

# ***GRACE REVOLUTION***

*Experience the Power to  
Live Above Defeat*

JOSEPH PRINCE

# INTRODUCTION

A grace revolution is sweeping across the world today. It is a revolution that is tearing down the walls of legalistic Christian religion and bringing a brand-new generation of believers into a deep and intimate relationship with the person of Jesus. As a result, precious lives are being transformed, marriages are being restored, the sick are being healed, and many are being freed from the bondage of legalism. This liberty has in turn given them the strength and power to rise above their challenges.

In this book you will hear their stories and find out just how a genuine encounter with their beautiful Savior changed everything in their lives. If you are facing some challenges in your own life, you don't have to get to the end of this book to find the answer. I want you to know from the outset that Jesus is your solution. He is your answer, your hope, your joy, your peace, and your security. When you have Him, you have everything.

The grace revolution is all about bringing Jesus back to the forefront. For too long the Christian faith has been reduced to a list of dos and don'ts. That's not why Jesus came. That's not what Christianity is all about. Jesus did not come to point out our faults. Truthfully, many of us know what our faults are, and if not, our spouses do a pretty good job of highlighting them to us!

Jesus came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. He

came to save, to redeem, and to reconcile us to God so that “whoever believes in Him [Jesus] should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). That’s the gospel right there, wrapped up in the beautiful simplicity called “grace”—eternal life for us paid for by the blood-stained sacrifice at Calvary. The cross is God’s masterpiece. It is also His master plan to save humanity from itself. It is a foolproof plan without pages of complicated caveats that only a trained lawyer can decode. The truth is that uneducated fishermen, hapless harlots, and the poor could all understand Him.

A rising tide of grace preachers all around the world are preaching the unadulterated gospel of Jesus. A pastor who listens to my messages regularly took over a church as its senior pastor when it had an average attendance of about a thousand members. He and his wife started preaching strongly on the gospel of grace and unveiling the love of God. He shared with me that in under six months, his congregation doubled in size—they now have more than two thousand people coming every weekend and they are rapidly expanding to new campuses. Why? Because the gospel works! Why should we be surprised that when Jesus is preached and lifted high, lives are touched, changed, and transformed? Come on, this is the grace revolution!

Grace is not a subject and the grace revolution is not a movement. Grace is a person and His name is Jesus. The grace revolution is an explosive revelation that occurs in the innermost sanctum of your heart when you meet Jesus. It is not an outward revolution but something that is incepted from the inside out.

Even when you fail, you are failing forward. And when you fall, you don’t crash out. Grace imparts hope to those who are hopeless and help to those who are helpless. When you are worn out, torn down, crushed, depleted, and on the brink of giving up, grace is the hand that pulls you out of the miry pit of defeat. Grace is the supply that

floods every crevice of need. Grace is the person Who was nailed to the cross for your redemption.

My dear reader, I want to thank you for picking up this book. Thousands of new books are published every year and the reality that you and I are having this conversation is not a coincidence. This is a divine appointment. I prayed that this book would find its way to the right person at the right time. You may be going through a severe challenge in your life right now. Things may seem bleak and dismal. The report you just received may be discouraging and disappointing. It may seem as if there is no way out of the quagmire you're in.

The truth is that you are not at the end of your rope. Now is the time to lean your full weight on Jesus. Now is the time to stop trying to save yourself and let the Savior save you. Now is the time to step into His love and allow Him to transform you from the inside out.

Would you give these pages a chance? I believe the truths here will give you new perspectives that will challenge you to live above defeat and experience lasting breakthroughs. To help you on this journey, I have identified five practical and powerful keys:

- Grow in Boldness and Confidence
- Build a Foundation for Lasting Breakthroughs
- Value the Person of Jesus
- Speak the Language of Faith
- Receive His Abundant Restoration

As you take time to understand and internalize these five simple but highly effective biblical principles, I have no doubt that you will be greatly encouraged and strengthened. The scriptural truths shared in this book will not only inspire you to live above defeat, they will also serve as a powerful step-by-step guide to piling deep into your

heart an unshakable, rock-solid, and immovable foundation for lasting breakthroughs.

