

What is Grace?

Channeling of the Pathwork Guide by Eva Pierrakos

Q: The questioner asks about the meaning of grace — about whether it comes from outside the self, and how to understand it.

THE GUIDE: Yes, well, I can understand why you do that, because, you see, when man expects a deity to give him what he does not know how to give to himself, this doubt would be more than justified. What is grace? Let us be clear about the meaning of grace. So many people wish to believe that grace means that God gives them something for nothing. But grace is something completely different. Grace is the way the world, the universe, creation is constituted. Grace is the fact that man has the power to make himself into a completely happy, meaningful, useful creature who experiences the bliss of being, and this is in his power.

He cannot get to this state when he passively waits — this is an unrealistic waiting — but he certainly can get — and relatively quite fast — to this state, if he is willing to be active, not over-active, not in a hurry or in anxiety or in harassment, but active in a sense that he takes the reins his life into his own hands by realizing that his life is exactly that which he is, and that, if he wishes his life to be changed, he has to change, and that means willing to undertake this change. And, in order to make this change possible, he can enlist, and should enlist, the infinite powers at his disposal, within himself, but never can these powers work when he does nothing but wait.

He has to be willing to look at himself in truthfulness, to understand where he is in error, and to be willing to change where he wants a different kind of life. That is grace. When man discovers he has that power, when man discovers he is not a helpless tool, that realization, that fact of creation, is the grace that constantly exists, that does not have to be given to anyone, that can come to you in any second because it is already there, if you make it possible. And you can only make it possible by knowing and understanding yourself on the deepest layer. And by changing yourself, where it is necessary because you barricade the taking part of that grace that exists within you constantly.

That is the realistic approach that can never ever let you down. You will be let down only the very moment when you expect salvation from outside yourself. When you know salvation lies in your power, you can never be let down, because then you will have the proper balance between your efforts, your willingness, your

endeavors, and enlisting the divine powers and wisdom that helps you to do so. It will not be the either one or the other. It will be both in conjunction, as I explained in the last lecture a fortnight ago.

Man either expects the salvation only from God, waiting for this divine grace, or man thinks such divine grace does not exist — divine help and wisdom and power does not exist. He has to do it all by his outer brain, his outer little self. In both alternatives he must be disappointed. But when he uses both, one enforcing the other, one increasing the other, then he can never be disappointed. That is the way of truth that will never, never let [you] down.

Now, I'm not saying that while a person is on such a path, he will not experience occasionally doubt and let down. But in exact proportion, where he has reverted back to expecting salvation from others, rather than from himself, and when you go deep enough — again I address my words to all of my friends, present and absent — and this is a very important key, my dearest ones. You become most impatient and most demanding of the help — that others help you, most resentful that others do not help you sufficiently, when you resist a change inside or an insight into yourself.

To the degree you do not want to change or fear change, to that degree you resent life, or God or your helper, or your surroundings. Because your life is not happy, or the Path lets you down. You will feel let down by the Path to that degree, as you resist change, fear change, and do not want to acknowledge this. On the other hand, to the degree you are willing to look and change, to that degree you will never feel let down. This is a key that all of you — also those friends who are absent tonight — should not only remember, but try to ascertain within themselves, and work on to see that it is so, that this — that what I say is truth. Absolute Truth.