not a single dream or vision had to do with *personal edification* or with *boosting self to be spiritually superior*.

d.  God pours out His Spirit only upon His servants and upon His handmaidens. This is the emphasis of this verse, the reason for repeating what has just been said. Note that the verse is a summary statement: no one receives God's Spirit, no one, not until they become His servant or His handmaiden.

e.  God gifts His servants and His handmaidens with one very special gift—the gift of prophecy. What is so important. The gift of prophecy, of proclaiming that God's very own Son has come into the world to save sinners, is the primary gift of God's Spirit. Every one of God's servants and handmaidens are gifted to prophesy.

**T**he devastating blow to the ego

1)  So many of us leave proclamation, that is, witnessing, up to others, using the flimsy excuse that we are not capable nor gifted to witness.

2)  Too many enjoy the prestige of a *gift* and a *ministry*, minimizing the lay ministry and the layman's gift to proclaim Christ. And although there are *measures* or degrees of gifts, the great need of the hour is for every believer to proclaim the living Lord.

The Spirit of Grace

Zech. 12:10-14

Zech. 12:10*—And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem,* ***the spirit of grace*** *and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.*

I. A Great Blessing - vs. 10 "I will pour upon the house of David...the Spirit of grace and of supplications"

1. An Act of God - "I will pour" Implies abundance - Joel 2:28 2. Results of The Outpouring -

(1) To the sinner - John 16:8-11 (2) To the believer - John 16:13-15

3. The Contents of The Outpouring -

(1) "The Spirit of grace" Leads to salvation - (2) "The Spirit of supplications" Leads to repentance and prayer -

II. A Great Revelation - vs. 10 "They shall look upon Me when they have pierced"

They despised and rejected Him - they said, "we will not have this man to reign over us." They cried for His crucifixion.

1. They shall look to Him - "In that day" - The day He returns.

Acts 1:11 "This same Jesus." He shall appear bearing the marks of the Cross in His hands.

Zech.13:6 "And one shall say unto Him, What are these wounds in thine hands."

These wounds are the marks of His identity -

He still bears those wounds - John 20:20 The wounds will remain through all eternity - as a witness to His triumphant resurrection over death.

2. To look implies many things -

(1) Revelation - Psa. 34:5

(2) Faith as a gift

(3) Salvation - Isa. 45:22 (4) Faith as fruit- Rom. 1:17; Heb. 12:2

III. A Great Revival - vs. 10-12

They shall mourn for Him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for Him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn. In that day shall there be a great mourning in Jerusalem."

The Absolute Greatest Test of all is to become the Bride of Christ

Rev. 19:7—*Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.* 8*—And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.*

Luke 12:36—*And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately.*

Gen. 24:58*—And they called Rebekah, and said unto her, Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go.*

Ruth 3:3—*Wash thyself therefore, and anoint thee, and put thy raiment upon thee, and get thee down to the floor: but make not thyself known unto the man, until he shall have done eating and drinking.* 4*—And it shall be, when he lieth down, that thou shalt mark the place where he shall lie, and thou shalt go in, and uncover his feet, and lay thee down; and* ***he will tell thee what thou shalt do.***

Esther 2:15*—Now when the turn of Esther, the daughter of Abihail the uncle of Mordecai, who had taken her for his daughter, was come to go in unto the king,* ***she required nothing but what Hegai*** *the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women,* ***appointed****. And Esther obtained favour in the sight of all them that looked upon her.*

Song 1:4*—Draw me, we will run after thee: the king hath brought me into his chambers: we will be glad and rejoice in thee, we will remember thy love more than wine: the upright love thee.* 5:7*—The watchmen that went about the city found me, they smote me, they wounded me; the keepers of the walls took away my veil from me.* 7:10*—I am my beloved's, and his desire is toward me.*

Psalm 45:9*—Kings' daughters were among thy honourable women: upon thy right hand did stand the queen in gold of Ophir.* 11*—So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty: for he is thy Lord; and worship thou him.* 13*—The king's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold.* 14*—She shall be brought unto the king in raiment of needlework: the virgins her companions that follow her shall be brought unto thee.*

1Peter 1: 3—Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.