

Keys To Successful Living

Part four-part 2-dated 31/5/15

MORE ON GRACE

Reading Romans 5:20b-21 *But where Sin increased, grace increased all the more, so That, just as Sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

In the Old Testament, God revealed Himself as a God of Grace who showed love to His people, not because they deserved it, but because of His own desire to be faithful to the covenant promises made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Ex 6:1-9).

JUSTICE is getting what we deserve; **MERCY** is being spared what we deserve; **GRACE** is being given what we do not deserve. The NT emphasizes the theme of God's Grace in the giving of His Son on behalf of undeserving sinners. God's grace is multiplied to believers by the Holy Spirit, imparting forgiveness, acceptance and power to do God's will (John 3:16; 1-Cor 15:10; Phil 2:13; 1-Tim 1:15-16). The whole movement of the Christian life from beginning to the end is depended on God's grace.

-God gives a measure of grace as a gift (1-Cor 1:4) to unbelievers so that they may be able to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ (Eph 2:8-9 & Tit 2:11 and 3:4).

-God gives grace to believers to be:

- (1) Set free from Sin (Romans 6:20 & 22)
- (2) To will and to act according to His good purpose (Phil 2:13; cf Tit 2:11-12 also see note on obedience as a gift of God's grace)
- (3) To pray (Zec 12:10)
- (4) To grow in Christ (2-Peter 3:18) and
- (5) To witness for Christ (Acts 4:33 and 11:23)

-God's grace must be diligently desired and sought (Heb 4:16). Some of the ways by which God's grace is received are:

- (1) Humbling ourselves before God (James 4:6 and 10)
- (2) Studying and obeying Scripture (John 15:1-11; 20:31 and 2-Tim 3:15)
- (3) Hearing the proclamation of the gospel (Lk 24:47; Act 1:8; Rom 1:16; 1-Cor 1:17-18)
- (4) Praying (Hebrew 4:16; Jude 20)
- (5) Fasting (Mt 4:2 and 6:16)
- (6) Worshiping Christ (Col 3:16)
- (7) Being continually filled with the Holy Spirit (Eph 5:18) and
- (8) Participating in the Lord's Supper (Act 2:42; also see Eph 2:9 notes on how grace works)

ON THE OTHER HAND

-God's grace can be resisted (Hebrew 12:15)

-Received in vain (2-Cor 6:1)

- Put out (1-Thess 5:19)
- Set aside (Gal 2:21) and
- abandoned by the believer (Gal 5:4)

Three Great Blessings of Grace:

1. It brings salvation ([Titus 2:11](#); [Ephes. 2:8-9](#)).
2. It has appeared to all men ([Titus 2:11](#); [John 3:16](#); [Rev. 22:17](#)).
3. It teaches seven great lessons:
 - (1) To deny ungodliness ([Titus 2:12](#)).
 - (2) To deny worldly lusts ([Titus 2:12](#)).
 - (3) To live soberly ([Titus 2:12](#); [Titus 1:8](#); [Titus 2:2-7](#)).
 - (4) To live righteously ([Titus 2:12](#); [Hebrews 12:14](#); [Romans 6:14-23](#); [Romans 8:12-13](#)).
 - (5) To live godly ([Titus 2:12](#); [2 Tim. 3:12](#)).
 - (6) To live right in this life ([Titus 2:12](#)).
 - (7) To look for the rapture and the second coming ([Titus 2:13](#); [Phil. 3:20](#)).

Four Secrets of Continued Grace

1. Live and walk in the Spirit ([Galatians 5:5](#); [Galatians 5:16-26](#); [Romans 8:1-13](#); [Col. 3:5-10](#)).
2. Be patient in hope ([Galatians 5:5](#); [Romans 8:24](#); [Hebrews 3:6,12-14](#); [Hebrews 6:19](#)).
3. Continue in Christ ([Galatians 5:6](#); [John 15:1-8](#); [Col. 2:6-7](#); [Hebrews 3:14](#)).
4. Continue in faith ([Galatians 5:6](#); [Col. 1:23](#)).

Thirty Things that Grace Cannot Do:

1. Set aside forever all condemnation for future sins ([John 5:14](#); [John 8:34](#); [Romans 6:1-23](#); [Romans 8:12-13](#); [Galatians 5:21](#); [2 Cor. 5:10](#))
2. Set aside failure of saved men to meet the many conditions of salvation ([1 John 1:7](#); [Romans 6:1-23](#); [Romans 8:1-13](#); [James 5:19-20](#); [Galatians 5:19-21](#); [Col. 1:23](#); [Col. 2:6-7](#))
3. Cancel free moral agency ([Col. 1:23](#); [1 John 1:7](#); [Romans 6:16-23](#); [Rev. 22:17](#))
4. Keep men saved when they sin ([Romans 8:12-13](#); [1 Cor. 6:9-11](#); [Galatians 5:19-21](#); [Galatians 6:7-8](#); [James 5:19-20](#); [Hebrews 6:4-6](#); [Hebrews 10:26-29](#); [2 Peter 2:20-21](#))
5. Cancel the death penalty when saved men break the law ([Romans 6:16-23](#); [Romans 8:12-13](#); [Hebrews 10:26-29](#); [James 5:19-20](#); [Ezekiel 18:4,20-24](#); [Ezekiel 33:12-13,18](#))
6. Make God a liar who said every man that sins must die ([Ezekiel 18:4](#); [Romans 6:16-23](#); [Romans 8:12-13](#); [Galatians 5:19-21](#); [Galatians 6:7-8](#); [1 Cor. 6:9-11](#); [Rev. 21:8](#))
7. Cancel the law of confession of sins before they are forgiven ([1 John 1:7,9](#); [Rev. 2:5,16](#); [Rev. 3:19](#); [Luke 13:1-5](#); [Acts 2:38](#))
8. Forgive future sins, for transgression and confession are necessary before forgiveness ([1 John 1:9](#); [Rev. 2:5,16,22](#); [Rev. 3:19](#); [Luke 13:1-5](#); [Acts 2:38](#); [Mark 6:12](#); [Romans 2:4-6](#); [2 Cor. 7:10](#))
9. Cancel responsibility of saved men concerning sin ([Romans 14:10](#); [2 Cor. 5:10](#); [Galatians 5:19-21](#); [Galatians 6:7-8](#); [Romans 14:12](#))
10. Be responsible should saved men backslide ([1 Tim. 2:4](#); [2 Peter 3:9](#); [Rev. 2:5](#); [Rev. 3:2](#); [James 5:19-20](#); [Galatians 5:19-21](#))
11. Free saved men from condemnation for future sins unless confessed ([1 John 1:7,9](#); [Rev. 2:5,22](#); [Rev. 3:2](#); [James 5:19-20](#))

