

## SOME FACTS ABOUT GOD'S GRACE

### Ephesians 2:8-10

**Introduction:** Some institutions such as colleges and the military have what is called a "merit" and "demerit" system. "Merit" is a mark that is given when something positive is done, something other than ordinary. "Demerit" is a mark that is given when something negative is done, something against the rules. For so many "merits" a person is given an award, some sort of recognition for doing so well. For so many "demerits," a person is given some form of punishment and is indicated on his/her permanent record. It is hard for people to understand that God's grace is not on a merit and demerit system. God's grace cannot be earned nor can it be limited by one's behavior.

### I. GOD'S GRACE WILL NOT BE WITHELD BECAUSE OF MISBEHAVIOR

1. It is quite the contrary! God's grace is given ONLY where and when there is no degree of goodness or deserving exists.
2. The cross forever disposed the condemnation of sin.  
- A believer in Jesus Christ cannot be re-condemned over and over.
3. The cross created a permanent new relation between God the believer in Jesus Christ.
4. *John 3:18* - Jesus Christ is either accepted or rejected, there is no middle place, therefore all question of demerit and merit, earning or losing God's grace is empty and non-applicable.

### II. GOD'S GRACE WILL NOT BE LESSENEED BECAUSE OF MISBEHAVIOR

1. God's grace is not given in "degrees" based upon a person's sins.
2. The cross removed and settled the sin issue therefore allowing God to give equal, the same, grace to every single person who believes in Jesus Christ.
3. God does not ignore sin in any way, for every single sin must be paid for, but Jesus' death on the cross settled God's judgment on sin, paying for every single penalty of every single sin.
4. Therefore God's grace is offered in total independence, separation, from human sin.

### III. BELIEVERS DO NOT OWE GOD ANYTHING FOR GOD'S GRACE

1. Grace is God's gift - a GIFT! The receiver of God's GIFT of grace owes God nothing and any attempt to try to "repay" God for the gift of grace causes grace to cease to be a GIFT.
2. There is not way a person could repay God for His grace, anyway. What would a person give to God for His grace? What is God's grace worth? How, when, where would God ever be repaid for His grace?

3. Salvation is NOT dependent upon a person's trying to repay God, nor is salvation dependent upon a person's faithfulness - NEVER!

#### **IV. GOD'S GRACE IS NOT GIVEN WHEN SOME DEBT TO GOD IS PAID**

1. **Romans 4:4** - Human goodness, deserving, etc., means nothing in dealing with God's salvation.
  - God has declared that all people are the same and their very best is like a "puss-filled sore."
  - People do not have the goodness required by God for all are born sinners.
2. There is absolutely nothing a person can do for God until God has done everything.

#### **V. GRACE IS NOT SOME BONUS GIVEN UPON ONE'S BELIEF IN JESUS**

1. Grace isn't added on to a person's salvation because that person believed in God's Son, Jesus.
2. Grace is God's pure, undeserved, kindness to believers in Jesus.
  - Grace is not fulfilling some sort of "obligation" to the believer.
  - Grace is the same for every single believer in God's Son, Jesus.
3. Grace is needed for salvation and it is a gift from God, entirely free, to the believer.

#### **VI. GRACE IS NOT GOD BEING "BIG-HEARTED"**

1. Salvation, nor forgiveness of sin, is given because God became "big-hearted."
2. Grace does not deal with sin, Jesus did that at the cross.
  - **Galatians 1:8-9** - What Jesus did on the cross freed God to offer salvation free to all who wanted it. **John 1:29**
3. Forgiveness came with the cross, a judicial act.
  - A debt was owed for sin by mankind.
  - The debt was paid for by Jesus' death on the cross.
  - The sin account of mankind was closed, thus freeing God's love and grace.
4. People are sinners by practice, therefore forgiveness comes at the cross.
  - People are sinners by nature, therefore Jesus' righteousness is imputed to the believer.
  - People are sinners by divine decree (God says so), therefore God declared the believer to be justified upon his/her belief in Jesus.
5. Salvation by God's grace is dependent upon a person's belief in Jesus Christ, nothing else.
  - It is belief in more than just historical facts about Jesus.
  - It is to rely, to depend, to entrust, to receive Jesus Christ.
  - It is to believe the record God has given about His Son, Jesus Christ.

## **VII. GOD'S GRACE ISN'T DEPENDENT UPON THE BELIEVER'S FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD**

1. The cross provided grounds for forgiveness for all humanity, the good and the bad, everyone.
2. God requires total belief in His Son, Jesus, for salvation, that's it!, That's all!  
- Confession by a believer of his/her sins is required to be restored back into FELLOWSHIP with God.
3. All sin, of all mankind was paid for by Jesus Christ at the cross and cannot be laid back upon the believer when he/she sins again. SIN has been paid for totally, completely, eternally.  
- Losing fellowship with God because of the believer's sin does not remove grace or salvation.

### **CONCLUSION:**

1. Jesus paid the debt all humanity owes God for every sin that has been committed and that will ever be committed. All sin, total sin for every single person to live.
2. God is God and can offer whatever He desires to the human race, under whatever conditions He might determine.
3. God has chosen to offer eternal life to every one who will believe in His Son, Jesus, by GRACE.
4. There is absolutely NOTHING a person can do to receive eternal life and God's grace except accept, believe what God has told mankind to believe, that's it. That's all!
5. Nobody has to beg or plead with God to save him/her for God has already offered salvation to every human being, there is nothing to do except accept what God has already offered.
6. At the cross, Jesus took care of sin and God's grace brings salvation. When a believer sins again, confessing his/her sins sincerely to God restores that lost fellowship with God.
7. So, if/as there is nothing a person can do to receive God's salvation and grace, but to believe in God's Son, Jesus, then there is nothing one can or have to do to remain saved when sin is committed. **EVERYTHING IS DONE BY GOD AND HIS WONDERFUL GRACE!**