

In the world we can have wave after wave of trouble; in Christ we can enjoy wave after wave of grace. Think of swimming in the ocean with a high surf. You walk out into waist deep water, and then a giant wave knocks you over. After you get battered about under water, you finally regain your balance and stand up, only to be knocked down by the next massive wave. And so it goes.

Job received a messenger who told him his oxen and asses were stolen and his servants murdered (Job 1:14-15). "While he was yet speaking" the next wave hit, and he was told that his sheep had been burned up and other servants killed (Job 1:16). "While he was yet speaking" another wave hit, and he was told that his camels were stolen and more servants killed (Job 1:17). "While he was yet speaking" a gigantic wave struck, and he was told that his sons and daughters were killed (Job 1:18-19).

How can a believer survive such billows of disastrous trouble? God has an ocean full of grace to meet the needs of His troubled saints no matter how great the trials may be. In John 1:16 we read, "And of His fulness have all we received, and **grace for grace**." The expression "grace for grace" in verse 16 can be literally rendered, "grace instead of grace" or "grace in place of grace."

God's bountiful supply of grace is constantly replaced by more grace. One wave is replaced by the next wave. The waves keep coming continually, wave upon wave. God's gargantuan waves of grace are far greater than the waves of trouble: "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work" (2 Cor. 9:8).

~George Zeller: www.middletownbiblechurch.org



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