

LIVING UNDER GRACE (DAY BY DAY)

Titus 2:11-13

Introduction: Grace brings eternal salvation to all who will receive it. The "Grace" that saves also teaches those who are saved how to live as God wants them to live. Nowhere in the Word of God are unbelievers taught how to be better. Satan's methods are but lies, teaching that one can do better and therefore be "reformed" and accepted by God. The truth is that God does not "reform" anybody before REDEEMING them. Living under Grace is for believers only. Christians may become irresponsible and careless, but their have been redeemed, nevertheless.

I. CHRISTIAN'S DAILY LIFE IS DIRECTED BY THE TEACHINGS OF GRACE

1. Christ's death disannulled the Law and keeping the law is never mentioned again where there is Grace.
2. The teachings of Grace exclude the Law but restate the principles.

II. TEACHINGS OF GRACE EXCLUDE THE LAW

1. Are Christians to keep the law as rules of conduct?
 - Jesus kept, taught and enforced the law and also taught belief in Him brought eternal life.
2. Dealing with Jesus, Jesus gave NO personal commandments, He always referred them to the laws of Moses.
3. Dealing with His upper room followers, Jesus used the words "*...my commandments...*" (*John 15:23*).
 - In Jesus' upper room teachings is found the Genesis of Grace teachings as He used the words, "*...my commandments...*"
 - Jesus' commandments are not "the Law" but "teachings of Grace."

III. TEACHINGS OF THE APOSTLES EXCLUDED THE LAW

1. The Christian Jews were slow to abandon the teachings of the Law.
 - A double standard seemed to exist: Legal and Grace for Jews and pure Grace for Gentiles.
2. The covenant of works for Jews was just not ready to be yielded to Grace yet. Nor has it yielded to this very day either.

IV. PAUL IS AN EXAMPLE OF LIVING UNDER GRACE (*1 Corinthians 9:19-21*)

1. He was a Jew by birth, origin, training, but at his salvation, he passed into Grace
 - Salvation gives new life, not either Jewish or Gentile, but into the Church.
2. Multitudes in Paul's day placed themselves under the Law, as it still is today.

- God didn't put them there or recognize them there.
 - Anyone under the Law is obligated to do the entire, whole law.
 - Paul knew he was no longer bound to the law.
 - The issue is not correcting the outward life by applying the law, but is believing in Jesus Christ unto Salvation by GRACE.
3. Those without the law were not the heathen to whom no missionary went, but the great Gentile world when Moses' law was not ever given. It was to THOSE that Paul went.
 4. Some believe that one must be under the laws of Moses or be lawless.
 - Christians are under Christ's law and that law is GRACE.
 - God says that lost believe in Christ and receive salvation through Grace.
 - God says that believers walk worthy of life UNDER GRACE.

CONCLUSION:

1. There was much confusion when believers in Jesus began to tell of being able to be right with God, the Father without keeping the laws of Moses and that by believing in Jesus, whom they crucified, they could have salvation, eternal life.
2. Paul dealt with many who were willing to perhaps believe in Jesus but wanted to also keep the laws of Moses as well.
3. The Jews still have a problem today with believing that they can be right with God, receive His blessings and approval without keeping the laws of Moses but by believing in the one called Jesus Christ.
4. Only Christians seem to grasp what God is trying to get the whole world to see that eternal life, salvation, pardon of sins, and a place in Heaven is done entirely by GRACE that follows one's belief in God's Son, Jesus Christ.