

**Sermon Text:** Revelation 1:4-5a Grace and Peace from the Trinity

**Our Triune God gives grace and peace to His Church even through fierce conflict.**

**1) The single source of benediction for the whole Church.**

- a) "The seven churches that are in Asia"—historical churches representative of the Visible Church
- b) "Grace to you and peace from . . ."
- c) One Gracious Will
- d) One Peaceful Relation
- e) **Application:**
  - i) Fellowship with the Triune God
  - ii) Fellowship with all the saints
  - iii) Peace to the earth (contrast Rev. 6:4)

**2) Grace and peace from the Sovereign, Unchanging Father.**

- a) "He who is and who was and who is to come"
  - i) YHWH—Tetragrammaton; Divine Name; Exod. 3:14; 33:17-20; 34:6-7
  - ii) "is and was"=being (will be)
  - iii) "is to come" = eschatology; goal of human history
  - iv) Emphasizes the Father's Sovereignty over History
- b) **Application:**
  - i) Trust in the faithfulness of the unchanging God.
  - ii) Trust in the authority of the sovereign God.

**3) Grace and peace from the all-wise Spirit.**

- a) "seven spirits who are before His throne"
  - i) Isaiah 11:1-2 "The Sevenfold Spirit of God" (Spirit of the LORD, wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, fear of the LORD)
  - ii) Rev. 5:6 "a Lamb . . . with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth" (Zech. 3:9; 4:10—placed upon the anointed priest, Joshua)
  - iii) The Spirit of Wisdom who anointed the Messiah is given to His Church to impart wisdom and empower witness (Rev. 11:1-14; 19:10; 22:17).
- b) **Application:**
  - i) Trust the knowledge of the all-knowing God.
  - ii) Trust the wisdom of the all-wise God.

**4) Grace and peace from the Conquering Son.**

- a) "Jesus Christ the Faithful Witness, the Firstborn of the dead, and the Ruler of kings on earth"
  - i) "Faithful Witness" = obedience unto death; victory
  - ii) "Firstborn of the dead" = resurrection; vindication
  - iii) "Ruler of kings on earth" = present session at Father's right hand
- b) **Application:**
  - i) Trust the victory over sin and satan of the conquering God.
  - ii) Trust the vindication of the righteous God.
  - iii) Trust the authority of the reigning God.

**Doxology:** To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.