

## The Gospel of the Grace of God

Acts 20:22-24 And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there: 23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me. 24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

Paul calls the grace of God the gospel. It is the gospel of God.

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Paul wrote that he is not ashamed of the gospel of Christ which is the power of God unto salvation. The gospel of grace is also the gospel of Christ.

Eph 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

We are saved by grace through faith. Grace saves us; therefore, it must be a gospel. Another way of saying it or calling it is the good message of grace.

Gospel - euaggelion

NT:2098 euaggelion (yoo-ang-ghel'-ee-on); from the same as NT:2097; a good message, i.e. the gospel: KJV - gospel.

The message, the gospel of the grace of God must be testified. It must be preached.

### What is grace?

Strong's defines grace (charis) as the divine influence upon the heart and the reflection in the life. The word divine means of God, from God. God influences your heart through grace. We need the influence of God upon our heart. Without God we can do nothing. Through the means of grace God influences our heart by His Spirit. First, we must understand that salvation starts with grace. Grace and Truth came by Jesus Christ.

John 1:16-17 And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. 17 For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

That what the law could not do, grace can do. The law could not give spiritual life, but grace can.

Titus 2:11-12 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.

The grace of God brings salvation. The grace of God is the carrier of salvation. Everything you need for salvation is given by the grace of God. Grace also means gift; it is the gift of God. When someone gives you a gift, they carry it and bring it to you. Grace carries and brings us everything we need for salvation. It gives and influences, it gives and causes. This is the gospel of the grace of God.

God gave us Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world. Through Jesus Christ, He gives us grace. Grace comes by Jesus Christ.

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The wages of our sin is death. We are all dying because of sin. The soul that sins shall die. Sin is still real today even though most people don't think of their wrong doings as sin—such as, fornication, shacking-up, living together without being married, adultery, cussing, lying, taking drugs, drinking alcohol, drunkenness, smoking cigarettes, partying and lustfully dancing to worldly, filthy music, cheating and stealing, hatred, racism and prejudices, gossip, disrespect of parents and authority. All of this is sin and God hates it. Jesus Christ came with grace to deliver you of your sin and forgive you of your sins so you can have eternal life. But you must get rid of your pride. God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble. When you humble yourself, then grace comes.

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Remember grace brings and gives salvation. Grace gave us the gospel of Christ which is the power of God unto salvation. That gospel is further detailed in:

1 Cor 15:1-4 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.

The gospel is the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. He died for our sins, was buried in the tomb and was raised up from the dead and lives forever more. This is the gospel that we must believe to be saved. It is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believes it. But grace has to bring and give you faith to believe. For we are saved by grace through faith. So, grace that brings salvation, must bring and give you faith. Your faith is given to you by grace.

Rom 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

The measure of faith to believe is given by the grace of God. God has given to every man the measure of faith. It's up to you to use it. So, faith comes by grace, it is the gift of God. Faith to believe unto salvation must also come from another gift of grace given by God, a preacher.

Rom 10:14-15 ...how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Eph 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers.

The ministry by which preachers preach is a gift by the grace of God to men. So, grace which brings salvation will bring you a preacher. Because the salvation faith you need must come by a preacher.

Rom 10:17 So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

When you hear the gospel of the grace of God preached to you this is how salvation faith comes. It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. You must believe using the measure of faith that God by His grace has gifted to you to believe the Word of the gospel you are hearing.

Rom 10:16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?

Believing the gospel is obeying the gospel. The gospel being the death, burial and resurrection, now you must obey the death, burial, and resurrection by dying to your sin, being buried and raising up from that death to live by the grace of God for the living God. But you can't obey the gospel without the grace of God helping you to obey. Remember we are saved by grace. Grace brings us salvation. After hearing and believing the gospel, you must obey the gospel. The first part of the gospel to obey is the death. The death you must die is to your sin. You die to sin by repenting of your sin.

Acts 17:30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent.

2 Tim 2:25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth.

The grace of God that brings and gives salvation must give you repentance. Repentance comes by the grace of God; it is a gift from God. When you humble yourself and acknowledge your sin and that you are wrong, God will give you repentance to acknowledging of the truth. True repentance comes by the grace of God upon a heart that has humbled itself and is ready to acknowledge and confess their sins. The next part of the gospel to obey is the burial. Jesus was buried, we must be buried.

Rom 6:3-4 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Water baptism in Jesus' name causes us to be buried with Jesus Christ. Baptism is a burial as you are immersed in the water, put down under the water. When you are baptized in Jesus' name you are buried with Jesus Christ by baptism into death. Your repentance is a death, you must be baptized into your repentance to be buried with Christ. You do not bury anyone unless they are dead. No repentance, no valid baptism.

If you are buried alive, and have not repented of your sins, you have not been buried with Christ, because you were not baptized into death, which is your repentance. Water baptism in Jesus' name is a gift of the grace of God. To the sinner that needs their sins washed away and forgiven, God gave us Jesus' name baptism. The grace of God that brings salvation has brought to us Jesus' name baptism for the remission, forgiveness, and washing away of sins. This obeys the burial part of the gospel of the grace of God.

The third part of the gospel is the resurrection. Jesus was resurrected from the dead; we must be resurrected from the dead. The Spirit gives life, so when you receive the gift of the Holy Ghost you receive by the grace of God that brings salvation, the Spirit of life. You are raised from trespasses and sins to walk in the newness of life by the Spirit, the Holy Ghost, which is a gift (the grace of God).

Acts 2:37-38 Now when they heard *this*, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men *and* brethren, what shall we do? 38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Rom 5:20-21 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.

Grace continues to work in your heart and life teaching you to deny ungodliness and worldly lust to live soberly and righteously in this world. Grace is a teacher; it is the gospel of the grace of God. We are saved by grace in that now where sin once abounded, now grace does much more abound. Whereas your sinful nature caused you, influenced you to sin. Grace influences your new nature that causes you to live righteously.

Sin reigned unto death, but now being born again and influenced by grace, grace reigns through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. Remember the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord. This is why the gospel of the grace of God must be preached.

Rom 6:11-14 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. 13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

As true believers we must be dead unto sin, but alive unto God by the Holy Ghost, who is Jesus Christ our Lord. Don't let sin reign in your mortal body; do not yield the members of your body as instruments of unrighteousness but yield yourselves to the grace of God.

The greater influence, as those that are alive from the dead and your members as instruments of righteousness. The reason why sin should not have dominion over you is because we are not under the law that did not have any power to keep you from sin. We are under grace, our new nature, a much greater influence to live unto God, and by the power of His grace we are able to live above the sinful nature.

Ezek 36:26-27 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do *them*.

2 Peter 1:3-4 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

We are now partakers of the divine nature. Grace has become our new nature. We are influenced by a divine influence which is grace. Nature is a force; it's an influence, we could not help but sin because that was our nature, but now we are partakers of a different nature a divine nature. The word divine means of God. Where we had sin in our heart as a sinner and that was the greater influence, when we got born again, God took the sinful heart out and gave us a new heart a heart of flesh, that can be influenced by His grace which is the divine influence upon the heart and the reflection in the life.

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