

PORTRAITS OF GRACE

Pastor Paul Chappell | Sunday Morning | May 21, 2017

MESSAGE TITLE: GRACE FOR THE SPRIT-FILLED

“And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministrations. 2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. 3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. 4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word. 5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch: 6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.” (Acts 6:1–6)

INTRODUCTION

1. STEPHEN'S GRACE TO

“Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.” (Acts 2:41)

“Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.” (Acts 4:4)

“Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:” (Hebrews 12:28)

A. He Was Full of _____

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1)

“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.” (Hebrews 11:6)

B. He Was Full of the Holy _____

“But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.” (Romans 8:9)

Quote: “Without the Spirit of God, we can do nothing. We are as ships without the wind, branches without sap, and like coals without fire, we are useless.”—**Charles Spurgeon**

Quote: “You may have the Holy Spirit, but the Holy Spirit may not have all of you.”

“And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;” (Ephesians 5:18)

Quote: “It is one thing to have the king in the throne room; it is another thing to have the king on the throne.”

“Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. 13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.” (Romans 8:12-13)

C. He Was Full of _____

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

2. STEPHEN’S GRACE TO _____

“But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.” (2 Timothy 3:13)

A. He Stood with the _____

STRENGTHENED IN FAITH

“So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.” (Romans 10:17)

STRENGTHENED IN WISDOM

Definition: *Libertines*—“Jews from many nations resided in Jerusalem in their own quarters, and some of these ethnic groups had their own synagogues. The freedmen were the descendants of Jews who had previously been in bondage but had won their freedom from Rome.”—**Warren Wiersbe**

“And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. 4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:” (1 Corinthians 2:1, 4)

B. He Stood against _____

THE CROWD

Definition: *stirred up*—to move together, to incite, to anger

THE FALSE WITNESSES

Definition: *suborned men*—to instruct privately to bribe or induce (someone) to give false testimony

“And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.” (Acts 6:15)

3. STEPHEN’S GRACE TO _____

A. Sustained in _____

HE REVEALS THEIR SIN

HE POINTS THEM TO CHRIST

“And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.” (Acts 4:31)

B. Sustained in _____

A HEAVENLY COUNTENANCE

A CHRIST-LIKE COMPASSION

*“Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.”
(Luke 23:34)*

“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.” (Acts 9:5)

CONCLUSION

“Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.” (1 John 4:4)

