Portion:

#### **SCRIPTURES**

- Romans 5:1-11
- I Corinthians 13:1-13

Title:

#### ALSO...

- These Three
- Much More

#### SEED:

"Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have <u>access by faith into this grace</u> in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Romans 5:1-2 NKJV

#### **FRUIT:**

"For if when we were enemies **we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son**, <u>much</u> **more**, having been reconciled, we shall be **saved by His life.**" Romans 5:10 NKJV

"And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love." I Corinthians 13:13

#### **INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S MESSAGE:**

This or that; this and that; this and not only that; this and not only that, but much more than that. Or maybe we will just say... also! That is the main thing here. By grace through faith and also by faith with grace. And not only by faith with grace, but ALSO through trials and endurance and character development and hope. And not only by faith with grace, and through trials and endurance and character development and hope, but ALSO God's love.

Not only are we justified by His blood, saved from permanent damnation, reconciled for an eternity, but ALSO, and much more than that, we have His life as a perfect example of how we ought to live on this side of eternity. And maybe the most beautiful thing of all is that we are supernaturally empowered to live the life He expects of us by faith with grace. What are you waiting for?

# THESE THREE

## 1. Faith Hope Love

# A. Looking back

- (1) "Therefore, having been justified by faith..." Romans 5:1
  - (a) Righteousness is imputed to whom, who belief what?

- 1. "but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification." Romans 4:24-25 NKJV
- (2) Can you recognize how the destination of our belief is not Y'shua, but His Father and what His Father did through Him, specifically the resurrection?
  - (a) Believe in Him (who did the raising)...
    - 1. "Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.
      And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all." Ephesians 1:15-23 NKJV
- (3) Y'shua consistently pointed to His Father throughout His ministry.
  - (a) "Teach us to pray," they asked.
    - "Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one
      of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples."
      So He said to them, "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your
      name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven." Luke 11:1-2
      NKIV
  - (b) Why was Y'shua's focus always on His Father and not on Himself?
    - 1. ""If I bear witness of Myself, My witness is not true. There is another who bears witness of Me, and I know that the witness which He witnesses of Me is true. You have sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. Yet I do not receive testimony from man, but I say these things that you may be saved. He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing for a time to rejoice in his light. But I have a greater witness than John's; for the works which the Father has given Me to finish—the very works that I do—bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me. And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form. But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you

do not believe. You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life. "I do not receive honor from men. But I know you, that you do not have the love of God in you. I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive. How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God? Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you—Moses, in whom you trust. For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?"" John 5:31-47 NKJV

#### (c) What about His doctrine?

1. "Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority. He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him. Did not Moses give you the law, yet none of you keeps the law? Why do you seek to kill Me?"" John 7:16-19 NKJV

## (d) Not on His own authority!

- 1. "Then Jesus cried out and said, "He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me. And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me. I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness. And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

  For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak."" John 12:44-50 NKJV
- 2. Speak on your own authority... "But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'" Deuteronomy 18:20 NKJV
- 3. "Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you. They make you worthless; They speak a vision of their own heart, Not from the mouth of the Lord. They continually say to those who despise Me, 'The Lord has said, "You shall have peace" '; And to everyone who walks according to the dictates of his own heart, they say, 'No evil shall come upon you.' "" Jeremiah 23:16-17 NKJV

4. ""For the lips of a priest should keep knowledge, And people should seek the law from his mouth; For he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts. But you have departed from the way; You have caused many to stumble at the law. You have corrupted the covenant of Levi," Says the Lord of hosts. "Therefore I also have made you contemptible and base Before all the people, Because you have not kept My ways But have shown partiality in the law."" Malachi 2:7-9 NKIV

## B. ONE: Faith Hope Love

- (1) Faith gives us access to His power, the same power Yahweh used to raise Yahshua from the grave.
  - (a) By Grace through Faith to access Grace
    - 1. "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have <u>access by faith into this grace</u> in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Romans 5:1-2 NKJV
    - 2. "And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love." I Corinthians 13:13 NKIV
- (2) Faith (two flavors)
  - (a) The Faith that is FREE!
    - "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:8-10 NKJV
    - 2. By Grace through Faith..."For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith." Romans 12:3 NKJV
  - (b) Free Faith, which you when you then PRACTICE, grants you ACCESS ongoing access to Grace (divine power).
    - 1. "Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His \*divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love." Il Peter 1:1-7 NKJV

- 2. "Beloved, **let us love one another, for love is of God;** and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for **God is love**." I John 4:7-8 NKJV
- (3) Grace and Power...
  - (a) Watch again how faith gives us access to His power.
    - 1. "Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until **you are endued with power** \*[divine power] from on high."" Luke 24:49 NKJV
    - 2. "But <u>you shall receive power</u> \*[divine power] when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."" Acts 1:8 NKJV
    - 3. "When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit \*[divine power] and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:1-4 NKJV
    - 4. "and what is the exceeding greatness of <u>His power</u> \*[divine power] toward us who believe, according to the working of <u>His mighty power</u> \*[divine power] which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, "Ephesians 1:19-20 NKJV

