

## Great Increase as we rest in His Favor

Great Increase in the midst of **Distress**

**Psalms 4:1**

Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness: thou hast ENLARGED me when I was in DISTRESS; have mercy upon me, and hear my prayer. KJV

God can turn greatest weakness – worst situation → greatest strength, opport God's time for **Asia** – not mean God

forsaking West – recog that's how God works - HISTORY

Babylon – Persian – Greek – Romans – Britain – US – South America – now Asia – last days – largest conc of population

2 How long, O men, will you turn my glory into shame? How long will you love delusions and seek false gods?

3 Know that the LORD has set apart the **GODLY** for himself; the LORD will hear when I call to him.

4 In your anger do not sin; when you are on your beds, search your hearts and be silent. 5 Offer **RIGHT** sacrifices and trust in the LORD. NIV

**Key to inc:** God has set apart the Godly for himself

**Godly** – root – HESED – **obj** of his lovingness – when rest on his love – God can set you up for blessings

God will hear when I call – not your fasting or giving

**Key to INC** – rest in His **love**

1. Resting in Jesus' love is the secret to **intimacy** with God

Key way **inside** infor and not secondary source: resting in his love

Realise that secrets belong to the Lord – rest - **already**

That we don't force to know what the Lord withhold from us for our peace

When you rest in His love, you **already** have all inside infor you need to know

Great have **prophecies** – don't seek after prophecies – **SEEK** the **GIVER** – God

Want – wrong - attentive

If we keep looking for a word, we can end up hearing what we **want** to hear and got **wrong** word

**Attentive** to the prophetic word – already given

Care – judgment –ve - fear

Take care – hear prophecy that is **JUDGEMENTAL** and negative (Oh you going to have accident, don't worry I prayed for you). It releases fear, no peace.

**Real test** – not

The real **TEST** is not how accurate the prophecy is in describing what is happening to you – the d knows that too

Key Tests: word, peace, Christ centre

Not controlling – you marry him, you invest in him

2. Resting in Jesus' love makes us ready to **serve**

**At the cross** – there - ready for the master's use - In a **position** to be used

5. Resting in Jesus' love **puts** us in the right place and in the right time

Of all the disciples, only John lived to a right old age – not martyred

3. Resting in Jesus' love releases supernatural **power** to fulfil our calling

Outran - Fulfil law –without knowing

4. Resting in Jesus' love releases divine **revelation**

It is the Lord - Only John recog he

**153** – Hebrew symbolism – sci called **Gematria** – I am Elohim exactly 153 letters

John **already** know it by resting

Feeling **dry** – d tempt go after wrong sources .... Like the disciples fishing –no catch

World: Drinking - \$ - human being (all I want is a husb) – gamble (?) spectacular signs

Care – lying signs in the last days that even take the elect astray

Rest in his love and enjoy breakfast he prepared

Only one satisfy deepest hunger and thirst

Seek after the person – not things John 21:20-22

3x – ask – do you love me – agape

Peter now honest: I phileo you – like you – friend – not ready to die

Too fast – didn't specify

Last time – do you phileo me – go down to their level

Feed lamb – sheep shepherd

Honest – ready to shepherd

3x deny – given opport – restored – affirming – positive – kind of death

Upside down

**Next KEY to INC**

**Psalms 4:6** There are many who say, "Who will show us any good?" LORD, lift up the light of Your countenance upon us.<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart, More than in the season that their grain and wine increased. NKJV

Countenance – pict of his favor – same as the Aaronic Benediction

Make his face shine – gracious to you

Distressing time – often filled with guilt

Remember his sin with Bathseba Who will – show us any good – INC?

Light of his face – grace and favor – assure INC and vict

Not fighting for vict

From victory

We are not fighting to get

**Many still** - trying to get what we already have - Resting to receive Romans 5:17

17 For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who **receive** God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Jesus – parable – learn how to **receive** grace – exp overflowing abundance

Matthew 25:14-30

14 "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and **entrusted** his property to them. 15 To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each **according** to his ability. Then he went on his journey.

Rich man about to go for a long trip – entrust 3 men – 5 3 1 talents

Large sum of money – 80 lbs of silver = MR100,000

Notice – his **own** servants – his people God wants to release His blessings on his people – believers

**His** ser – peo – God always give opport to his peo – big or sm

**Long** time – master came back – first

**FIRST** see what happen to the **one** with one talent

24 "Then the man who had received the **one talent** came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that **you** are a **hard man**, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

26 "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? 27 Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.'

28 "'Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. 29 For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance.'

Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.

Left with nothing – not filled with grace

## A. HOW DOES THE MAN MISS THE INCREASE?

Failed to receive grace – **robbed** of INC

Hebrews 12:15

15 See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

Heb 7:19-22

19 for the law (*Torah*) made nothing perfect; on the other hand, there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God. ... 22 Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant. NKJV

### I. Bad picture of the Master

"You are a **hard man**" v 24,26 *harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not sown*  
See him **harsh** – harsh on yourself and others, even God

Greatest cause of **REL** prob – not filled with grace

Failed to see – Master has **entrusted**

Blind to master's **GENEROUSITY**

How can we be blind to God's generosity or the people God placed over us?

