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<http://www.fbcweb.org/Doctrines/Grace-thinking-7failures.pdf>

DAILY DOCTRINE

Grace Thinking: 7 Failures to Have a Grace Attitude

1. In Ephesians 4:32 God tells us, *And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.*

2. The above term translated “forgiving” is *charidzomenoi* (χαριζόμενοι); it is the word for grace.

3. The believer is to habitually have an attitude of grace: to have grace thinking. There are at least 7 characteristics which demonstrate breakdown of grace thinking and capacity to treat others in grace:

#1 – SPIRIT OF PRIDE: Exalted feeling based on success or position, or because of good training, appearance or natural gifts and abilities. It is an inner feeling of self-importance. Unfortunately, this attitude is cultivated in many charismatic churches.

#2 – LOVE OR LUST FOR HUMAN APPROBATION OR PRAISE: This is a fondness to be noted and recognized by others, rather than to recognize others. This is love of supremacy—drawing attention by conversation, exhibitionism, or playing some type of spiritual “King of the Mountain.”

#3—SOCIAL INTERACTION: Anger or impatience. Generally touchy and have a sensitive nature. There is resentment and retaliation when disapproved and contradicted. Characteristics include jealousy, sour grapes, envy, etc.

#4 – SELF-WILL: A stubborn and unteachable nature. Disposition to be argumentative, harsh, and bitter. A “nit-picker” or muckracker who is critical and minds the business of others instead of improving her own life – has a long proboscis.

#5 – TENDENCY TO MAGNIFY the faults and failings of others while emphasizing their own “virtues” or strengths. They generally have an unpleasant feeling when others succeed and prosper.

#6—NEGATIVE DISPOSITION. Peevish, fretful disposition, that loves to be coaxed and honored. Dishonest, deceitful disposition, or a disposition that tends toward discouragement and despondency under pressure, or an attempt to solve one’s problems by hysteria and tantrums.

#7—APATHY: indifference to Bible doctrine and Scripture. Not really hungry for the Word of God. A picky eater when it comes to Bible doctrine. He only wants those things he *likes*.