This is what the grace revolution is all about. It is about your life touched, changed, and transformed from the inside out. It is about living a victorious life. A life that wins. A life that reigns triumphant over failure and frustration. When you encounter the person of grace and when the veil of Christian religion is removed, there is no turning back. You'll begin to step away from defeat and take a massive leap toward your victory!

## CHAPTER 1

# LET THE REVOLUTION BEGIN

The grace revolution begins with Jesus. It is not a movement, teaching, or subject to be studied. It is all about a person. What you believe about this person makes all the difference. I am sure you have heard about Jesus and are familiar with His name. You may even have attended Sunday school as a child and heard all the Bible stories about Him. The question is, do you know Jesus personally? Is He a historical figure, a prominent Jewish rabbi, or simply the son of a Galilean carpenter? Who is He to you? Is He just another teacher? Or is He your Savior?

Whatever adversity, challenge, or circumstance you may be faced with today, your answer is found in the person of *Jesus*. Today a grace revolution is sweeping across the globe, because the person of Jesus is boldly preached, proclaimed, and lifted high.

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*Whatever adversity you may be faced with today, your answer is found in the person of Jesus.*

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We are receiving testimony after testimony about how people's lives have been touched and transformed by the grace of God. Many are finding freedom from their long-term conditions, addictions, and

bondages. They share joyfully with us how the Lord supernaturally delivered them from panic attacks, substance abuse, and decades of depression. Others write in, brimming with thanksgiving, because God has restored their marriages and their relationships with their estranged children, and healed their bodies when doctors had given them no hope.

I wish I could read all of them to you, because you will notice that one common thread is woven through all these letters. One common denominator took these people from defeat into victory, from breakdowns into breakthroughs: they all had *an encounter with Jesus*. They all caught a revelation of His grace.

### The Power of an Encounter with Jesus

Dean from Maryland wrote to me to share how his life was transformed by the goodness of God. He said, “Dear Pastor Prince, it brings me so much excitement to share with you the radical change in my life in the last year. I have been watching your television program for a solid year now and read *Destined To Reign, Unmerited Favor*, and just finished *The Power of Right Believing*. It’s a thousand pages of one message—grace. I don’t know how I ever missed it all these years. Your teaching on grace and truth has been so revolutionary to me and I want to thank you personally.”

In the twelve pages that followed, Dean shared with me the story of his life and how the Lord had transformed him. When he found out at age twelve that he had been adopted, he began a lifelong battle with feelings of rejection, abandonment, inadequacy, and fear. He even contemplated suicide and started to believe that life was not worth living. In his teen years he started mixing with all the wrong

people and developed several addictions: “At fourteen, I began drinking on weekends, at fifteen I was smoking weed, and I was taking cocaine when I was about sixteen. By seventeen, I was without doubt bound with addictions and in flat-out rebellion against God and man.”

The older he got, the more Dean intensified his drinking and drug use to numb his pain and confusion. He spiraled out of control and lost all respect for authority figures in his life. Just before his eighteenth birthday, he was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

To make matters worse, he discovered meth (methamphetamine) after he got married. Recounting that part of his life, he shared with me, “Up to that time, I had no idea of its destructive and demonic power. At first, it was great as it seemed to take away all my pain—the depression, oppression, rejection, inadequacies, loneliness, and fear. It even curbed my drunkenness. I developed confidence and a feeling of being in complete control. I thought I had found the cure and I never wanted to be without it. So I continued taking meth for the next nine years and started dealing small amounts to feed my habit. I got caught, had my first felony drug conviction, and had my first trip to prison rehabilitation for 120 days.” Following his first imprisonment, Dean continued to struggle to find peace and answers, and went through many ups and downs while heading in and out of prison.

Dean’s turnaround happened only when he began to hear about God’s grace. He realized that “grace was not about what I deserved, but all about the Lord’s love and the unearned, unmerited favor that He gives freely without demanding anything.” This revelation simply blew his mind, especially since he was full of guilt over the damage he had done to everyone in his life. It was the light that shone into his darkness and the start of his liberation. Simply put, the revolution in his life began with a revelation of God’s amazing grace.



