

The Wednesday Word, January 20, 2016: Glorious Gospel Grace!

Salvation is entirely by grace. It is both unearned and undeserved.

We are chosen by grace (Ephesians 1:4).

We are given to Christ by grace (John 6:37).

By grace, we are made alive together with Christ, (Ephesians 2:5).

He has glorified us by grace (Ephesians 2:6).

We are redeemed by grace (Ephesians 1:7).

We are justified by grace (Titus 3:7).

It's Grace! Grace! Grace from beginning to end.

It is clear that in Scripture, God does not give one iota of credit to man regarding salvation. It is all of grace! Amazing Grace. Glorious Gospel Grace. The making alive, the undeserved favour, the adoption as children into God's family is all by grace.

He made us accepted by grace (Ephesians 1:6).

We have forgiveness by grace (Ephesians 1:7).

Union with Christ and the good works that follow as God's purpose, after salvation (Ephesians 2:10), are all the gift of God! It's all of grace!

It's no wonder then that Paul writes in Galatians 6:14; "But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world."

To "glory" is "to boast." Paul is reminding us that we cannot boast in anything except the cross of the Lord Jesus. That's another way of saying that salvation has been accomplished by grace. All of our prosperity, all of our accomplishments, all of our doctrinal understanding, and even our accumulated insights are nothing to glory about. We can boast only in the grace of God as revealed in the person and work of our Lord Jesus Christ!

In the Old Testament, Jesus is the coming Messiah. He is the promise of grace. In the New Testament, He is the realized Messiah, the true Promise of Grace apprehended.

Grace always brings us to Christ Jesus. He procured salvation for us. He Himself is our salvation. He Himself is the grace of God. Grace is embedded in His very name, for the name of Jesus, means salvation. Remember: "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is no other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Grace brings people to Christ, and to no one else. Grace enables us to look unto Him by faith to be saved.

But what about repentance brother? Yes, what about it? Is that not important? Yes, it is! But let me

ask you...from where do we get repentance? The goodness of God, exhibited in His Grace, leads us to repentance (Romans 2:4). There is no other way! Praise to His Name! It's Grace, Grace, Grace, Glorious Gospel Grace!

So we can say grace is:

- 1.Free Grace---the gift of God (Ephesians 2: 8-9).
- 2.Saving Grace---it brings us to eternal salvation.
- 3.Sovereign Grace—not of ourselves, but by God's sovereign will. Salvation is not of him that wills, nor of him that runs, but of God that shows mercy (Romans 9:16).
- 4.Sustaining Grace—We are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time (1 Peter 1:5).

And that's the Gospel Truth!