



GLOBAL GRACE NETWORK

GGN is a fellowship of ministers and churches that advocate the gospel of the grace of Jesus Christ – Jesus alone, grace alone, faith alone. Our purpose is twofold: to help the church rediscover Jesus and to take this message to the world.

SEPTEMBER 2008

WELCOME to the September newsletter!

One of life's greatest discoveries is the reality of Christ in us and us in Him. This is where the gospel of grace really manifests in our mortal flesh. Without that, our whole message can easily be reduced to a nice religious theory of freedom in Christ. The "in Him" realities make the revelation of the grace of God a daily adventure.

All religion looks at God on the outside. People often pray, "Oh, God, come down with your power," "Rain down your glory," "Lord, come and touch us". I know these are often well-intentioned prayers but unfortunately they are unscriptural. The revelation of the new Covenant gives us an "aha" experience, where we suddenly see that the very thing that we have been begging God to do, He has already done by Christ coming to live inside us. Our Christian life is simply in discovering what we have through the indwelling Christ. The apostle Paul realized that everything was "dung" in comparison to be found in Him. On another occasion he wrote that God has revealed his Son *in* me.

This month we want to help everyone discover that when **Jesus Christ, Himself, is in you**, you have the fullness, the glory, the blessing, the anointing; everything that people are

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Christ is all and in all. He Himself is all you need—and all the world need as well. And He is already in you! So let's discover the indwelling Jesus!

CHRIST IN YOU

BY ÅGE M. ÅLESKJÆR



The Revelation of Christ

The new covenant is based on the revelation of the resurrected and glorified Christ! Even those who had known Him according to the flesh had to learn to know Him in a different way. He is no longer here physically, and Paul makes a great point of the fact that the Resurrected One is now in focus.

"And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty."
(1 Corinthians 15:14)

"Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."
(2 Corinthians 5:16-17)

The whole experience of Christ is now moved to another frequency: “The world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also.” (John 14:19)

This is a Jesus-centered preaching, where everything is in Christ.

All the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are present and hidden in Him. In Him all the fullness of the Godhead lives

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looking to get.

When Adam was put on earth, he was put into a finished creation from day one. His job was not to create anything new, but to discover what God had already created for him.

This depicts our new life in Christ, where our job is not to get Christ to come into us or to put ourselves into Christ, but to discover how this was already done for us. We were saved into a finished new creation in Christ. Our job is not to seek the fullness, but to discover the fullness we already have.

This word of God’s grace is an awesome message, but it is more. It is a revelation that’s rallying people all over the world. Tired Pastors and leaders are refreshed and rediscover the joy they knew when Christ first saved them. Please read the articles, be blessed, worship Jesus, and if you have any questions, contact our editor, Mary Felde. We want to hear from you.



Blessings in Christ,

Peter Youngren

in bodily form. Christ is all, and is in all. (Colossians 2:2-3, 2:9-10, 3:3-4 and 3:11)

Christ–God’s power and God’s wisdom

We preach Christ; He is the power of God and the wisdom of God. In Him all the promises of God are yes, and Christ is our life. We are in Him and He is in us (2 Cor 1:19-20 and John 15:4-5).

“But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God – and righteousness and sanctification and redemption – that, as it is written: He who glories, let him glory in the Lord.” (1 Corinthians 1:30-31)

The revelation of “Christ being the mystery of God” is a major part of the message revealed to Paul. (Col 2:2-3) The keywords “in Him” are mentioned in Paul’s letters several hundred times! This is because the secret of the Gospel is hidden in this very truth.

A.B. Simpson’s well-known article “Himself” is just fantastic. When he discovered Christ, everything became transformed and changed! Read this well-known article that has blessed millions of Christians all over the world:

www.GlobalGraceNetwork.com/absimpson

The revelation of Christ in us

The truth about “Christ in us” is a core truth of the gospel. When Paul was given the stewardship to fulfill the word of God,

and to reveal the mystery which had been hidden from ages and from generations, it was about this: “...the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.” (Colossians 1:26-28)

When we discover that Christ in us is the key, we then discover “our new me.” For “My self” is crucified with Christ and lives no longer, and the life we now live is a life with “Christ in us.”