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*Your turnaround happens when you begin to hear  
about God's grace.*

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## What Simply Believing in God's Grace Can Do

Dean continued to share with me:

*Within days of this revelation, another turning point happened. I had kept my television turned on to a Christian channel. Your program was on and you started talking about "rest." When I heard that word rest, it got my attention. You were speaking from Hebrews 4 and as you spoke about rest, I got up and went to my Bible on my computer and began to study the passage intently. I quickly found that the word rest used in Hebrews 4 was a noun and that upon entering this place of rest, I never ever have to leave. Without doubt, I saw the only way into this place was to simply believe what God was saying about grace.*

*My problem was, I could not simply believe, or really take God at His word. I believed that I was His child and had forgiveness of sins, but I had also come to believe that I had to carry my own punishment for the repeated failures in my life.*

*I dove into the Word and in the days and months ahead, my life began to change. I began seeing in the Scriptures the simplicity of the gospel of Christ and the revelation of God's grace began to transform me from the inside out. I repented by changing my thinking and that began to change what I had been believing. My emotions and behavior began to change*

*effortlessly. I didn't have to try to feel right, or act right; I just did, and still do. And while I still have my moments, they are getting fewer and further apart.*

*I realized that all I had to do was to focus on Jesus' finished work on the cross and keep my eyes and ears open to His gospel, the good news of grace. I was seeing things I'd never seen before in the Word and understanding what grace means and how this truth sets one free. I began to realize that grace is undeserved favor and there was nothing I could ever do to earn or re-earn this unmerited favor in my life, regardless of my sins or efforts to make things right. I began to realize that I am highly favored and accepted in the beloved family of my Lord.*

*To sum it all up, I will say this: As a young boy, I believed in Jesus as my Savior. I knew many of the stories in the Bible. I went to church. But I lived life with a slave and orphan mentality for over thirty years because I could not understand or believe the whole truth of God's grace—this grace, which is the power of God unto salvation, this grace, which is the light that shines into the darkness.*

*I could accept that I was His child forever and would go to heaven, but because of my repeated failures, I believed that I would never have love, favor, and acceptance in this life. I believed that I had to suffer for my mistakes. Finally, I believed that I had to carry my failures all the way to heaven, resulting in much pain and damage that almost crushed me to death.*

*As I write this, I have been freed of alcohol and drug abuse for over two years and freed of dependence on medication for well over a year. Most of my life, I hated going to bed because I would toss and turn in torment thinking about all my failures*

*and weaknesses. I hated waking up because I knew it would start all over again. In the last year, all that has changed. I go to bed without thoughts of my past. I can't wait to wake up each morning to expect more of His grace. The guilt, shame, bone-crushing weight of condemnation, and ever-looming depression because of fear, failure, and punishment have all disappeared like the darkness in the light of the rising sun.*

What a revolutionary story of transformation and breakthrough! Thank you, Dean, for having the courage to share your story. I am truly humbled and honored to have been a part of your journey to recovery by pointing you to the person of Jesus.

My dear reader, I want to encourage you to believe that you too can experience the freedom that Jesus brings. Dean experienced victory over defeat in his life and so can *you*. Whatever is keeping you down, be it frequent bouts of depression, self-doubt, or fear, there is a person Who has the power to turn everything around for your good. His name is Jesus.

### See Breakthroughs Because of What Jesus Did

In taking this journey to understand the grace of God, it is essential you understand the difference between the old covenant of law and the new covenant of grace. To help you accelerate your understanding of law and grace, I want to share with you one of my favorite Scriptures. I have preached this verse around the world, from Hillsong Conference in Sydney, Australia, to Lakewood Church in Houston, Texas.

*For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.*

*—John 1:17*

The law was given through a servant. Grace and truth came through the Son. The law talks about what man ought to be. Grace reveals Who God is. In the first miracle of Moses, he turned water into blood, resulting in death. In the first miracle of grace, Jesus turned water into wine, resulting in life and celebration. The letter kills, but the Spirit gives life (see 2 Cor. 3:6).

