

GOD'S GRACE IS GRACE

Ephesians 2:8-10

Introduction: People have always tried to bring God down to their level as they would not do things as God does. People do not forgive as God does, nor do they love as God does, as the Old Sin Nature just doesn't understand how and why God does what He does. People will never understand about God's grace. God's grace (Xaris) is undeserved favor, pure kindness unrepayable and it is permanent. God's grace is exactly that: undeserved, unrepayable, pure kindness and is permanent. Here are some things that God's Grace is not:

1. God's grace is not withheld because of mistakes or sin in one's life.

- Grace is extended **only** where there is no way of merit or deserving.
- The cross forever disposed of sin's condemnation and caused a new relation to be formed between God and one who believes in His Son, Jesus.
- The question of "non-deserving or non-meriting" is no longer.
- Christ is either accepted as God requires or He is rejected (*John 3:18*).

2. Grace is not decreased because of mistakes or sin in one's life.

- God does not give degrees of grace based on one's performance.
- The cross forever removed the sin issue, therefore Equal Grace to all who believe.
- God does not cease to recognize sin or ignore sin, but Christ became man's substitute and therefore the sin question is settled. The sin penalty has been paid.
- God gives grace to all who believe in Jesus, totally independent of one's worthiness.

3. Grace cannot incur a debt that causes a person to then owe God.

- Everyone understands that when a gift is given, there is no thought of "payback" to the giver. It is not a "gift" if one repays the giver in some way.
- There's no way a person can repay God even if he/she tried, if so, how does one repay God for Grace?
- Salvation is not dependent upon anything a person can try to do to "make it up."

4. Grace is not given as something a person deserves.

- Man's merits mean nothing in salvation as God has declared that everybody is the same in His eyes.
- Man isn't permitted to do anything pertaining to his/her relationship with God until God has done His work of Grace.
- Salvation is totally by God and His Grace.

5. Grace is not something extra given when one does what God has asked.

- Grace is not some reward but God's undeserved kindness to those who believe.
- Grace is exactly that: Grace. Free to save in every case and only grace can save under any case.

6. Grace is not some deal between God and the unsaved.

- Grace does not deal with sin. The Cross did. The cross settled how God could save.
- Forgiveness came at the Cross.
- A debt was paid.
- Man is a sinner by practice, a sinner by nature, a sinner because God says so and only God can say when Man's sins are taken care of.
- Salvation by Grace depends upon a person's believing in God's Son, Jesus and Nothing Else.

7. Grace is not delivered by an Angel after a prayer vigil by the believer.

- The cross provided what was needed for every person, good or bad.
- Salvation comes only, entirely, completely in a person's belief in Jesus Christ.
- Restored to fellowship with God comes only upon confessing belief in Jesus Christ.
- Man's sin was laid on Jesus while on the cross and cannot be laid back on man.
- Grace is freely given by God to those who believe in His Son and is given by God, Himself.

CONCLUSION:

1. The undeserved favor of God, His wonderful, free, eternal gift, Grace is given to all believers in His Son, Jesus Christ.
2. The only thing one can do to receive God's Grace is to believe in God's Son. God then gives His wonderful grace.
3. People will never understand why God does what He does nor how He does what He does and if people will stop trying to bring God down to their level and just trust God to be and do what He wants His way, then maybe their questions will go away and God can be God in their life.
4. God is God and can do what He says, believe in His Son, Jesus, and He will give to you eternal life.