

#8

Grace

Webster's says that grace is: "unmerited divine assistance given man for his regeneration or sanctification." The text below tells us what we need to know about God's grace.

Our Need and Source of Grace

Romans 3:23-26 – ²³ For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; ²⁴ Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: ²⁵ Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; ²⁶ To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

Jesus and Grace

John 1:1-4 and 14 – ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² The same was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life; and the life was the light of men. ¹⁴ And **the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us**, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) **full of grace and truth**.

John 1:16 – And of his fulness have all we received, and **grace for grace**.

John 1:17 – For the law was given by Moses, but **grace and truth came by Jesus Christ**.

Luke 2:40 – And the child [Jesus] grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and **the grace of God was upon him**.

Hebrews 2:9 – But we see **Jesus**, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he **by the grace of God should taste death for every man**.

Acts 4:33 – And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and **great grace was upon them all**.

Acts 15:11-12 – ¹¹ But we believe that **through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved**, even as they. ¹² Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.

Hebrews 4:15-16 – ¹⁵ For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ **Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need**.

Through Grace We Can Believe

Acts 18:27 – ²⁷ And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had **believed through grace**:

1 Timothy 1:17 – ¹⁴ And **the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith** and love which is in Christ Jesus.

The Disciples Teaching on Grace

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 to give you an inheritance** among all them which are sanctified.

Romans 5:1-2 – ¹ Therefore **being justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: ² By whom also **we have access by faith into this grace** wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Titus 2:11-14 – ¹¹ For **the grace of God that bringeth salvation** hath appeared to all men, ¹² Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; ¹³ Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; ¹⁴ Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Ephesians 1:6-12 – ⁶ To the praise of the glory of **his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved**. ⁷ **In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace**; ⁸ Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; ⁹ Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: ¹⁰ That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him: ¹¹ In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: ¹² That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 – ¹⁶ Now **our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God**, even our Father, which hath loved us, and **hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace**, ¹⁷ Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work.

Romans 4:13-16 – ¹³ For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect: ¹⁵ Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression. ¹⁶ Therefore **it is of faith, that it might be by grace**; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,

Romans 1:3-7 – ³ Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; ⁴ And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit

of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead: ⁵ By whom **we have received grace** and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name: ⁶ Among whom are ye also the called of Jesus Christ: ⁷ To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: **Grace to you** and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 12:8-9 – ⁹ And he said unto me, **My grace is sufficient for thee**: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2 Corinthians 6:1-2 – ¹ We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye **receive not the grace of God in vain**. ² (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

Spiritual Gifts Come Through God's Grace

Romans 12:4-7 – ⁴ For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: ⁵ So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. ⁶ **Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us**, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; ⁷ Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

1 Peter 4:8-11 – ⁸ And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. ⁹ Use hospitality one to another without grudging. ¹⁰ As **every man hath received the gift**, even so minister the same one to another, **as good stewards of the manifold grace of God**. ¹¹ If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Works

Ephesians 2:4-10 – ⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, ⁵ Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, **(by grace ye are saved;)** ⁶ And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: ⁷ That in the ages to come **he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace** in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. ⁸ **For by grace are ye saved through faith**; and that **not of yourselves: it is the gift of God**: ⁹ **Not of works, lest any man should boast**. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Titus 3:1-8 – ¹ Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work, ² To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men. ³ For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. ⁴ But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, ⁵ **Not by 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; ⁶ Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; ⁷

That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ⁸ This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that **they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works.** These things are good and profitable unto men.

Romans 11:5-7 – ⁵ Even so then at this present time also **there is a remnant according to the election of grace.** ⁶ And **if by grace, then is it no more of works:** otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work. ⁷ What then? Israel hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but the election hath obtained it, and the rest were blinded.

Galatians 5:4-5 – ⁴ **Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.** ⁵ For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

Romans 4:1-5 – ¹ What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? ² For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. ³ For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. ⁴ Now **to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.** ⁵ But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

Galatians 2:16-21 – ¹⁶ Knowing that **a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ,** even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and **not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.** ¹⁷ But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid. ¹⁸ For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. ¹⁹ For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. ²⁰ I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. ²¹ **I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.**

Sin and Grace

Romans 6:1-2 – ¹ What shall we say then? **Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?** ² God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

Romans 6:14-16 – ¹⁴ For sin shall not have dominion over you: for **ye are not under the law, but under grace.** ¹⁵ What then? **shall we sin,** because we are not under the law, but under grace? **God forbid.** ¹⁶ Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

1 John 3:8-11 – ⁸ **He that committeth sin is of the devil;** for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. ⁹ **Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin;** for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. ¹⁰ In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: **whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God,** neither he that loveth not his brother.

Hebrews 10:26-27 – ²⁶ For if we **sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the**

truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

Romans 5:14-21 – ¹⁴ Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come. ¹⁵ But not as the offence, so also is **the free gift**. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the **grace** of God, and the gift by **grace**, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. ¹⁶ And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification. ¹⁷ For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of **grace** and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.) ¹⁸ Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one **the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life**. ¹⁹ For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. ²⁰ Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But **where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:** ²¹ That as **sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord**.

Galatians 5:19-25 – ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, ²⁰ Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, ²¹ Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But **the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,** ²³ **Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.** ²⁴ And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. ²⁵ If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Ephesians 5:8-11 – ⁸ For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: ⁹ **(For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)** ¹⁰ Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. ¹¹ And **have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness,** but rather reprove them.

2 Peter 2:20-22 – ²⁰ For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. ²¹ For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. ²² But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

Grace and Deceitfulness

Jude 3-4 – ³ Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. ⁴ For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, **ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness,** and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Summary

We are all in need of the grace of God because we have all sinned and therefore under a sentence of death. The purpose of grace is to cleanse us from our sins and therefore give us eternal life. Jesus is full of grace and truth and he died in our place. While he suffered death in our place, he bestowed upon us his perfect righteousness through grace which we receive by faith. Not even faith is possible without God, through grace God enables us to believe.

We are saved by grace through our faith and our salvation is a free gift. There is nothing we can do to earn it. No service to God can atone for our sins. The only acceptable atonement is the death of Jesus Christ which we receive by grace through faith.

Although we are no longer under the curse of the law which is death, we are not to continue in sin. If we continue in sin without confession and repentance, then the grace of Jesus is not upon us. If we have received the grace of God, then his spirit lives in us. The fruit of "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance."