Scripture of the Quarter

"The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work."

1 John 3:8 NKJV

Hyper-Grace: A Snare of Satan

Three years ago I gave copies of a book with the title Hyper-Grace written by Ph.D. Michael Brown, to all the partners of Warrior of God Ministries. The book was written to warn Christian brothers and sisters about the false teaching of Hyper-Grace. We first must define by the Bible, and not man's definition what this amazing gift of Grace really is. What does the term Hyper-Grace mean? To put it in a nutshell it means stretching and exaggerating, going above and beyond the true meaning of grace which leads people to believe they can live in sin and be covered by God's grace! We will see how man has stepped in to put his spin on the word grace, and pervert the Scriptures as the devil did to diminish the true meaning of grace that Jesus himself gave us as a free gift that cannot be earned. Men have destroyed the beauty and purity of the grace message.

I will use excerpts from Doctor Brown's book to illustrate some points of how these false teachers are perverting the Word of God, and misleading and misguiding people in the "body of Christ" the Church! First let's define the word Grace which is found in the New Testament which was written in Greek. The word Grace in Greek is "charis" meaning grace, a state of kindness and favor toward someone, often with a focus on a benefit given to the object; by extension gift, thanks, blessing. Now I would like to give you some scriptures which embody the true meaning of Grace. Acts 15:11 11 But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ^[a] we shall be saved in the same manner as they. Another Scripture which illustrates true Grace which shows favor, but also empowers and enables us to fight sin in our lives and not live in sin! John 1:17

¹⁷For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. Acts 20:24 ²⁴But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, [a] so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. I want to give you a scripture that defines the gift as it signifies in the definition of grace. Acts 6:8 (NLT) ⁸Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed amazing miracles and signs among the people. The word charis would actually be charisma (gracious gift) where we get the word "charismatic" to be gifted as it mentions in the definition of charis.

Now we have learned the true definition of grace, let's look at some pastors who are actually perverting God's amazing grace to fit their private agendas. These examples are taken Doctor Brown's book. I want to add, Doctor Brown even contacted these men in an effort to help them, not being critical or judgmental but as a brother in Christ to get them back on track to preach the **TRUE GOSPEL**

OF GRACE!

The first example from Doctor Brown's book is about sin. Listen to this ludicrous statement made by a grace teacher named Ryan Rufus, son of Pastor Rob Rufus, explained "You haven't been partially forgiven; you have been totally and completely and utterly and fully and absolutely forgiven of all your sins—past, present, and future!" In the words of Joseph Prince, "His grace (Jesus) is cheapened when you think that He (Jesus) has only forgiven you of your sins up to the time you got saved, and after that point, you have to depend on your confession of sins to be forgiven. God's forgiveness is not given in installments." Really, I guess John really doesn't mean what he says in 1 John 1:9 9If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Let's look at another recorded scripture which proves their teachings to be false. In **Acts 3**, Peter urged a Jewish crowd to turn from their sins, saying to them "Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out." (Acts 3:19) Which sins? The sins they had committed to that point, as the context makes very clear focusing on their rejection of Yeshua the Messiah. And again in Acts 2 Peter preached to the Jewish people along similar lines he said, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins." (Acts 2:38) Which sins? Clearly, the sins they had already committed. They were confes-

the sins they were living in. They certainly were not confessing their future sins!

There is not a single **VERSE ANY-**WHERE IN THE BIBLE THAT **PRONOUNCES** FORGIVEN FOR OUR FUTURE SINS (meaning, sins we have not yet

committed). Think about this God is dealing with us in space and time, and He only forgives us for what we have actually done.

Hyper-Grace teachers believe

shouldn't confess our sins. According to Hyper-Grace teacher Paul Ellis, "Forgiveness seems to be a blind spot for many people. We just can't get it in our heads that God has forgiven us completely and for all time." I must tell you as I write this newsletter and give these examples of the Hyper-Grace teachers I'm amazed at how many people believe these false teachers. But then again I remember this verse Hosea 4:6 ⁶My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children. If you are not being a Berean, (book of Acts) and checking what the Bible says and not men, you are going to fall for anything! Quoting Ryan Rufus "we are not called to confess our sins—we are called to confess our righteousness in Jesus Christ!" Put another way by Andre Rabe (but equally incorrect in terms of

sing the sins they had committed and 1 John 1:9), "Confession of sin is not the act in which we tell God about our sin, but the act in which we tell sin about our God." Doesn't this last example sound exactly like the devil, do you see how this MAN perverts things! Let me ask you a question do you sit around and talk to sin? I myself talk with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit! John makes it very clear in 1 John 3:3-4 ³And everyone who has this hope in Him (Jesus) purifies himself, just as He is pure. 4Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. Iesus Himself stated that we are not to continue living in sin. John 5:14 Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you." and also in John 8:11 She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."

> In closing I pray this newsletter helps you to see what is going on in churches today which will send many people to HELL! Remember you are a disciple of Jesus Christ if you know someone who believes Hyper-Grace teachers help them. Give them scriptural proof by using God's Word not some man's interpretation of the scripture for his personal agenda! The Bible clearly states this in 2 Peter 1:20-21 20 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, [a] 21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God[b] spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.