

# GRACE IS GOD

(Not entirely original with me)

**Genesis 6:8; Exodus 33:17; Proverbs 3:34; John 1:16-17; Romans 3:24;5:15; Ephesians 1:6-7; 1 Peter 5:10**

**Introduction:** No doubt there is a lot about God that is just not understandable by mankind, probably very little is actually understood for His ways and His thoughts are not like ours in any way. God is merciful to mankind but it's not the same as God's grace.

## I. GOD'S GOODNESS PRODUCES GOD'S GRACE

1. Mercy is God's goodness confronting human guilt, where grace is God's goodness confronting human demerit. It is Good's goodness wanting to bestow blessings upon those who don't deserve it.
2. Grace is God's good pleasure and is exactly what God is like.
3. Grace is that part of God which brings into favor and fellowship someone who deserves disfavor.
  - "...*The law was given by Moses, but grace and truth come by Jesus Christ...*" (John 1:17)
  - "...*Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD...*" (Genesis 6:8)
  - God did not deal with Moses based on the law but on the basis of GRACE.
    - "...*If I have found grace in thy sight, show me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find GRACE in thy sight...*" (Genesis 33:13) said Moses.
4. Grace is an attribute of God, something which God IS and which cannot be removed from God and God still remain God.

## II. GRACE IS THE ONLY MEANS OF OBTAINING SALVATION

1. No one ever has been saved, no one is presently saved and no one will ever be saved EXCEPT by GRACE.
2. GRACE ALWAYS comes by Jesus Christ, even if the law came by Moses, GRACE came by Jesus Christ.
3. No grace has ever been given to anybody except by and through and in the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. Grace did not come from a manger, nor when Jesus was baptized or anointed with the Holy Spirit, nor when Jesus died on the cross or at His resurrection or at His ascension, GRACE has been from the very beginning.
  - If God had not started things in GRACE, He would have removed the sinful human race long ago.
  - Everybody receives some degree of God's grace, no matter how low a person is.
5. The GRACE of God is given to everybody, but the SAVING GRACE of God is different.
  - ONLY through one's faith in Jesus Christ is there a "NEW BIRTH."

## III. GRACE IS EXACTLY WHAT GOD IS LIKE

1. Grace is God's goodness, the kindness of God's heart, the good will, it is what God is like, all the time.
  - There are those, however, whom God must reject because of their refusal to repent and believe in Jesus Christ, yet there is still some degree of GRACE.

2. God measures His GRACE against one's sin.
  - "...*Grace...hath abounded unto many...*" (Romans 5:15)
  - "...*according to the riches of His grace...*" (Ephesians 1:7)
  - "...*But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound...*" (Romans 5:20)
3. Sing "Amazing Grace" and why not? God's GRACE is indeed amazing and who can begin to understand the fullness of God's GRACE?

#### **IV. THE BEST WAY TO LOOK AT GRACE**

1. Take a look at YOURSELF and see how sinful YOU are and think of how great God's GRACE must be to forgive such a sinner as YOU are.
2. Think of GRACE as just the way God is, that's GOD!
  - God isn't being any different toward YOU than anybody else, He's just being God.
  - Sadly, those who turns their back on God's GRACE in Jesus Christ and refuse to be saved, then God must act as JUDGE of that person.
3. The GRACE of God comes ONLY through Jesus Christ

#### **V. IT IS AT THE CROSS THAT GOD'S GRACE IS RELEASED**

1. Anyone who wants to receive God's great GRACE must come to the Cross of Jesus Christ for that is where God releases His GRACE.
  - "...*No man cometh unto the Father, but by me...*" (John 14:6) said Jesus.
  - "...*There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved...*" (Acts 4:12)
2. Law came by Moses only but GRACE comes only by Jesus Christ and that from the very beginning.
  - No one else but Jesus, the Son of God, could take on human flesh and still be almighty God.
  - "Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe..."

#### **VI. NO ONE KNOWS HOW GOD'S GRACE WORKS**

1. In secret, there on the cross, God did a one time only act that will never be done again for after the Cross, the GRACE of God flows to every person.
2. Believers in Jesus Christ are saved by His blood, but how? They are made alive by His death, but how? They have had atonement made for them by Jesus' death, but how?
  - "Oh Lord God, Thou knowest! Worthy is the Lamb that was slain.
3. Believers know Jesus died, and now they/we don't have to.
  - Believers know that Jesus rose from the dead and now all believers will also rise from the dead.
  - Jesus went to the right hand of God and there He is at this very moment and Believers know that one day they will go to be with Jesus, but why?
  - ONLY God knows!

#### **VII. DON'T TRY TO UNDERSTAND GOD'S GRACE, ONLY BELIEVE**

1. Who can understand the might workings of almighty God? Who knows all God has done?
  - God lets mankind understand about the earth, but what is of heaven, He keeps to Himself and what God won't tell the angels, He certainly won't tell any of us.

2. Jesus told parables to help reveal some things about God, the Father.
  - The prodigal son. *Luke 15:11-32*
    - An ungrateful son who left his father.
    - The ungrateful son coming to his senses and deciding to go back home.
    - The prodigal son is the human race, going away from God into the world's pig sty in Adam and coming back through/in Jesus Christ.
  - The Lost Sheep and the lost coin stories.
    - The wandering sheep represents the human race that would be saved and when found and brought back is the part of the human race that believes in Jesus and is saved.
  - In all the parables Jesus told, God, the Father had not changed, He still loved and forgave and rejoiced that the lost had come back home.
  - Jesus was saying "You went away in Adam, but you're coming back in ME and when you come back, you'll find the Father hasn't changed a bit.
    - *"...This my son was dead, and is alive again..." (Luke 15:24)*

### **VIII. WHERE GRACE IS FOUND**

1. Turn your eyes upon Jesus and there the GRACE of God is flowing for all, the GRACE everyone needs.
2. Turn your eyes away from Jesus and the GRACE of God might as well not exist for those who refuse to look and believe in Jesus.
3. Any who yield to Jesus come home and the overwhelming goodness and kindness of God's GRACE is poured out upon all who do yield to His Son, Jesus Christ.
  - *"...He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins..." (1 John 1:9)*

### **CONCLUSION:**

1. Don't even try to understand God for His ways and thoughts are just not that of mankind.
2. God IS GRACE.
3. It is by GRACE and GRACE alone that is found at the Cross of Jesus Christ that any and all who believe in God's Son, Jesus Christ, may be saved and have eternal life.
4. God's Word says that the angels in heaven rejoice whenever a person turns to Jesus in belief and is saved and although they rejoice, they don't understand God's GRACE either.
5. If you want to experience God's GRACE, then it is found in Jesus Christ alone.