Under the law, God demands righteousness from sinfully bankrupt man. But under grace, God provides righteousness as a gift. Now, which covenant would you like to be under? The answer is obvious!

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*Under grace, God provides righteousness as a gift.*

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The truth is, through the cross at Calvary, all who believe in Jesus and acknowledge Him as their Lord and Savior are under the new covenant of grace. Yet today many believers are still living in confusion, and get law and grace all mixed up by holding on to some aspects of the law and some aspects of grace in their Christian walk. Jesus said you cannot put new wine into old wineskins. The new wine will ferment and break the wineskins, and you will lose both (see Matt. 9:17). In the same way, you cannot put the new wine of grace into the old wineskin of the law. One will cancel out the other (see Rom. 11:6).

Under the law, God said, “I will by no means clear the guilty, but

I will visit their sins to the third and fourth generations” (see Exod. 34:7). But under grace, God says, “I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and lawless deeds I will remember no more” (see Heb. 8:12).

There has been a change! Can you see with absolute high-definition clarity that *there has been a radical change* and it is all because of Jesus?

Yet there are many still preaching the law. They are still preaching that if you obey God, God will bless you; if you disobey God, He will curse you.

Now, that sounds right, but it’s a dangerous teaching because it nullifies the finished work of Jesus. The law is man-oriented and says, “*You shall* have no other gods before Me. *You shall* not make for yourself a carved image. . . . *You shall* not take the name of the LORD your God in vain” (Exod. 20:3–4, 7, emphasis mine). Grace is God-oriented and says, “*I will* put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and *I will* be their God, and they shall be My people. . . . *I will* be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds *I will* remember no more” (Heb. 8:10, 12, emphasis mine).

The law is man-centered whereas grace is Jesus-centered. The law focuses on what you must accomplish; grace focuses entirely on what Jesus has accomplished. Under the law, you are disqualified by your disobedience; under grace, you are qualified by Jesus’ obedience. Under the law you are made righteous when you do right; under grace you are made righteous when you believe right. Take a look at the following table, which lists the key differences between law and grace.

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under grace you are made righteous when you believe right.*

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LAW	GRACE
Given impersonally through Moses, a servant of God	Came personally through Jesus, the Son of God
Reveals what man ought to be	Reveals Who God is
Results in miracles of death	Results in miracles of life
The letter of the law kills	The Spirit of grace gives life
Demands righteousness from sinfully bankrupt man	Provides righteousness as a gift to man
Old, inflexible wineskin	New, intoxicating wine
Sins remembered and punished by God	Sins forgiven and remembered no more by God
Dispenses blessings and curses	Dispenses only blessings
Man-centered—what you must do for God	God/Jesus-centered—what God will do for you/what Jesus has done for you
You are disqualified by your disobedience	You are qualified by Jesus' obedience
You are justified by your works	You are justified by faith

*The key differences between law and grace*

Beloved, aren't you glad the Lord Jesus came and died for your sins on the cross so that you can now come under God's grace and experience the breakthroughs you need?

## The King Came Down

When Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount, He said, “Love your enemies” (see Matt. 5:44). Today we have problems loving our neighbors, let alone our enemies. Jesus also said, “If your right eye offends you, pluck it out, throw it away from you. If your hand offends you, cut it off” (see Matt. 5:29–30). Have you seen anyone who’s fighting for the law do that? Have you seen any church practice that? Come on, that church would look like a huge amputation ward! So what was Jesus doing when He said those things?

Jesus was bringing the law back to its pristine standard, as the Pharisees had brought it down to where it was humanly possible to keep. For example, Jesus said that if you look at a woman to lust, you have already committed adultery with her (see Matt. 5:28). The Pharisees thought that unless you physically commit adultery, you have not sinned. You see, Jesus is an expert at using God’s law to bring man to the end of himself so that he will see his need for the Savior. My friend, He didn’t mean for you to pluck out your eye or cut off your hand. (I hope you are not yelling out, “Pastor Prince, why didn’t you write this book earlier?”)

