

Extravagant Grace

March 26, 2017

What is grace

The free and unmerited favor of God. Undeserved, unearned, favor and kindness.

What grace is not

It's not something we can earn by our own merits.

Romans 11:6 (NIRV)

⁶And if they are chosen by grace, then they can't work for it. If that were true, grace wouldn't be grace anymore.

The greater the weight, the greater the gift.

Romans 5:20-21 (MSG)

²⁰⁻²¹All that passing laws against sin did was produce more lawbreakers. But sin didn't, and doesn't, have a chance in competition with the aggressive forgiveness we call *grace*. When it's sin versus grace, grace wins hands down. All sin can do is threaten us with death, and that's the end of it. Grace, because God is putting everything together again through the Messiah, invites us into life—a life that goes on and on and on, world without end.

What does grace do?

1. It saves us

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIRV)

⁸God's grace has saved you because of your faith in Christ. Your salvation doesn't come from anything you do. It is God's gift. ⁹It is not based on anything you have done. No one can brag about earning it.

2. It gives us freedom

Romans 3:23-24 (NIRV)

²³ Everyone has sinned. No one measures up to God's glory. ²⁴ The free gift of God's grace makes us right with him. Christ Jesus paid the price to set us free.

Romans 6:14 (NIRV)

¹⁴ Sin will no longer control you like a master. That's because the law does not rule you. God's grace has set you free.

3. It leads us to repentance and Godly living.

Titus 2:11-12 (NIRV)

¹¹ God's grace has now appeared. By his grace, God offers to save all people. ¹² His grace teaches us to say no to godless ways and sinful desires. We must control ourselves. We must do what is right. We must lead godly lives in today's world.

4. It gives us power

2 Corinthians 12:8-9 (NIRV)

⁸ Three times I begged the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹ But he said to me, "My grace is all you need. My power is strongest when you are weak." So I am very happy to brag about how weak I am. Then Christ's power can rest on me.