

Changed into His likeness - Gracious

God knew that although He had made man in His image, man (male & female) would fail. So the fall did not come as a surprise to God. He had a plan from before the foundation of the world to restore man to His image.

Old & New Testament give the unfolding of this plan in detail. And God's character is at the heart of this plan. Unless God is who He says He is then it can't happen.

2 Corinthians 3v16 - 4v7

Paul speaks plainly about being changed into the image of the Lord with direct reference to Moses seeing God's glory.

Exodus 33v18 - 34v8 & 34v29-30, 33

Moses didn't meet with God to have a warm fuzzy feeling or to come out all shiny. I believe that he met with God because he needed Him - God had chosen him not the other way round.

Following the proclamation of God's name, I think that Moses understood that God was after a people who would become the expression of His character to all nations.

Old Testament

Gracious - Channun

Nehemiah 9v17

Psalms 145v8 - 10

Jonah 4v2

Grace - Chen

Exodus 33v17

Exodus 34v9

Psalms 84v8 - 12

Zechariah 4v6 - 7

New Testament

John 17v6

John 1v14 - 17 - Only use of *Grace* in (*Charis*) gospels except **Luke 2v40**.
"Though grace was manifest in the OT, it was but a candle compared to the brightness of grace that appeared at the incarnation. Grace is the unmerited favour of God and is the basis of our salvation, justification, election, faith and spiritual gifts." (Charles Ryrie - note to v17)

Paul is the one who develops the teaching on grace in his writings. Let's see what he said about this:

Acts 20v22 - 24 (2 Corinthians 8v9)

Ephesians 3v1 - 3, 8 (Paul's calling)

Romans 5v20 - 21

2 Corinthians 9v6 - 15 *Grace* is intensely practical

Ephesians 1v2, 6,

2v5, 7, 8

3v2, 7

4v7, 29

6v24

Hebrews 12v15 (Heb 12 - 16)

Revelation 1v4, - *Grace & Peace*, the standard greeting

22v21 - *Grace of the Lord Jesus*, standard close

God's purpose is that we become more & more like Him in every way and it is the gospel (good news) that we can have Jesus Christ living in us that is the plan.