Some have problems in receiving this message. They think: “What about my talents and gifts, my potential and what God has put in me? Will this never be discovered?”

Here is the answer: You become a part of a body; you become a member of Christ’s body. It is not about you anymore, but about Him. Therefore He has given you something that will come to its full right when you disappear in Him. Your new I, “Christ in you,” has of course in it all your abilities, gifts, equipment and creativity. But all glory and honor belongs to Him who works in us. When the snowflakes fall each of them are beautiful, glittering and unique. None are alike! However, it is not while they are falling they fulfill their full mission, even though they are really beautiful. It is when the snow is lying there as a beautiful carpet covering the ground that every snowflake is in its right element!

“Hidden with Christ in God” is a glorious place!

Christ is our life. We are in Him and He is in us.

God's glory shines forth from us

When we have Christ in us, the light is shining in our heart. He Himself is the light! Then the glory of God, which is in the face of Jesus Christ, shines forth from us. This is God's method to enlighten the minds of the unbelievers, since the god of this age has blinded their minds.

We have this treasure in earthly vessels so that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.

By Christ in us, the life of Jesus can also be revealed through our mortal bodies. There is healing in the indwelling Christ!

This is the key! He lives in us and moves in us, Christ, who knows how to live the Christian life!

In earlier times He was Immanuel, "God with us." He was with us and lived among us. However, when the new covenant came He moved into us! "At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you." (John 14:20)

"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me." (John 15:4)



Åge Åleskjær

Senior Pastor of
Oslo Kristne Senter,
Norway
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This is the key! He lives in us and moves in us, Christ, who knows how to live the Christian life! Without Him we can do nothing, but in Him we can

Jesus' righteousness given to us and Him being our righteousness.

He Himself is now our righteousness,

"My self" is crucified with Christ and lives no longer, and the life we now live is a life with "Christ in us".

do everything! His presence in us is the whole difference. This is the mystery of the Gospel!

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A testimony of "Christ in us"

Ray McCauley pastors a huge Church in South-Africa. One day as he commanded an evil spirit to leave a person, the evil spirit refused and said: "I am the kind that does not leave without prayer and fasting, and you have not fasted so I will not go." This is the typical strategy of the devil, trying to steal our faith by moving our focus towards ourselves. However, Jesus gave wisdom to the pastor and he replied: "Yes, I have fasted, for Jesus in me has fasted 40 days and 40 nights, and in His name you have to leave!" And, of course, that is exactly what happened.

So let us not look at ourselves and check whether our own righteousness, our own effort, our own love or our own faith is good enough.

Our own life is hidden in Christ and is not what counts anymore. Christ has now become our life! (Colossians 3:3-4, Galatians 2.20) This means that it is not our own faith that counts anymore, but Jesus' faith within us. It is not our own righteousness that counts anymore, but

peace, joy, wisdom, strength, love, hope, faith, ability, light and life. He is our healer and He Himself is our healing. He is all we will ever need!

Our own life is hidden in Christ and is not what counts anymore. Christ has now become our life!





Salvation Lives In You

Jesus is not merely the giver of salvation. He is the very substance of salvation.

ARE YOU GLAD TO BE SAVED? I certainly am. Actually, if you asked every Christian if he or she is glad to be saved, the answer would likely be “yes.” However, if you asked every Christian what salvation is, you would surely hear a wide range of answers: “Salvation means I will go to heaven when I die;” “Salvation is freedom from sin;” “Salvation is deliverance... healing... freedom... restoration... wholeness... preservation.” Yes, those are all good answers. But they are only partial at best.

Salvation is a person

What is salvation? JESUS. Without Him, none of the good things we previously mentioned are available to us. But with Him, all of those good things belong to us now, along with every other blessing from God. Jesus is not merely the giver of salvation. He is the very substance of salvation. Say this out loud with me: “Jesus is my salvation.”

Centuries before the incarnation of Christ, the prophet Isaiah had much to say about Him. Consider these words from Isaiah 49:6 in which God is speaking to the Messiah:

“...It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.”

