A Cross before a Crown

1Peter 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.*

11—*To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen*.

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.*

1. **The Calling to His Glory**
   1. There is Grace with the Calling

There is God’s all Sufficient Grace is for you to make it. *“But the God of all grace”*

2Cor.12:9*—And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*

2Cor. 4:15*—For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God.*

2Cor. 8:9*—For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.*

2Cor. 9:8*—And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:*

Romans 16:24*—The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.*

2Cor.13:14*—The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all.*

*Eph 6:24 Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Amen.*

*Php 4:23 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.*

*2Th 3:18 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.*

1. Prevenient Grace
2. Illuminating Grace
3. Saving Grace
4. Justifying Grace
5. Enabling Grace
6. Sustaining Grace
7. Refreshing Grace
8. Comforting Grace
9. Restoring Grace
10. Growing Grace
11. Enduring Grace
12. Sanctifying Grace
13. Living Grace
14. Dying Grace
15. Grace to be Watchful
16. Grace to be Sober
17. Grace to Resist
    1. There are Stages in the Calling
       1. Infancy 🡪 Child
       2. Cadet 🡪 Solider
       3. Child 🡪 Son
    2. There is a Climax to the Calling
       1. Christ is the Ideal to Behold.

(Heb 1:3) Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

* + 1. Christ is the Example to Follow.

(2Co 3:18) But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, *even* as by the Spirit of the Lord.

(Mat 5:48) Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

(Eph 4:13) Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

--Christ’s glory should become our experience.--

* 1. There are Requirements in the Calling.

(Matthew 22:14) For many are called, but few *are* chosen.

1. **The Cause of the Cross**
   1. There will be conflict.
      1. Personal Conflict
      2. Family Conflict
      3. World Conflict
      4. Spiritual Conflict
   2. There must be conviction.
2. **The Course to the Crown**
   1. The Reason for Suffering

The course to the crown is through suffering. God’s purpose is to make you perfect. He allows suffering for a TEST.

* + 1. Test of Faith
    2. Test of Patience
    3. Test of Obedience
    4. Test of Faithfulness
  1. The Results of Suffering

(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.*