

Short Answer Series # 15

What is the Grace of God?

After the Fall of Man, in the Garden of Eden, the whole human race was separated from their Creator. The Lord's plan was to redeem us, by coming to earth Himself, to be sacrificed for us. ('..God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself..' 2 Corinthians 5v19.) He planned that before Creation began, when He fore-saw what would happen in Eden. ('..the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world..' Revelation 13v8.)

He did extend His Grace to individuals after that. 'Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.' Genesis 6v8. Abraham was given the promise, 'I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless you, and curse him that curses you: and in you shall all families of the earth be blessed.' Gen. 12v2-3. God chose Abraham by Grace. Abrahams descendants were given the Law through Moses, 340 years later. 'By the works of the Law can no flesh be justified in His sight: for by the Law is the knowledge of sin.' Romans 3v20. The Law showed Mankind how far from God we had fallen. But, God had the answer for us.

'But now the righteousness of God without the Law is manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ.... Being justified freely by His Grace by the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:' Romans 3v21,22,24.

'Therefore we conclude, that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.' Romans 3v28.

Grace means 'unmerited favour.' Undeserved. No one could ever do enough to deserve it. Unless we accept the saving love of God as a free gift from Him, we are lost.

Grace is never Grace plus. If we accept the Grace of God, then add our own works to it, (keeping the Sabbath, doing penance for our sins, not eating pork, not eating meat on Fridays, etc,) then Grace is polluted, and it becomes dis-grace. You have fallen from Grace, into self-works, which can only make you self-righteous, and, 'Christ is become of no effect unto you.' Galatians 5v4. That is religion, not Christianity. Christianity is a Holy God, extending His Grace freely, to a fallen people. Religion is a fallen people, trying to please a Holy God, by doing 'good works', but falling short, and never reaching Him.

We need the Grace of God. The undeserved, unimaginable, love of God, offering us a free pardon, for all the evil things we've done in our lives, with no strings attached. Free. Gratis. Sins forgiven, and forgotten, giving us Eternal life. This is the best bargain anyone will ever be offered in their lifetime.

This literature is in the Public Domain, and may be freely copied, quoted or stored by any means, without prior permission.

www.therescueshop.org