12. Permit God to forgive unconfessed sin ([2 Chron. 7:14](#); [2 Cor. 7:9-10](#); [1 John 1:9](#); [2 Tim. 2:25](#); [Rev. 2:5](#); [Rev. 3:2](#))
13. Bind men so that they cannot sin if they choose to do so ([Romans 6:16-23](#); [Romans 8:1-13](#); [1 John 1:7](#); [Hebrews 6:4-9](#); [Hebrews 10:26-29](#))
14. Guarantee any man eternal life if he refuses to obey ([James 5:19-20](#); [2 Cor. 3:16-17](#); [Ezekiel 33:12-20](#))
15. Force obedience ([Rev. 22:17](#); [John 3:16-20](#); [Romans 6:16-23](#); [Romans 8:1-13](#); [Galatians 1:6-8](#); [Galatians 5:4](#); [Galatians 6:7-8](#); [1 John 1:7](#))
16. Make any man a child of God in the sense Jesus was ([John 1:14,18](#); [John 3:16](#))
17. Force God to continue blessing any man who sins ([Ezekiel 18:4](#); [Romans 6:16-23](#); [Romans 8:1-13](#); [Galatians 5:19-21](#); [James 5:19-20](#))
18. Make the sins of the saved different from the sins of the unsaved ([Romans 6:16-23](#); [Romans 8:12-13](#); [2 Cor. 6:9-11](#); [Galatians 5:19-21](#); [Col. 1:5-10](#); [2 Peter 2:20-22](#))
19. Condemn sinners and excuse saints who commit the same sins ([Romans 6:16-23](#); [Romans 8:12-13](#); [Romans 14:10-12](#); [Galatians 5:19-21](#); [Galatians 6:7-8](#); [Ezekiel 18:4,24-28](#); [Ezekiel 33:12-16](#); [Rev. 2:5,16,22](#); [Rev. 3:2](#))
20. Operate in the life of a free moral agent without his consent ([John 3:16-20](#); [John 7:17](#); [John 8:34](#); [2 Peter 3:9](#); [Rev. 22:17](#))
21. Impart eternal life to men who serve sin and Satan ([Matthew 6:24](#); [Romans 6:16-23](#); [Romans 8:1-13](#); [Galatians 5:19-21](#); [Galatians 6:7-8](#); [1 John 3:8](#))
22. Keep man from moral falls if they wilfully sin ([Romans 6:16-23](#); [Romans 8:1-13](#); [Hebrews 6:4-9](#); [Hebrews 10:26-29](#); [Ezekiel 33:12-20](#))
23. Force God to go contrary to His own program of grace ([Romans 1:16](#); [1 John 1:7](#); [Hebrews 3:6,12-14](#); [Hebrews 10:26-29](#))
24. Cancel the law of sowing and reaping ([Galatians 6:7-8](#); [Romans 6:16-23](#); [Romans 8:12-13](#); [Ezekiel 18:4,24-28](#); [Ezekiel 33:12-16](#); [Rev. 2:5-22](#))
25. Guarantee unconditional favor to anyone ([2 Cor. 6:1](#); [Galatians 1:6-8](#); [Galatians 2:21](#); [Galatians 5:4](#); [Hebrews 12:15](#); [James 5:19-20](#))
26. Guarantee unforfeitable life without conditions being met ([Romans 6:16-23](#); [Romans 8:12-13](#); [Galatians 5:19-21](#); [Galatians 6:7-8](#); [James 5:19-20](#); [Hebrews 10:26-29](#); note, [John 6:27](#))
27. Guarantee sinlessness to men unless conditions are met ([1 Cor. 3:16-17](#); [Romans 6:16-23](#); [Romans 8:12-13](#); [Galatians 5:16-26](#); [Galatians 6:7-8](#); [Hebrews 6:1-9](#); [Hebrews 10:26-29](#); [Hebrews 12:14-15](#))
28. Encourage anarchy in God's government ([Genesis 2:17](#); [Romans 6:16-23](#); [Romans 8:12-13](#); [1 Cor. 6:9-11](#); [Galatians 5:19-21](#); [Galatians 6:7-8](#))
29. Force God to be lenient with rebels ([Ezekiel 18:4](#); [Romans 6:23](#); [Romans 8:12-13](#); [Galatians 6:7-8](#))
30. Give any man a pardon that guarantees him salvation and eternal life regardless of how he lives in sin and rebellion ([Exodus 32:32-33](#); [Ezekiel 18:4](#); [Ezekiel 33:10-20](#); [Romans 6:16-23](#); [Romans 8:12-13](#); [Galatians 5:19-21](#); [Galatians 6:7-8](#))

May God bless us all in the hearing of His Word.....Amen