

## Grace in Redemption

### Introduction and Review

- Continuing series on grace. The grace of God comes from Him exclusively and He gives grace discriminately as He chooses.
- The law of God was a gracious gift of God to His people through Moses who was also a gracious gift of God (Jn. 1:17a).
- Jesus came to humanity with grace to save sinners and truth as He fulfilled all the demands & promises of the law (Jn. 1:17b).
- Jesus was the full & complete revelation of grace that superseded the previous revelation of grace in the law of God (Jn. 1:16).

### I. Grace and Dead Sinners (v. 1-3)

- A. All sinners are spiritually dead (v. 1-3a)

*Paul is now addressing the past condition of these believers. All people are born spiritually dead (v. 1; Jn. 3:3). Spiritual death means isolation or alienation from God spiritually & mentally (1Co. 2:14; Eph. 2:11-12). All sinners live under the slavish control of Satan in disobedience to God (v. 2-3a).*

- B. All sinners are condemned by nature (v. 3b)

*“by nature” means by birth or being born a human being after Adam & Eve. Every person born deserves the wrath of God & eternal punishment because they are born sinners & rebels against God (Ps. 51:5; Jer. 17:9; Rom. 5:12-14).*

### II. Grace and God’s Mercy (v. 4-7)

- A. God gives life to dead sinners (v. 4-5)

*Spiritual life comes from being joined to Christ (v. 5b; 1Jn. 5:12). God takes the initiative to give spiritual life to spiritually dead sinners. Nothing in the sinner warrants God’s initiative, but He does it because of His abundant **mercy**, great **love** & **grace**. Mercy means that God feels **pity**, love means that He **values** the sinner & grace means that it is **unmerited**. Abundant mercy, love & grace imply that God is able to save the worst of sinners from the worst of sins!*

- B. God exalts dead sinners (v. 6-7)

*Believers experience the resurrection life of Christ & the heavenly rule of Christ now in this life. Believers now live in*

*the newness of life free from slavish control of Satan & this world’s system. God does this for believers to demonstrate His limitless grace for all eternity – “immeasurable riches”.*

### III. Grace and Salvation (v. 8-10)

- A. Grace completely humbles human effort (v. 8b-9)

*The bible describes the unbeliever as spiritually dead, a slave to sin & Satan, and a helpless enemy of God (Rom. 5:6-10). Therefore unbelievers cannot save themselves nor take the initiative or even have the desire (Phil. 2:13). Even the faith to be saved comes from God, not man – “it is the gift of God” (v. 8c; Phil. 1:29).*

- B. Grace completely glorifies God (v. 8a, 10)

*God not only takes the initiative to save the sinner by grace & gives the sinner faith to be saved, but He also gives the sinner power to be delivered (Rom. 1:16; 1Co. 1:18). God alone saves thru grace alone by faith alone (v. 8a). God saves sinners to work for Him in the kingdom of God (v. 10). God has designed work for every individual He saves. Therefore since God alone saves, gives grace & faith to be saved, and gives godly work for those He saves, then God alone is worthy of glory & praise.*

**APPL:** Salvation & eternal life is a free gift from God to sinners who have earned & deserve eternal death (Rom. 6:23). The free gift of eternal life then is the most precious & glorious gift that can be given to an undeserving sinner. All sinners are undeserving of God’s abundant mercy & His great love. But every believer has personally been a recipient of this abundant mercy when God did not pass you by in your messy & pitiful lifestyle of sin – when no one else could/would help, God did... And every believer has personally been a recipient of God’s great love (Jn. 3:16; 1Jn. 3:1). How could God possibly be so forgiving & so good to people so undeserving – Grace! By grace He forgives the undeserving; saves, adopts, seals, delivers, blesses, makes promises to, fills with the Spirit, gives sp. gifts, etc.

## CONCLUSION

Therefore my beloved brothers & sisters since we personally have already been saved by grace, we know that God saves those who do not deserve it. So we should be willing, ready & motivated to tell others that Jesus saves, Jesus saves. He saves the undeserving, people with messy & sinful lives, young/old, rich/poor, male/female, educated/uneducated, etc. How can this be; because God saves by grace through faith which means the sinner has hope! Salvation by grace gives hope to all sinners – HALLELUJAH, AMEN!

And if you are a sinner here today wondering if this is possible for you; wondering if this applies to you; if you are too young/old; if you have gone too far & done too many awful things. Listen to the gospel message – Jesus will save you right now because of His abundant mercy, great love & grace which He offers to you. But you must believe...

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[Prepared by Willie D. Woodmore](#)