

Purposed Grace

Ephesians 4:7-13

Revival in the Family

- A. Revival to bring to life, spiritually. To reinvigorate from a state of spiritual slumber or apathy, self-will or self-absorption.
- B. In the family to embrace revival in my particular "season of life," i.e., single, married, widowed, divorced.

 Do you think Paul is referring to you and me (believers today) in v 7 – 8 relative to the giving of grace gifts? (V7-10)

- V7. "... grace given to each one of us...."
- V8. "... [Christ] ascended ... and he gave gifts to men [as he ascended to heaven]."

- How do you interpret the phrase in v7,
 "...given ... according to the measure of Christ's gift"?
- A. Measure: 1) "an instrument for measuring; 2) a vessel for receiving and determining the quantity of things"
- B. If a "measure" is used to give gifts would you think that we are all given the same type of gifts and/or the same number?

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But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

8 διὸ λέγει ἀναβὰς εἰς ὕψος ἠχμαλώτευσεν
Therefore it says he ascended on high he led a host of g1352 g3004 g0305 g1519 g5311 g0162

ἀνθρώποις

to men g0444

Therefore it says, "When he ascended on hig men."

9 τὸ δὲ ἀνέβη τί ἐστιν εὶ μὴ - -- He ascended what does it mean (but) but 93588 91161 90305 95101 92076 91487 93361

 $\tau \tilde{\eta} \varsigma$ $\gamma \tilde{\eta} \varsigma$ the earth g3588 g1093

μέτρον

X

STRONG'S NUMBER: g3358

Dictionary Definition

g3358. μέτρον *metron*; an apparently primary word; a measure ("metre"), literally or figuratively; by implication, a limited portion (degree): — measure.

AV (13) - measure 13;

- measure, an instrument for measuring
 - A. a vessel for receiving and determining the quantity of things, whether dry or liquid
 - B. a graduated staff for measuring, a measuring rod

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Lookup μέτρον

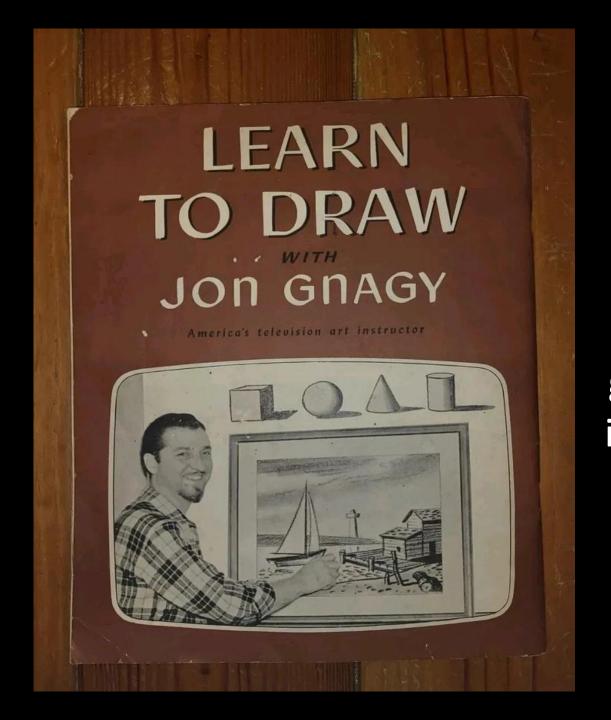
οκεν δόματα τοῖς gave gifts -1325 g1390 g3588

d he gave gifts to

κατώτερα [μέρη]

lower regions g3313

(In saving, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower



Grace gifts are given with you, your personal history, and your future use of your gifts in mind. Grace is "purposed" when we use our gifts!

- 2. Why would Christ, at his ascension to heaven, leave current and future believers (on earth) with grace gifts? And, why take the "captives" to heaven with him? (V11-13)
- A. V8. "What does it mean "he ascended... but that he had (first) descended to ... earth."
 - John 3:13. God came to us
- B. Believers (gifted) carry on what Jesus started.
- C. V8. He took *captives back with him* to heaven.
 - Righteous dead (Hades) are not left behind

Evangelists Teaching Prophets, Miracles,
Serving Leadership Helps, Administrations,
Shepherding tongues 1 Cor 12:28

• How are you doing on reframing yourself in light of grace gifts "measured" for you? Grace gifts are often discovered only as you put them into action.

- 3. Our grace gifts are designed by Christ to accomplish His purposes. As they do, we grow spiritually. The end goal is nothing less than Christ's own measure of the fullness He embodied from God.
- A. V13. "until we all attain ...to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."
- B. "Stature" Definition:
 - Physical sense a person's natural height.
 Example: "The child has grown to an impressive stature for his age."
- C. Spiritual maturity just like Christ.

The promise of his "fullness" is progressively claimed as we grow spiritually.

- 1. The entire being of God is referred to as His fullness. Christ is the entire being of God summed up and explained. John 1:18, Heb 1:3, Col 1:19, 2:9
- 2. Jesus is the *never empty*, *never scarce*, *ongoing fountain* of God's fullness, *poured out* and into believers as we serve and grow. Eph 3:19, 4:13; Jn 1:16-17
- 3. The church is the *collective body of the fullness of God* in the world. The church, as the body of Christ, *carries on what Christ began on earth*. Ep 1:22-23
- 4. Believers are *urged to spiritual growth* which is progressive and wo limit since it is likened to the *immeasurable* fullness of God in Christ. Yet, we must seek and serve Him so that His fulness is the fuel for our spiritual growth. Ep 4:13

Call to Action

A. We are each like a musical instrument created, designed, and purposed by God to make beautiful music in his name. Will you do a "thought inventory" on yourself to see if the music you are playing is of God or of your own making? How can you align your thinking to line up with His thinking about you?

- 3. Do you see "purposed grace" in the giving of grace gifts? Is His purpose a one-time gifting or does it continue to give?
- A. V12. to equip the saints for the work of ministry for building up of the body of Christ.
- B. V13. *until* we all attain to:
 - A. the unity of the faith
 - B. the knowledge of the Son of God
 - C. to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