



E-Mail Newsletter Bringing The Word of Life

"... that you may know that you have eternal life." 1 John 5:13

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Amazing grace! (how sweet the sound)

When a person works an eight-hour day and receives a fair day's pay for his time.

▶ That is a wage.

When a person receives appropriate recognition for his long service or high achievements

▶ That is an award.

When a person competes with an opponent and receives a trophy for his performance.

▶ That is a prize.

*But when a person is not capable of earning a wage, can win no prize, and deserves no award – yet receives such a gift anyway – that is a good picture of **God's unmerited favor**. This is what we mean when we talk about the grace of God.*
G.W. Knight



For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Eph. 2: 8-9

The Cost of Travel

If it cost a penny to travel a thousand miles,
a cruise to the moon would be only \$2.38.

But if you wanted to go to the sun, the one-way ticket would cost \$930.
And a trip to the nearest star would be - hold onto your hat - \$260 million.
Yet a place in the very heart of the One who made this vast universe is free,
based on the priceless sacrifice of Christ. *William MacDonald*

Intro: Our text says, "...**this grace wherein we stand.**" The word "**grace**" is found 170X in the King James Bible = **God's Riches At Christ's Expense!** There is a difference between God's mercy and grace. **Mercy** simply means not getting what we deserve while **Grace** means getting what we do not deserve. The grace of God which brings salvation, works a miraculous and complete transformation in the character and relationship of all who truly believe. We may still have the same physical looks and earthly status, but God's grace brings 10 changes in our spiritual relationships—

1. CONCERNING GOD THE FATHER (Rom. 5:10). Believers are no longer enemies, but sons of God. Outside the Person and work of the Lord Jesus, we are condemned and hell-bound sinners. Now by God's grace, instead of being under His wrath, we are now under His special care!

2. CONCERNING CHRIST THE SON (Eph. 2:12-13). As sinners we are without Christ and without hope, but now grace had made us nearer and united to the Lord. We have been saved, cleansed by His blood, and kept by His power.

3. CONCERNING THE HOLY SPIRIT (John 14:16, 26). Before, the Holy Spirit had no place in our person which was like a house full of uncleanness. Now He makes us His temple and abides within us as our Guide and Comforter.

4. CONCERNING THE LAW (Gal. 4:4-5; 5:18). Before grace came we were under the law, and, because of sin, we were under the curse. But now we are no longer under the law, but under grace. The law is now being fulfilled in us who became adopted sons of God and walk after the Spirit.

5. CONCERNING THE POWER OF SIN (Rom. 6:14-15). Sin used to have dominion over us because we were spiritually dead. We were slaves of sin but now its guilt has been cleansed and its power broken! We are freed from sin!

6. CONCERNING THIS PRESENT WORLD (Eph. 2:2-6). The Bible says that in times past we walked according to the course of this world which was broad way leading to destruction. But now we have been delivered out of it, and sent into it as witnesses for the living God. We used to love the world and its passing lusts and pleasures, but now we love not the world, and are hated by it (**John 15:19**).

7. CONCERNING TRIALS AND AFFLICTIONS (2 Cor. 4:17). While unsaved, all trials and afflictions were looked upon as enemies to our good. But now, by God's grace, we no longer despise and reject life's troubles and problems knowing that all things will eventually work together for our own good (**Rom. 8:28**). God enables us to see beyond our present sufferings into future comfort and glory with Christ!

8. CONCERNING GOOD WORKS (Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 3:24). Until grace came, we trusted in our good works and limited understanding for the forgiveness of our sins. Being now saved by

God's grace apart from man-made ways, we have also become co-workers together with God (2 Cor. 6:1). What a privilege to serve under the King of Kings!

9. CONCERNING DEATH (Heb. 2:14-15). Before we knew God's grace, death was a mighty danger to us. Its fear was ever upon us no matter how much we deny its reality. Praise God, we now know death to be a vanquished foe, and a doorway into Christ's presence in glory (I Cor. 15:55).

10. CONCERNING JUDGMENT (I John 4:17a). Before we had the grace of God, our future was dark and uncertain as far as God's coming judgment is concerned. We had no peace and assurance about it. Glory to God, we as His beloved children have been given boldness and confidence even on the day of judgment (I John 2:28).

Conclusion: My friend, this same confidence and assurance can be yours when you meet your Creator on judgment day! God's transforming grace can be yours by truly repenting of your sins and believing on the Lord Jesus Christ TODAY!

Grace & Mercy

Grace - God's solution to man's sin.

Mercy - God's solution to man's misery.

Grace - Covers the sin.

Mercy - Removes the pain.

Grace - Gives us what we do not deserve.

Mercy - Does not give us what we do deserve

Grace - Unearned favor which saves us.

Mercy - Undeserved favor which forgives us.

Grace - Deals with the cause of sin.

Mercy - Deals with the symptoms of sin.

Grace - Offers pardon for the crime.

Mercy - Offers relief from the punishment.

Grace - Cures or heals the "disease."

Mercy - Eliminates the pain of the "disease."

Grace - Regarding salvation it says, "Heaven."

Mercy - Regarding salvation it says, "No Hell."

Grace - Says, "I pardon you."

Mercy - Says, "I pity you"



A story from Scotland tells of a mother's dramatic rescue of her child. Workmen were blasting rock in a quarry. One day after they had attached the fuse and retired to a safe place and gave the alarm they saw a three year old child wandering across the open space where danger threatened. Every passing second meant death was closing in on the child

The workmen called to the child and waved their arms, but he only looked on their strange antics with amusement. No man dared run forward knowing the explosion was only seconds away. The child most certainly would have been killed, had not his mother appeared at this moment of crisis.

Taking in the situation at a glance she did what her mother's heart dictated. She did not run toward her son or yell to frighten him. Instead, she knelt down, opened wide her arms and smiled for him to come. Instantly the child ran towards her. Shortly later the area shook with the force of the explosion, yet the child was safe in his mother's arms.

What a picture of the amazing grace of God and of the cross. With outstretched arms on the cross Jesus gives his gracious invitation to the world. Indicating we are to come to him for eternal safety. Will you come to Jesus?

Point to Ponder

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9

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