

Access

Ponder: Accessing God's grace

Scripture: "through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand" (Rom. 5:2a, NKJV).

Are you as tired as I am of hearing about the "supply chain" woes? Most things we need or want are "out there," we just don't have access to them. Maybe they're on a ship at sea or sitting on a dock somewhere. Then the price goes up for those things we actually can access. How frustrating!

Let's be glad there is no supply chain issue when it comes to God's grace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ we have access to God's grace. We don't need to wait as we would for a ship to come into port and unload. We can access God's grace right now – immediately!

So how do we do that? Today's Scripture text says we have access "by faith." But Paul actually put a definite article before faith – by "the" faith. He did the very same thing in Eph. 3:12 where the KJV correctly reads, "in whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of Him." The faith of Him (that is, of Jesus Christ) doesn't refer to our Savior's personal obedient trust in the Father, but to the Gospel – "the faith." Our access to God and His grace doesn't come through "the Law" (of Moses), but through "the faith" (of Christ).

Christ's gospel does what the Law could never do and wasn't designed to do – give us bold, confident access to God and His grace! We have the best High Priest (Jesus) who made the best atonement offering (His own blood) in the best tabernacle (heaven). We don't have to wonder if it will be effective – it is! And we can access it by means of the gospel. That begins when we first believe and obey, being immersed into Christ. But it doesn't end there. As we walk in the light with Jesus, His blood cleanses us continually (1 Jn. 1:7).

We can leave the political issues of the supply chain for others to handle. Let's spread the good news that access to God's grace is available today through Christ and His gospel. And it's available for "whosoever will."

Hymn: "All Things Are Ready; Come To The Feast"

Prayer: Father, we thank and praise you for making your grace accessible to us. May we spread that good news far and wide! In Jesus' name, Amen.