

The Gift of *Grace*



Romans 5:1-2

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Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith **into this *grace* in which we stand**, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.



Simple definition..

- *Grace* ... unmerited favor
 - What is the favor?
 - Why is it a favor?
 - Why is it unmerited?
 - What am I supposed to do?



Can we understand it?

- Part of God's truth..



– Ephesians 2:8 For *by grace* you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God..

- Defined not by our feelings
- Given for a purpose...



Can we understand it?

- Theological or personal?
 - Written for each of us...
 - Each Christian is redeemed, precious..
 - John 20:30-31 believe, eternal life



Unmoved by grace?..

- Understand what grace really is..
- What grace is supposed to do?
- What we are to do with grace?
- Gain proper balance..



The Gospel of Grace..

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Those who believe..</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">– Saved by grace– Acts 20:24 I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to <i>the gospel of the grace of God.</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Those who reject Him..</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">– Unmoved by grace– Gal 1:6 turning away so soon from Him who <i>called you in the grace of Christ</i>, to a different gospel... |
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Romans 3:21-24

- 21 But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 *being justified freely by His grace* through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus..



A very positive word..

- Grace .. Latin gratus “pleasing”
 - Elegant, refined, polished, attractive
 - Generous, well mannered, considerate
 - Warm, gentle, courteous



God's grace..

- Old Testament .. Heb “chanan”
 - Favor, kindness... “to stoop down”
 - Psalms 84:11 For the Lord God is a sun and shield; *The Lord will give grace and glory*; No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.



Favor linked with life..

- **Esther 4:11** " any man or woman who goes into the inner court to the king, who has not been called, he has but one law: put all to death, except the one to whom the king holds out the golden scepter, that he may live."
- **Est 5:2** So it was, when the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, that she found favor in his sight, and the king held out to Esther the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther went near and touched the top of the scepter.



God's grace in NT..

- Grace .. Greek “charis”
 - A benefit, gift, unmerited favor
 - 1 Cor 1:4 I thank my God always concerning you for *the grace of God which was given to you* by Christ Jesus
 - 2 Timothy 1:9 who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and *grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus* before time began



Law vs Grace misunderstanding..

- John 1:16-17 And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. 17 For *the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.*
 - OT emphasis on law to define sin ..
 - NT emphasis saving sinners..



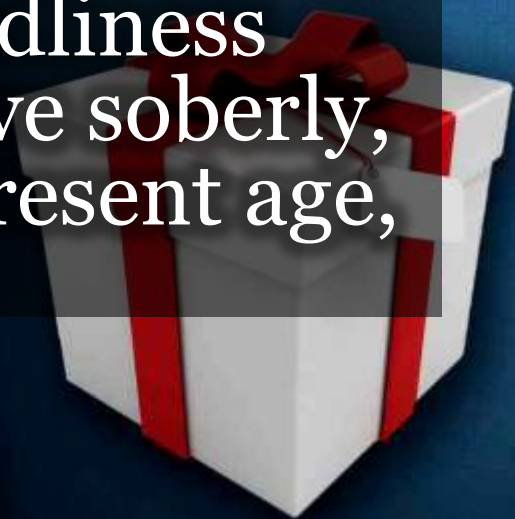
Law vs Grace misunderstanding..

- Heb 13:8 God is the same yesterday, today, tomorrow..
- Romans 11:22 Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.



God stooped down to us..

- John 1:14 And the *Word became flesh* and *dwelt among us*, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.
- Titus 2:11-12 For the *grace of God that brings salvation* has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,



Something we do not deserve..

- We deserve punishment for our sins..
- We do not deserve to be set free and rewarded with fellowship in heaven..
 - **Rom 7:24-25** O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? 25 I thank God — through Jesus Christ our Lord!



A bundle of blessings..

- Redemption .. Forgiveness of sins
- Access to the throne of grace **Heb 4:16**
- Christ our advocate **1 John 1:6-2:1-2**
- Holy of holies **Heb 10:19-20**



Manifold grace..

- Ephesians 1:7-8 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, *according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us* in all wisdom and prudence..



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