Sometimes, **upset** – **mum** dad boss – say - don't **feel** love - Don't feel God's love – **just**

*Just becous we don't, does not mean God doesn't love – fact He gave us his son!*

Fail to INC – bad pict of God – peo God placed over us

## 2. Always feeling upset that things had been unfair

Probably feel only given 1 talent – **why**

Dad – choc – **stuck** rob – amazing 50's

How do we unconsciously demands fairness as the key to happiness?

*Why should DAD give him that and not me – not the money – PRIN*

*Why didn't you give me the*

**CHOCOLATE?**

*Stuck in the past – ROB of joy and great blessings*

*Amazing – seen people in the 50's – stuck in past*

*Still crying on bed early morn – mother or father didn't give this that -*

**GAME**

*If see grace – see how God has already blessed us*

Rejoice with what we do have

According to his **ability** v 15

Adam – **root** of sin – **rob**

God gave every – upset one little fruit, little tree

*If he only – faithful little he given – in no time – catch up*

Assume – things must be **fair** – **happy**

**Fact** – world – **marred** with sins – cannot never be totally fair

No perfect govt, parent

**IF GOD** is fair! Grace → God is **unfairly** good

God is able to bless – **despite** of any **unfair** situation – **LOOK** to him

## 3. Blamatisis – it's all because of you

*I knew YOU – hard man v24 –*

blame master

Until we honest with our weaknesses - **responsibility**

*- not conc on defending ourselves*

*- not blame others – can't*

receive grace - INC

James 4:6

*"God opposes the proud but He gives grace to the humble."*

What is humility?

*Humility is not denying strength but honest with weakness*

See ourselves as **victims** – victimized – can't receive **help**

**Daniel** – captive – regarded as captive

*- after working for so long under Nebu*

**Not bitter** - Didn't see himself as **victim** or victimised

**Rose** to highest position in the land

## 4. Fear that can rob us of our creativity

*I was **Afraid** v 25 – hide in ground*

*Why fear? Of the main causes:*

Self

*Oh I am not this that – think **humble***

Humility - Not **beating** self – not this that – **pride**

*- self centred - Still talking about self*

How does self rob us of creativity?

*Humility is not thinking **LOW** – nothing of self – all of **Jesus** – his ability*

*Rely on his ability exp great creativity*

*If I come – would you do this – now only you notice – Ok lah never too late*

*But if you say – I trust you – I do it – know his ability – you're the right choice!*

*Self – law – limit our ability and creativity*

## 5. Settled with a false contentment

*I hid your talent in the ground v 25*

**Contented** – only keep what have

*What's wrong – Paul talks about being contented*

Why was contentment wrong in this context?

V15 – has the **ABILITY** – opport

*Anointing to get wealth – not use – spiritual? No – selfish – just interest in own need*

God wants and expects inc – cell – living multiplies

**NO INC** – regarded – **UNFAITHFUL!**

*False contentment – **judgmental** critical*

*It is one thing to be **happy** simple living*

*And another to live simple – **critical** others for enjoying God's abundance –*

**proud** of our simplicity

Matt 25:30 And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Harsh? Over react? No

He receive what he **believed**

*– hard man – harsh man*

His excuse, defence condemned **robbed** him – missed grace:

## B. HOW DOES THE 2 RECEIVE GREAT INCREASE?

Matt 25:22 "The man with the two talents also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.'

**5 talent + 5 = 10 > 1,000,000**

**2 + 2 = 4 > 400,000**

*Please do give me feed back – my calculation may be wrong*

*Notice – message changes over years*

*– take comfort – even **Billy***

**Both inc 100%! No?**

23 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a **few** things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

**Few – many** - Conservative

*– if the many is 10 x = 10 million!*

Only **10 mill**? No – amt  
keep **increasing**  
No limit – your  
**abundance** – filled with  
grace

*Not mean every body now  
driving BMW, Faragamo, LV  
bags*

*Heavily in debts*

**BAL** – not average – timing

**The two man** – not  
millionaires overnite

**Key: Faithful in little –  
belong to others**

*Faithful in things **belong to  
others***

**Contrast** - see, here is  
what belong to you v 25 -  
don't put **heart and joy** into  
it

*Not faithful in what  
belonging to another*

*He is not that **stupid** not to  
think of putting in the money in  
the bank but becos he thinks  
since not his money – he  
couldn't care less*

*Seen **employee** serving? –  
no heart - no joy in serving –  
not his own company – no  
**creativity** initiative*

*Change job just becos of \$50*

*Ok if dev talent*

**NO INC - Excuses** – rob of  
call

**Dan** – faithful – serving all  
the kings that come and go  
What does it mean to be  
faithful?

Key to receive Grace –  
faithful ...

**Put heart and joy** - even  
**little** – even if **belong to  
another** → **creativity and  
initiative - INC**

**Receive grace** → creative -  
**Reformation**

*Every where the*

**Reformation** message of  
grace is received – great

*creativity is released – advancement  
in every area*

Joy – share and enjoy in the  
riches of his master

*Like a son not a servant*

Why 1 man compare 2 touched  
by grace

**More** touched by grace

God is raising up great  
churches – all over – touched by  
grace

Hag 2:6-9

6 "Before long I will shake heaven  
and earth, land and sea. 8 All the silver  
and gold of the world is mine. 9 The  
new Temple will be more splendid than  
the old one, and there I will give my  
people prosperity and peace." The  
LORD Almighty has spoken. TEV