The Pharisees boasted of their law-keeping; hence Jesus demonstrated to them what it truly takes to be justified by the law. He showed them that it was impossible for man to be justified by the law. For instance, the moment you are angry with a brother in your heart, you have committed murder (see Matt. 5:22)! Now, by a quick show of hands, based on Jesus’ definitive and impeccable interpretation of God’s holy laws, who can stand? No one! Yet many are still preaching the law and wanting people to be under the old covenant of law.

Follow me now, I want you to catch a beautiful picture of God’s

grace. The good news is that Jesus didn't stop there. He preached the Sermon on the Mount and then He came down. Spiritually speaking, if the King had stayed on the mountain, there would have been no redemption for us.

Are you getting this? If Jesus had stayed high up in heaven and decreed God's holy standards from there, there would have been no hope and no redemption for us. But all praise and glory to the King Who chose to come down from heaven to this earth! He came down the mountain. He came down into suffering, crying, and dying humanity. At the foot of the mountain we see how He met a man with leprosy, a picture of you and me before we were washed clean by His precious blood. Imagine: an unclean sinner, standing before the King of kings. There was no way the standards of the Sermon on the Mount could have saved him. There was no way the pristine and perfect standards of God's holy commandments could have saved us. The King knew that and that's why He came down to where we were.

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*The King chose to come down from heaven into  
suffering, crying, and dying humanity.*

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In those days people with leprosy were considered unclean, and wherever they went they had to shout, "Unclean! Unclean!" (see Lev. 13:45) so people would know to run the other way lest they became defiled by the disease. Needless to say, those with leprosy were not welcomed in public places. Yet here the man was before the King, saying, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean" (Matt. 8:2). Notice he didn't doubt that Jesus *could*; he doubted that Jesus *would*.

Without a moment's hesitation, our Lord Jesus reached out and *touched* the afflicted man, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed." And



immediately his leprosy was cleansed (see Matt. 8:3). Now watch this: under the law those with leprosy—the unclean—make the clean unclean. But under grace Jesus makes the unclean clean. Under the law, sin is contagious. Under grace, righteousness and God’s goodness are contagious!

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*Under the law, sin is contagious. Under grace, righteousness  
and God’s goodness are contagious!*

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### Grace Brings Victory

We need not fear that being under grace will cause licentiousness, because the Word of God clearly states,

*For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not  
under law but under grace.*

—Romans 6:14

Unfortunately, there are people twisting God’s Word today. They preach that when you are under grace, sin will have dominion over you. This cannot be further from the truth! Many have been hoodwinked by this false teaching that makes people fearful of God’s grace. God’s Word is so clear: when you are under grace and not under the law, sin shall NOT have dominion over you. The word “sin” here is a noun. It is the Greek word *hamartia*, meaning “a failing to hit the mark.”<sup>1</sup> So you can say it this way: sicknesses, diseases, eating disorders, addictions, and any form of oppression or bondage (all examples of our missing God’s mark or standard for a glorious life) shall not

have dominion over you. When? When you are not under the law but under grace!

This idea that grace will cause people to sin without restraint is from the pit of hell. You cannot be under grace and not be holy any more than you can be underwater and not be wet! It is being under grace that gives you the power to live a victorious life.

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*You cannot be under grace and not be holy any more than  
you can be underwater and not be wet!*

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### **Only Grace Brings Lasting Freedom**

Let me show you how being under grace enables you to overcome your challenges and live victoriously, with an amazing testimony from Anna of Iowa. Anna recounts how the Lord in His grace set her free from many painful years of addiction to cigarettes and marijuana:

*For the better part of sixteen years, I have been addicted to cigarettes and marijuana, but because of the grace of my Father, I am now free!*

*Although I grew up in a godly environment, attended a charismatic church, spent daily time with God, and even taught in a Sunday school, I was an addict who knew how to hide my addictions well! While I have always been known to love people and be kind, I felt as if I was not being kind to God or myself—I was hurting the temple of God and being a hypocrite. I felt absolutely worthless and thoughts of suicide often raced through my mind.*

*Throughout the sixteen years of bondage, I attempted so many times to quit my addictions, including the time I was pregnant with my two beautiful boys! I did quit for a while but as soon as I gave birth, I quickly picked up the habits again because the desires had never left my heart.*

