

EUROPEAN YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE—MALE CICHE

THE LIFE AND WORK THAT CHANGED THE AGE

Message Four

The Life that Changed the Age—Finding Grace

Scripture Reading: Gen. 3:15, 21; Heb. 11:4; Gen. 4:26; 5:22-24; Heb. 11:5-7; Gen. 6:8-9, 1-3, 11-12; 1 Cor. 15:10; Heb. 4:16; 11:17; Acts 7:2; Gal. 2:16; Rom. 5:17, 21

I. The main purpose of the record in Genesis is not to show the fall of man, but to show how much God's grace can do for fallen people:

- A. Adam and Eve enjoyed God's salvation through the lambs, the skins, and the promised Seed of the woman—Gen. 3:15, 21.
- B. Abel realized the seriousness of worshipping God in God's way of salvation—Heb. 11:4
- C. Enosh initiated the matter of calling on the name of Jehovah because he was a fragile, mortal man—Gen. 4:26
- D. Enoch shows us the way to escape death and obtain the testimony of being well-pleasing to God is to walk with God—Gen. 5:22-24; Heb. 11:5-6.

II. Noah inherited all the spiritual blessings from his forefathers, including Adam, Abel, Enosh and Enoch; following Enoch to walk with God—Gen. 6:9:

- A. Because Noah found grace in the eyes of Jehovah we are told that he walked with God—v. 8.
- B. Noah came from a godly family and learned from his forefathers all the godly things; thus he came to realize his need for grace:
 - 1. Noah's generation was corrupt and filled with violence, even becoming flesh—v. 3, 11-12.
 - 2. God was prepared to give grace to fallen man, because His Spirit was striving with man, ready to give grace to the needy ones—v. 2.
 - 3. Grace is not only something given by God, but it is God Himself coming to us and doing things for us—1 Cor. 15:10
 - 4. In Genesis, what we see is not God giving many things to Noah, but God coming to Noah to be with him; God's presence was Noah's strength and power.
- C. No one could stand in such a generation—we have the fallen nature within us; we need grace in order to face the situation of the flesh—Heb. 4:16:
 - 1. We must come to the throne of grace boldly and say, "Lord, I am here, I need Your grace; I am not coming to ask You to give me good things; I am coming to find grace to meet my need."
 - 2. "How we need grace!—we need God to come to us to be our strength and everything; this is grace; this is what Noah needed and what we also need today; Noah found it and we also must find it."
- D. Noah walked with God by faith—Heb. 11:7:
 - 1. Faith is not something produced out from ourselves, but faith is something of God that is transfused into our being—Acts 7:2.
 - 2. The more we touch the throne of God and the more we look to the Lord, the more we are transfused and infused with all that He is; that very element is faith—Gal. 2:16
- E. Because Noah believed in God, he became a righteous person, justified by God—Heb. 11:7.

III. God's grace comes because of the flesh; for grace is God Himself enjoyed by us and helping us to face the situation of the flesh:

- A. The flesh is the very presence of the Devil and grace is the presence of God; in order for us to face the presence of the Satan, we need the presence of God:
 - 1. The frustration of the flesh forces us to come to the throne of grace—Heb. 4:16.
 - 2. If God were to take away the flesh, probably very few of us would desperate to seek His grace.
 - 3. Where the flesh is, there is grace, and where grace is, there is the issue of grace—righteousness—Rom. 5:17.
 - 4. It is by the power of grace, the strength of grace and the life of grace that we can be right with God, with one another, and even with ourselves—Rom. 5:21.
- B. We who have found grace are righteous; where the flesh is there is grace, and where grace is, righteousness is produced.