

Volume 1, Day 27 — ALWAYS NOW

"We . . . beseech you that ye receive not the grace of God in vain." — 2 Corinthians 6:1

The grace you had yesterday will not do for today. Grace is the overflowing favor of God. You can always depend on it being there to draw upon. "In much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses" - that is where the test for patience comes. Are you failing to see the grace of God there? Are you saying, "Oh, well, I won't count this time?" It is not a question of praying and asking God to help you. It is taking advantage of the grace of God in the present moment. We make prayer the preparation for work. It is never that in the Bible. Prayer is the exercise of drawing on the grace of God in constant dialog with God. Don't say, "I will endure this until I can get away and pray." Pray now. Draw on the grace of God in the moment of need. Prayer is the most practical thing. It is not the reflex action of devotion or desperation. Prayer is usually the last thing in which we learn to draw on God's grace.

"In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors" - in all these things manifest a drawing upon the grace of God that will make you a marvel to yourself and to others. Draw now, not later on. The one word in the spiritual vocabulary is **now**. Your circumstances simply are what they are. Remain always aware of the ever present grace of God and keep drawing on it in every conceivable condition you may be in. One of the greatest proofs that you are drawing on the grace of God is that you can be humiliated without manifesting the slightest trace of anything but His grace.

"Having nothing . . ." Never reserve anything. Pour out the best you have, and always be poor. Never be diplomatic and careful about the treasure God gives. This is poverty triumphant.

My Utmost for His Highest - Oswald Chambers