

## GOD'S GRACE

### INTRODUCTION:

1. In our day Grace is misunderstood.
2. The denominational world and many brethren do not understand what the Bible teaches about Grace, the Law of Christ, Love, Faith and Works.
3. Let us study and examine these things in light of the Word of God.

### I. THINGS THAT DO NOT DESTROY GOD'S GRACE

1. Grace is not destroyed when its availability and its terms are made known to men in the gospel.

- (1) "The Grace of God ... hath appeared to all men"...Tit. 2:11
- (2) The Grace of God that has been manifested to all men can be HEARD and KNOWN (Col. 1:6)
- (3) The grace of God teaches ( Tit. 2: 11, 12)
- (4) The gospel of Christ is the gospel of His Grace ( Acts 20:24)
  1. The gospel of His grace is to be preached to all men (Mk. 16: 15 -16)
  2. The terms of the gospel of God's grace are:
    - (1) Hear -- Rom. 10:17; Col. 1:6
    - (2) Believe -- Mk. 16:16
    - (3) Repent -- Acts 2:38
    - (4) Confess -- Rom. 10:10
    - (5) Baptism -- Acts 22:16
- (5) No, Grace is not destroyed when its availability and terms are made known to men -- God's grace would have never been known to man if God had not revealed it to him.

2. Grace is not destroyed when it is based upon stipulations.

- (1) Peter tells us that both Jews and Gentiles were saved exactly alike by the grace of God -- Acts 15:11
- (2) Both Jews and Gentiles were required to obey the gospel.
  1. Jews in Acts 2:
    - (1) Heard, believed, repented and were baptized for the remission of sins - Acts 2: 37 - 38, 41
    - (2) The Gentiles heard, believed, repented and were baptized --Acts 15:7,11; 10:48
    - (3) They both confessed Christ because this is a stipulation of the gospel -- Rom. 10:10
  2. Stipulations were required of both the Jews and Gentiles and they were saved by Grace -- Acts 15:11
  3. Stipulations did not destroy the Grace of God that had saved them.

### II. WHAT THE GRACE OF GOD DOES NOT PREVENT

1. The Grace of God does not prevent the impossibility of apostasy (Heb. 12:15)

- (1) Paul said he could become a castaway -- I Cor. 9:27
- (2) Paul said "Some shall depart from the faith"--I Tim. 4:1
- (3) One can deny the faith -- I Tim. 5:8
- (4) One can err from the truth -- James 5:19

- (5) One can fall from Grace -- Gal. 5:4
  - (6) Simon sinned and fell -- Acts 8: 12 - 24
  - (7) Being saved by Grace at one period will not make it impossible for a man to fall from that Grace at a later period.
2. The Grace of God does not prevent a life of loyalty to the law of Christ.
- (1) Paul said we are under the law of Christ -- I Cor. 9:21
  - (2) Paul said we are to fulfill the law of Christ -- Gal. 6:2
  - (3) We are to observe "All things" commanded of Christ -- Matt. 28:20
  - (4) We are to continue in the perfect law of liberty -- James 1:25
  - (5) We are made free from sin by "The law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus" -- Rom. 8:2
  - (6) Grace that takes lightly the law of Christ is not the Grace of God -- Rev. 22:14

### III. THERE IS NO CONFLICT BETWEEN GRACE AND OBEDIENT FAITH

- 1. Denominational preachers of our day confuse people on Grace and Faith.
- 2. Some say we are saved by Grace only and some say we are saved by Faith only.
- 3. Paul taught that salvation is by Grace through Faith -- Eph. 2:8
- 4. Grace is God's part and Faith is man's part.
- 5. Grace includes all that God has done to make possible the provisions for our salvation.
- 6. It is through faith that man has access into God's Grace -- Rom. 5:2; Rom. 4:16
- 7. The New Testament teaches there is no conflict between the Grace of God and the obedient Faith of man -- Rom. 1:5; Gal. 5:6; Rom. 6: 17 -18; Heb. 5: 8 - 9; James 2:24

### IV. THERE IS NO CONFLICT BETWEEN GRACE AND THE LAW OF CHRIST

- 1. Some denominational preachers affirm that salvation is wholly of Grace apart from law -- they teach that Grace excludes law.
- 2. The New Testament teaches God's Grace is incorporated in law, and the Grace is appropriated to ONESELF when the conditions of the law are complied with.
  - (1) Tit. 2: 11 -12
  - (2) Rom. 8:2
  - (3) James 1:25
  - (4) Matt. 7:21
  - (5) Gal. 6:2
  - (6) Rom. 3:27
  - (7) Acts 20:24 -- The gospel is the gospel of His Grace.
  - (8) Rom. 5:21 -- "Grace reigns through righteousness -- God's righteousness is revealed in the gospel -- Rom. 1: 16 -17
    - 1. Men are to obey the gospel -- II Thess. 1: 7 - 9; Mk. 16:16
- 3. When one meets the conditions of the gospel, the law of Christ, he enjoys God's Grace of forgiveness.
  - (1) He is not meriting anything; he is simply meeting the conditions of salvation.

#### V. THERE IS NO CONFLICT BETWEEN THE LAW OF CHRIST AND LOVE

1. Love is fenced in or limited by the law of Christ -- John 14:15, 21, 23 - 24; II John 6  
(1) We cannot go in any direction that we please with love -- Rom. 13: 8 - 10
2. Love does not overlook sin  
(1) God is love -- I John 4:6 -- and He does not overlook sin -- Col. 3:25
3. Love hates Sin -- Heb. 1:9; Rom. 12:9
4. Love will exercise discipline -- Heb. 12:6; I Cor. 5:5
5. Love does not compromise with ERROR -- Gal. 2: 5 , 11; Rom. 16: 17 - 18
6. Love is not a substitute for obedience -- John 14:15
7. Bible Love is in harmony with law -- there is no conflict between love and law.

#### VI. THERE IS NO CONFLICT BETWEEN LAW AND LIBERTY

1. Many people think of liberty as being without law.
2. They think the "law of liberty" releases one from all obligations, but the very reverse is true.
3. It is by law that one enjoys liberty -- James 1:25; Gal. 5: 13; Rom. 6: 17 - 18; John 8:32; Ps. 119: 142 "And thy law is the truth".
4. Where there is no restraint there is slavery or bondage -- II Pet. 2:19; John 8:34
5. There is harmony between love and law, and between law and liberty.

#### CONCLUSION:

1. I think you can see from this lesson that the New Testament teaches there is complete harmony between Grace, the law of Christ, love, faith and works.
2. Won't you obey the gospel today and have access into God's Grace?

Donald Townsley