

of God and He is the God of every sort of grace. We must not forget His justice, love and all of the attributes that help us understand our Lord but in the concept of living under the providence of God we are moved in a special sense by His grace for without that we would know nothing of Him or His desire for us. In this talk I will sketch just four areas of His grace and remind ourselves that these are not exhaustive but typical of His love and care.

II. Discussion:

A. The God of Saving Grace: Ephesians 2:8-9, Titus 3:7

We were dead in trespasses and sins but God, rich in mercy, has provided grace that we might believe and be saved. It is the only way salvation is known. We accept the gift of God with faith in Him and His Word. He receives all who come to Him and while we may wonder how we got there, when we know we are born again we also know it was of God, not us.

B. The God of Suffering Grace: Hebrews 4:16, 2 Corinthians 12

The Lord Jesus was tempted and tried in all the ways that pertain to us and is a faithful and merciful high priest in order that before Him we might find the grace and help needed for a time of testing. We are reminded of this in 1 Corinthians 10:13 and many other places. When Paul (2 Cor. 12) cried out in his affliction, the Lord said: "My grace is sufficient for you" and that is a true witness to all and each of us today.

C. The God of Serving Grace: Romans 12:3, Ephesians 4:7 ff

His grace enables us to serve Him and others as well. The measures of ability are given to us--we did not earn them by righteous deeds or by going to school. If we have a task to do (and we are not trying to work above our calling) we may depend on Him to supply the grace needed for the challenge.

D. The God of Dying Grace: Acts 7, 2 Timothy 4:18, et al.

We have more challenges in the Scripture to live than to die. We know that death is appointed and when face to face with that foe, God gives the grace to move through