Did you see that? God sent Jesus to BE salvation. God did not say Jesus would just give salvation. He did not say Jesus

would set the standard for those who hope to be saved. Nor did He say Jesus would teach people the right way to live in order to be saved. God said Jesus would BE salvation. That is good news for us, my friend. Salvation is not in need of completion, as though God did some but it is up to us to finish. No, for the Jew and the Gentile salvation is here. His Name is Jesus!

I love what God said in the verse quoted above. Yes, Jesus came for the nation of Israel. Thank God for His love for the Jewish people. But He did not stop there. To use modern day English, God said, “That’s not enough. I love Israel and I will restore them. But that’s not enough. Jesus, You will be My salvation to every person!”

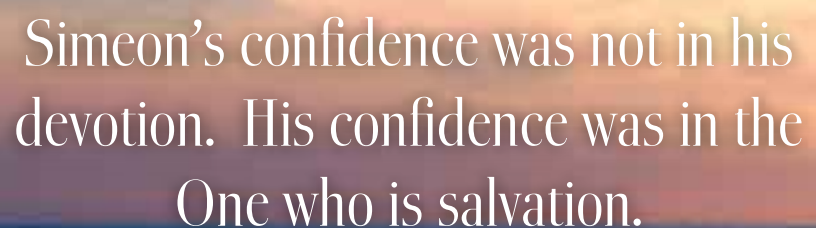
From eternity before time, God’s plan was in place (Revelation 13:8). Jesus was to be salvation for all people.

“Don’t forget about Simeon”

I know this is the September newsletter, but we need to see the testimony of a character in what we often call the Christmas story. Ever since I began to see that Jesus is our salvation, my thought about this story is “don’t forget about Simeon.”

Luke 2 records that the Holy Spirit had revealed to Simeon that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. Well, the day finally came on which Mary and Joseph brought baby Jesus to the temple in accordance with Jewish custom. Simeon also, by the leading of the Spirit, was in the temple that day, and having met Mary and Joseph he was able to hold Jesus in his arms. Here is what Simeon said as he held the Christ child: “Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation...” (Luke 2:29-30)

Was Simeon “seeing something in the Spirit?” No. He was seeing a baby boy. Yet he declared that the child in his arms was God’s salvation for all people. It is interesting to note that Simeon was said to be “just and devout” (Luke 2:25). But by reading his words, we can see that Simeon’s confidence was not in his devotion. His confidence was in the One who is salvation. I am glad to follow Simeon’s example, and I trust that you are, too. It is good to be devoted to God out of a desire to please Him. But never put your confidence in what you think you can or should do. Our confidence belongs solely in Jesus.



Simeon’s confidence was not in his devotion. His confidence was in the One who is salvation.

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Rediscover joy and rest in Jesus

Maybe you have been striving to please God, or striving to receive something from God. Perhaps you have felt uncertain about your relationship with God, or you have somehow concluded that some of God's provisions are for other people but not for you. Maybe you are even a full-time minister but you have not been seeing the results you hoped to and you are feeling like a failure.

Allow me to share a couple of illustrations that I trust will help you rediscover joy and rest in Jesus, your salvation. Truth be told, when our focus is on ourselves we will be overwhelmed by circumstances more often than not. But when our focus is on Jesus we are comforted, energized and filled with His faith.

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Open the gift of salvation

Have you ever received a gift in a nicely wrapped box? I hope you have because receiving a gift is a lot of fun. Now, when you receive a gift, what do you do? Do you carry the nicely wrapped gift box

around and show it to everyone you meet? No. Do you put the unopened gift up on a shelf so you can look at the nice package in the days to come? No. What do you do? Well, if you are like me, you tear into the package as quickly as you can! You want to discover everything that was put inside by the kind giver. Oh, that is a lot of fun!

My friend, salvation is a gift from God, and it has been delivered to you in its entirety in the person of Jesus Christ. You need not beg God for anything, nor should you be trapped in thinking that you have been excluded from some of God's provisions. The only thing we need is to recognize more and more of what we have received in Jesus. Actually, as I write this paragraph, I am reminded of Jesus' words about the work of the Holy Spirit: "He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you" (John 16:14). Thank God for His Holy Spirit who helps us open the gift of salvation!

