7-20-2025 Sunday Message
Devotional of the Week: Psalm 91:1-16
Text: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Title: **Grace and Peace from Heavenly Father and the Lord Jesus Christ**

King David, who lived in the Age of the Law, spoke by faith in the Holy Spirit about the grace that is to come from God the Father and the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, in due time:

" Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required.
[7] Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me,[8] I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart."((Psalm 40:6-8)

He foretold that when Christ Jesus, the only begotten Son of God the Father, appears to the world in the fullness of time, He would give grace to remove all the sins of the law through His shed blood on the cross, according to the scroll prophesied through the prophet Isaiah:

"Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.
[5] But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.
[6] All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."(Isaiah 53:4-6)

The Jews thought that God would be pleased when they brought many sacrifices every time they sinned. However, God was not pleased to see the sinless animals He had created bleeding and dying because of their sins. God was angry with the people and those who ruled over them:

"Hear the word of the Lord, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah.
[11] To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith the Lord: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats.
[12] When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts?
[13] Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting.
Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting."(Isaiah 1:10-13)

Understanding God's heart, King David prayed that in the future his Savior, Christ, would appear and justify himself by shedding His blood to take away his sins:

" As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness."(Psalm 17:15)

After his death, when he was in Abraham's bosom, Christ shed His blood and died, so that he could wake up from the sleep of death and resurrect with the Jews who were looking forward to the time when the Lord Jesus died and was resurrected as a sacrifice like David. When Matthew saw King David's prayer answered, he testified:

"Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.
[51] And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;
[52] And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose,
[53] And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many."(Matthew 27:50-53)

Apostle Paul testified that the blood shed by the sacrifices in the Age of Law is a shadow of the good things to come, and that only the blood of Christ can take away the sins of people and make perfect those who come to Christ. It testifies to the fact that only the blood of Christ can give full and eternal grace:

"For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can

never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.
[2] For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins.
[3] But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year.
[4] For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.
[5] Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:
[6] In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure.
[7] Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.
[8] Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and offering for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law;"(Hebrews 10:1-8)

Apostle Paul went on to testify about how great is the grace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

"By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.
[11] And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins:
[12] But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;
[13] From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.
[14] For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified."(Hebrews 10:10-14)

Therefore, whoever believes that Christ Jesus Himself became a sacrifice by giving Himself for the whole world, shed water and blood, died, and resurrected on the third day, is sanctified and saved by grace:

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:
[9] Not of works, lest any man should boast.
.(Ephesians 2:8-9)

Apostle Paul testified that only those who have been saved by grace and have all sins removed from their consciences and are born again by the Holy Spirit can serve God:

"For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:
[14] How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?(Hebrews 9:13-14)

Yea! Christians who have received the Holy Spirit through the removal of sins through the blood of Christ can enjoy peace while living in the spiritual kingdom of God. This peace is the **Jehovah Shalom** that transcends death:

"For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.
[18] For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men.
[19] Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another."(Romans 14:17-19)

King David spoke of the blessings that will be enjoyed by those who receive grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

"Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
[2] Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:
[3] Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;
[4] Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;[5] Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.
…. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us. (Psalm 103:1-5, 12).

Christians who enjoy peace in grace in the kingdom of God live a life of grace and peace in the hope of waiting for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen! Hallelujah!