

Grace

Scripture: Acts 20:32
Ephesians 4:7
1 Corinthians 15:10
2 Corinthians 12:9
Hebrews 4:16

Introduction

Grace is the focal point of man's relationship to God. It is the expression of God's great mercy and love toward humanity. Grace allows God's justice to be satisfied while providing pardon for the sinner.

I. The meaning of grace: **Grace explained**

Greek: charis State of being favored or in favor; Divine mercy or forgiveness; Divine assistance given to man for his regeneration or sanctification; State of being pleasing to God because of responsiveness to grace

Webster's Dictionary

A. Unmerited or undeserved favor

Example: Being stopped by Texas Dept. of Public Safety Officer between Midland and Odessa, Texas Drivers License, NM Address, Arizona Plates

B. Supernatural ability to perform the will of God

1. Divine ability vs. natural ability
2. "Dunamis" power

II. The power of grace: **Grace's potential**

2 Corinthians 12:9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness....

- A. To satisfy the legal claims providing death as the penalty of sin
- B. To expose guilty man to God's forgiveness
- C. To bring forgiven men into a relational knowledge of God

III. The work of grace: **Grace's actions**

Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

A. Grace saves

Examples: Les Newman, "Daddy" Firestone

1. Pardon

Isaiah 55:7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

2. Justification

Romans 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Titus 3:7 That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

3. Regeneration

Titus 3:5 Not by the works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

B. Grace that preserves (to keep us from sinning)

Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he that hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.

Acts 20:32 And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and give you an inheritance among all them that are sanctified.

C. Grace that sustains (in an emergency)

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in the time of need.

2 Corinthians 12:9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness....

Conclusion

Jude 1:24-25 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling; and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever.
Amen.