As we study God's Word and hear His Word being taught, the Holy Spirit shows us that righteousness and holiness have come to us in Jesus (Ephesians 4:20-24); healing and wholeness belong to us in Him (Isaiah 53:4-5, 1 Peter 2:24); provision for our needs come to us by Him (Philippians 4:19); grace and peace are multiplied to us in the knowledge of Him (2 Peter 1:2). This list could go on for several pages, but for now suffice to say that discovering the greatness of Jesus inspires us to agree with the writer of Hebrews who summarizes his description of Christ with the simple phrase, "...so great a salvation" (Hebrews 2:3a).

The well of salvation is in you

In closing, where is Jesus today? He is IN YOU (Colossians 1:27).

In fact He described His life in you, the believer, as "a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life" (John 4:14). Now, remembering

that Christ is in you, consider this passage from Isaiah 12 in which we find a key to receiving from God and being a vessel of His life:

"For Yah, the Lord, is my strength and song; He also has become my salvation.' Therefore with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation."

Christ in you is your well of salvation. But what does it mean to "draw water from the well?" At first glance, that seems like a lot of work. If you need a lot of water, that can be a lot of weight to carry. Is Isaiah saying it is up to us to make things happen? No, he isn't. I believe Isaiah is actually saying we enjoy the benefits of salvation in the same way we access our water. In Isaiah's day, people got their water by lowering a container into a well, then lifting the full container out. What about you today? Do you go out to the backyard and lower a bucket into a well? No. Instead, you go to the sink and open the tap. Here is a wonderful picture for you and me: Jesus, your salvation, is a fountain of God's life within you. He is your righteousness, holiness, wisdom, healing and strength. He is the anointing within you enabling you to live and minister. And all you need to do is keep the tap open to Him.

Apart from Jesus, we have no access to the goodness of God. But with Jesus alive in us, we can recognize and make use of everything God has given us in Him. *Jesus, your salvation, is a fountain of God's life within you.* Jesus IS your salvation.

You do not have to pay for the well. You do not have to dig the well. You do not have to install the pipes. Just recognize Jesus alive in you, and keep the tap open to Him.



Scott McIntyre

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Get Co**NN**ected

To connect to this fellowship of ministers and Churches that advocate the gospel of the grace of Jesus Christ, you may register here: www.GlobalGraceNetwork.org/register

The purpose of GGN is twofold: to help the church rediscover Jesus and to take this message to the world. For more information about GGN read the question and answer section of the Annual Newsletter 2008.

www.GlobalGraceNetwork.org/newsletter

When ministers and pastors register their membership, there is an annual fee of USD \$60.

Some of you might live in a nation facing financial or political disadvantages, thus making it hard to meet with a full annual

Welcome to each one of you that registered as members in August. We greatly rejoice at the opportunity to stay connected with you, and together we will take the Good News to the world!

fee. You may then choose a subsidized membership, equal in level, value and importance. The annual fee of a subsidized membership is USD \$10.

When Churches register their membership, there is a one time fee of USD \$150. The Church will receive a decorative plaque that identifies the Church and ministry as a part of GGN.

GGN's statement of faith is found in the Annual Newsletter of 2008.

DYNAMIC, JESUS-CENTERED TV



ON AIR

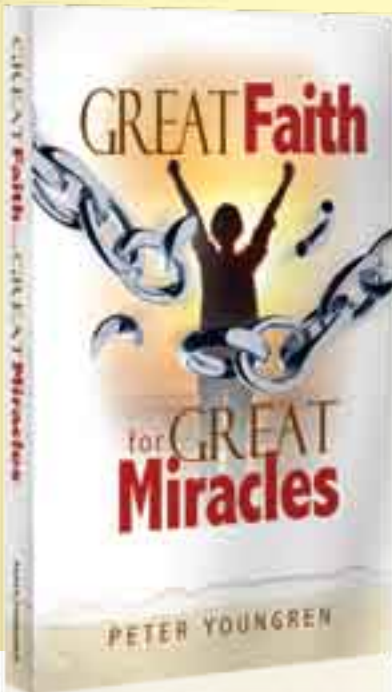
with T.L. Osborn, Peter Ljunggren,
Åge Åleskjær, Joseph Prince,
Linda Bergling and more!

