

Morning Sermon, 4 July 2010

Grace Retrospective

'The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters'
(*Galatians 6:18*)

For the grace of God to be 'with our spirits' we need:

- 1. A solid commitment to the authenticity of the gospel of grace: it is God's message not ours (chapter 1)**

'The gospel I preached is not something that man made up.' (1:11).

- 2. A delighted acceptance of the heart of the gospel of grace: justification by faith not works (chapter 2)**

'We have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no-one will be justified.' (2:16)

- 3. A real and growing enjoyment of the benefits of the gospel of grace: adoption and the gift of the Spirit (chapters 3 and 4)**

'He redeemed us.....so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit (3:14).
You are all sons of God through faith in Jesus Christ (3:26)

- 4. A real and growing experience of the fruits of the gospel of grace: freedom in the Spirit to become more like Jesus (chapters 5 and 6)**

'You were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather serve one another in love' (5:13).