## C. TWO: Faith Hope Love

- (1) Even when our journey includes struggles, we have His power to endure, and not only endure but thrive.
  - (a) Grace fueled faith; and faith grants continuous access to grace, and NOT ONLY THAT. This is leading somewhere.
    - 1. "And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that **tribulation produces perseverance**; **and perseverance**, **character**; **and character**, **hope.**" Romans 5:3-4 NKJV
    - 2. "(as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be."" Romans 4:17-18 NKJV
- (2) In hope we also believe. (See Belief is an Act of Faith)
  - (a) Through the trials, we are more than conquerers...
    - 1. "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: "For Your sake

we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." {37} Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. "Romans 8:35-39 NKIV

- (b) No matter how weak you feel, His grace is sufficient!
  - 1. "And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong." II Corinthians 12:9-10 NKJV
- (c) And you will never get more than you can handle!
  - 1. "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it." I Corinthians 10:12-13 NKJV
  - 2. Trials will never be more than you can handle. "Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. {11} Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come." I Corinthians 10:6, 11 NKJV
- (3) The Way is in the wilderness!
  - (a) Tribulation, then...
    - 1. "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord; Make straight in the desert A highway for our God." Isaiah 40:3 NKJV
    - "strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."" Acts 14:22 NKJV
- (4) Why are trials necessary?
  - (a) Be happy...
    - 1. "In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls." I Peter 1:6-9 NKJV

- (b) Trials test your faith and...
  - 1. "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing." James 1:2-4 NKJV

## D. THREE: Faith Hope Love

- (1) The next step should be apparent by now.
  - (a) The Love of God
    - 1. "Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:5-8 NKJV
    - 2. "For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God." I Corinthians 2:11-12 NKJV
    - 3. "For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" **But we have the mind of Christ.**" I Corinthians 2:16 NKJV
    - 4. "Greater love has no one than this, than to **lay down one's life for his friends**." John 15:13 NKJV
    - 5. "By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." I John 3:16 NKJV
    - 6. "If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also." I John 4:20-21 NKJV
- (2) For your reading pleasure I Corinthians 13:1-12
  - (a) Love
    - 1. "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not

provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away. When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known." I Corinthians 13:1-12 NKJV

2. "And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love." I Corinthians 13:13 NKJV

#### **MUCH MORE**

## 2. More Than Justification

#### A. His death AND His life!

- (1) Paul then introduces a prophetic idea; he says that MUCH MORE than justification, there is something else!
  - (a) As a new creature, a child in the faith, you get to go on the journey toward maturity, adulthood in the faith. And what does that look like? It looks like the life of Y'shua.
    - 1. "Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled [through his death], we shall be saved by His life. And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation." Romans 5:9-11 NKJV
- (2) Verse-by Verse Romans 5:9-11
  - (a) Reconciled AND also Saved (redemption and salvation)
    - 1. "Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him." Romans 5:9 NKJV
  - (b) Reconciled through His death! Saved by His life!
    - "For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life." Romans 5:10 NKJV
    - 2. "Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner." John 5:19 NKJV

3. "Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me." John 7:16 NKIV

## B. What about you?

- (1) What you are called to do?
  - (a) Walk like he walked.
    - 1. "Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. {6} He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked." I John 2:3-6 NKJV
  - (b) Be an example
    - 1. "Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ." I Corinthians 11:1 NKJV
    - 2. "Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern." Philippians 3:17 NKJV
    - 3. "For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, **leaving us an example,** that you should follow His steps:" I Peter 2:21 NKJV
    - 4. "So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them." John 13:12-17 NKJV
    - 5. I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.
      - a) Lay down your life! "By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us.

        And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." I John 3:16 NKJV
      - b) Get out of His way! "John answered and said, "A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven. {30} He must increase, but I must decrease.

        " John 3:27, 30 NKJV
      - c) Allow Him to live through you! "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." Galatians 2:20 NKJV
  - (c) Be Thoroughly Equipped

1. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." Il Timothy 3:16-17 NKJV

# C. How do you get thoroughly equipped?

- (1) Meditate on these verses...
  - (a) Can you sense the magnitude of your calling now?
    - 1. "And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—" Ephesians 4:11-15 NKJV

## D. Ministers of Reconciliation

- (1) Not only do we have His life as an example...
  - (a) We have a job to to with our reconciliation!
    - 1. "And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation." Romans 5:11 NKJV
  - (b) He has given us the ministry of reconciliation.
    - 1. "Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." II Cor. 5:18-21
    - 2. We have received reconciliation so we can pass on reconciliation... (\*Just like we received grace to pass on grace!) "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers." Eph. 4:29
    - 3. "For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak."" John 12:49-50 NKJV