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STUDY CORNER

LET'S DIG DEEPER...



In this book you will discover the keys to the God-kind of faith. No more running on a treadmill chasing faith. Instead, faith will flow through you as freely as the blood flowing through your veins. How? Read and discover: It's all about Himself!

www.peteryoungren.org/store

Two great articles about the experience of the reality of CHRIST IN US.

Himself, by A.B Simpson

www.GlobalGraceNetwork.org/absimpson

The Exchanged Life, by Hudson Taylor

www.GlobalGraceNetwork.org/htaylor

HIMSELF -- by A. B. Simpson

Once it was the blessing, Now it is the Lord;
Once it was the feeling, Now it is His Word.
Once His gifts I wanted, Now the Giver own;
Once I sought for healing, Now Himself alone.
Once 'twas painful trying, Now 'tis perfect trust;
Once a half salvation, Now the uttermost.
Once 'twas ceaseless holding, Now He holds me fast;
Once 'twas constant drifting, Now my anchor's cast.
Once 'twas busy planning, Now 'tis trustful prayer;
Once 'twas anxious caring, Now He has the care.
Once 'twas what I wanted, Now what Jesus says;
Once 'twas constant asking, Now 'tis ceaseless praise.

Once it was my working, His it hence shall be;
Once I tried to use Him, Now He uses me.
Once the power I wanted, Now the Mighty One;
Once for self I labored, Now for Him alone.
Once I hoped in Jesus, Now I know He's mine;
Once my lamps were dying, Now they brightly shine.
Once for death I waited, Now His coming hail;
And my hopes are anchored, Safe within the veil.

This poem is from the article "Himself" by A.B. Simpson.
The whole article is available on the link in the Study Corner.

LET'S GET ACQUAINTED

Ministry is now a *delight* and not a duty

WE ARE PASTORS OF New Life Christian Center – The Fort in the Philippines. We hold our services in a mall in the rising business district of Bonifacio Global City in Taguig, Manila.

Last year, my husband, Pastor Jocel attended a Hillsong Conference in Australia. At that time, Pastor Joseph Prince of New Creation Church was one of their key speakers. When he came back, he gave me the book *Destined to Reign* by Pastor Prince as a gift. I read it a week later and my life will never be the same again.

God used that book to open our eyes to the wonderful gospel of grace! It was like our eyes were unveiled and we saw Jesus like we had never seen Him before! We saw that it was all about Him and His finished work on the cross. It took away the burden of “performing” to please God! We now know that we are already pleasing to God and that everything we do for Him is a delightful response to what He has already done. We are falling more and more in love with Jesus everyday!

It was like our eyes were unveiled and we saw Jesus like we had never seen Him before!

During this time, a Norwegian couple taught more about grace in the classes that we were taking in ministry school.

When they preached on grace it was like my spirit was going to overflow with excitement. God was confirming the word of His grace to us. We immediately told them what God was showing us about grace and the finished work of Jesus. God connected us to them and we had wonderful times of fellowship in the Word with them. Talking about Jesus is exciting!

We immediately started teaching and preaching grace and the finished work of Jesus on the cross in our church. It was like a breath of fresh air. It was like a burden lifted off our congregation. Now we are continually encouraging people to look to Jesus and not to themselves. We have heard wonderful testimonies of how the love of God and the gospel of grace have transformed lives and produced breakthroughs in the lives of people! You can actually read their testimonies on our website.

It was like a breath of fresh air. It was like a burden lifted off our congregation.

As pastors, this has changed the way we look at ministry and our personal life has changed so much. Even the way we raise our kids is not the same anymore! We are more restful now and trust more and more in Jesus. Ministry is now a delight and not a duty! It is in our hearts to teach as many people as we can about Jesus because He truly can transform us inside and out. We can never do that by

our performance and many Christians are trapped in that cycle of “doing, doing, doing.” We pray that God will continue to open doors for His message to be preached and His Son to be glorified.

To God be all the glory!



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