

TRUE / FALSE GRACE OF GOD

Feb. 14, 2021

Today we want to talk on the subject of grace. There's a true grace message and a false one. There is a false grace message preached today, saying: in effect... (Heb. 10:10-12):

By one offering, Christ has put away sins forever. Your sins are paid for: After you accept Jesus, your sins: past, present, and future are paid for. Even sins you commit in the future, are already paid for. God loves you, no matter how you live, as long as you keep your faith in Jesus.

So, people continue to live together unmarried, people commit adultery, homosexuality, lesbianism, dishonesty and deceit ... O God loves you... This is a false grace message, saying: No need to change your lifestyle.

But the whole message of the Gospel is to repent, and to turn from sin. And that we must continue to live righteously in order to be saved. We cannot turn back to our old lifestyle.

Jesus told us that in our times, many Christians would be offended when trouble comes, but he that endures to the end shall be saved. Let's read Matt.24:10-13...

“And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.” Matthew 24:10-13, KJV.

The whole message of the gospel is to turn from our old lifestyle of sin after we receive Christ as our Savior. This is true grace.

So let's talk about the true meaning of Grace. There are two aspects:

Two Aspects of Divine Grace

1 God's sovereign love. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (Rom.5:8). Everything we have is by grace, through faith. Even faith to believe..is not of ourselves...but the gift of God.

Eph. 2:8* For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

2 A Divine Substance (enablement) - a substance God puts in us: to strengthen, energize us, and to transform us.

In times of temptation, we are to come to the throne of grace to find help in times of need. God imparts this substance called grace to stabilize, encourage, and change us, when we are weak, tempted, and weary. Hebrews 4:16

Paul said, I labored more than all my brethren...yet not I but the grace with me. 1 Co.15:10: "God's grace enabled me to carry a heavy load."

But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. 1Co 15:10*

Paul said we have received grace for obedience to the faith. God gives us the strength to obey when we are weak Romans 1:5

Paul said in Heb.13:9, Our Heart is established with grace, not foods ... He is saying, it is not ritual or tradition, but Grace that changes us.

The Lord said to Paul what he was under pressure, "My grace is sufficient." God gave power to sustain, and strengthen him. 2 Co.12:9.

Grace is available to everyone - Titus 2:11*

“For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men. Gods grace is available to everyone. 2:11. But in 2:12 ...

And here's what the grace of God teaches us: to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts; to live soberly righteously and godly in this present world.

God offers His grace to everyone. Some say yes to him and some no. A good example of this are the two criminals on either side of Christ.

One accepted grace; One rejected grace. Both going into eternity. Both only 10 feet away from Christ and His blood. This is a picture of the human race. Those who accept; and those who reject His grace. Remember, God sends no one to hell. People choose to go there.

Acts 13:46 tells us that people “judge themselves to be on worthy of everlasting life.”

In first Peter 5:12, Silvanus was a scribe writing for the apostle Peter. “By Silvanus, ... I have written briefly, exhorting, and testifying that this is the true grace of God wherein ye stand.” 1 Peter 5:12, KJV.

False grace even then was being preached. But it is the True grace of God that causes us to stand.

Jude 1:4 speaks of turning the grace of God into uncleanness. License to sin. Jude 1:4* For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Many preachers are denying the words of Christ, by preaching an unbalanced Grace message. Denying Christ's True message of grace.

The apostle Paul describes these as Satan's ministers. Not a denial of Christ, but twisting His message, to allow sin. 2 Corinthians 11:13-15

“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.”

Heb. 9 - 10 By one offering, he has put away sins. Past, present, future. Your sins are already paid for, thus, free to live as you want to. Only believe in Him. True Grace - teaches us to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts... live soberly.

Not Under the Law, but under grace

Ro 6:14* For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. What does this mean?

Not under Law, but under grace. Does not mean we can be lawless. We are under a new covenant of grace, which enables us to live an obedient life. O.T. Law was good, but gave us no power to keep it. A NO SMOKING sign is good, but offers no power to change ...

What does it mean - Not under Law, but under grace? Not commanded to keep all the old testament rituals, circumcision, feasts. offerings. But a New Covenant of grace gives us a new heart. His laws within us.

The New Covenant of grace enables us to keep the 10 Commandments in spirit. Do not kill, steal, adultery, covet.... Not even in our thoughts. Grace enables us to control thoughts/motives, obey the law in our heart.

Rom.13:8-10 Enabling grace helps us to fulfill the moral law. The power of grace helps us to obey.

Heb.12:15 warns of the dangers of refusing grace, hardening the heart. “Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;”

We have a choice to make when hurt. We can humble ourselves and receive grace from God, or harden our heart and fail to receive grace. Then a person becomes bitter.

We are warned in 2 Cor. 6:1 “Do not receive grace in vain,” Bible has many examples: King Saul, the apostle Judas, Demas, Jn. 6:66:

Joh 6:66* From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. They were offended, closed hearts, turned back. They received the grace of God in vain.

Ro 5:17* “they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

Remember, Grace only given to humble. Jas. 4:6, 1 Pet. 5:5-6, Prov.3:34

Paul received exceeding abundant grace 1 Tim.1:13-14. In all his trials, Paul did not harden his heart, but received much grace.

Paul admonishes, “Be strong in the grace in Christ Jesus” (2 Tim. 2:1).

Jesus came to earth as an ordinary man. During His many trials and temptations He obtained grace (divine enablement) from His heavenly Father until He was “*full of grace and truth*” (Jn.1:14).

Christ fully comprehends every area of human temptation (Heb. 2:16-18). On the cross, Christ was entirely naked. He utterly overcame shame and embarrassment, and every possible injustice and humiliation. Therefore, today we are beckoned to come to the throne of grace to find help in our time of need, *for this grace is found in Christ Jesus* who is seated at the right hand of God. Hebrews 4:16.

Seven Ways Grace is Received

Grace is given to the humble (Ja. 4:6, 1 Pet. 5:5-6, Prov. 3:34).

Grace is given in time of need *In difficulties, temptations, pressures* (Heb. 4:16, 2 Cor.12:7-9).

Grace is given to the sincere (Eph. 6:24).

Grace is multiplied through the seven spirits of the Lord (Rev.1:4).

Grace is increased thru (correct, exact, precise) knowledge (2 Pet.1:2).

Grace is given through the lives of other people to us. For example: Paul said, “you are partakers of my grace” (Phil.1:7).

Grace is given by “the effectual working of his power” (Eph.3:7-8), i.e. through trials.

Zech.12:10 spirit of grace, softens the heart and brings repentance.

Zec 12:10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son,

At Christ's second coming, he pours out his spirit of grace upon the Jewish nation, their hearts melt, and repent.

Gods grace melts our hearts and helps us to repent.

But remember, we can open our hearts, or close our hearts to grace. Let's humble ourselves, and receive much grace.

Let us go through the necessary trials we need, to receive much grace.

Let us listen to godly teachers, and receive their grace. Amen!