*While my prayers for others have always been powerful and effective, I was very mad at God because my prayers for my own freedom seemed to go unheard, or at least unanswered.*

*Then, about a year and a half ago, I began to watch Joseph Prince's television program daily. Sometimes, I would watch a certain program multiple times. At one point in time, Joseph Prince almost completely filled the space available in my digital video recorder.*

*I also began ordering materials that the Holy Spirit led me to get, and I was in the word of grace for hours daily, even while under the influence of cigarettes and marijuana. Hope began to fill my heart—not hope that I would soon be free, but hope that no matter what my state was, my Father would NEVER be mad at me! His grace was enough for the apostle Paul, and His grace is enough for me!*

*For so long, I tried to earn the blessings of God. But after allowing the water of the Word to cleanse me daily, I was able to receive His love, grace, shalom, and all of His blessings, regardless of behavior. Every time I used cigarettes or marijuana, I would say, "Thank You, Father, that I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus!" I quit trying to quit and decided that His grace was enough for me!*

*One day, several months ago, I was set free from both addictions! I didn't try to quit; it just happened. My heavenly Father has completely taken the desires away from me. Even*

*when I am in public and exposed to others who are smoking, I still have no desire to do the same! Even right now, thinking about this great freedom, I have to cry, and cry out, “My Father is SO faithful!”*

*Thank you so much for daring to speak the truth. I’m sure it’s not easy sometimes, but I am so grateful that Christ, through your ministry, has set me free! I now have my family, who are involved in prison ministry, listening to and reading your materials. I myself am now part of this prison ministry and write letters containing the truth to those behind bars. It’s time for the captives to be set free in the name of Jesus!*

Wow, that is truly the grace revolution in action! I rejoice and celebrate with you, Anna, for being completely free from two sixteen-year addictions! Thank you for taking the time to write and testify about what Jesus has done in your life. I believe that many will be touched and inspired by your testimony.

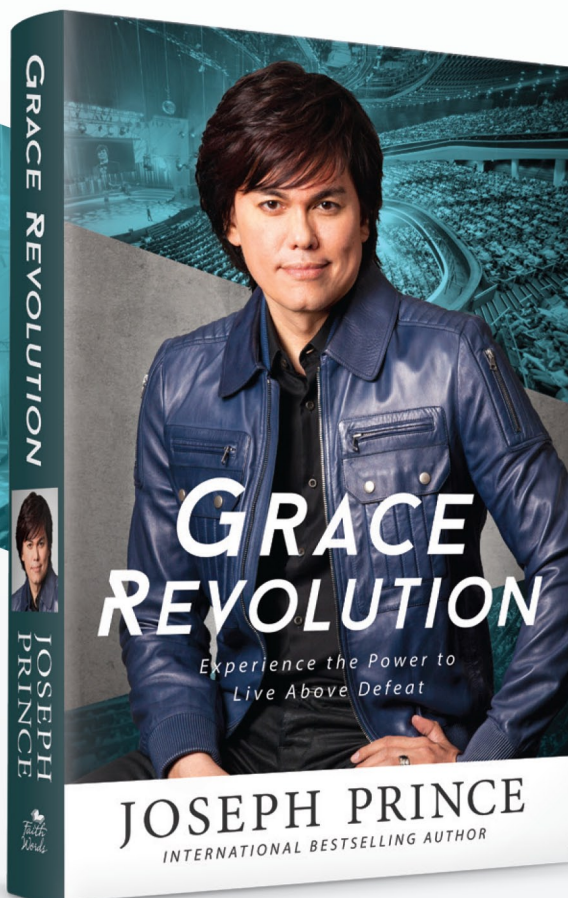
What willpower and self-effort couldn’t do, God did by the power of His amazing grace. His living and eternal Word proclaims, “For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace” (Rom. 6:14). Grace is the power over every addiction that is destroying you. Only grace can give you lasting freedom.

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*What willpower and self-effort cannot do, God will do  
by the power of His amazing grace.*

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Let the revolution begin!



AVAILABLE WORLDWIDE  
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