

# The Grace of God

**TEXT: Eph. 2:8-9**

## INTRODUCTION:

- A. GRACE IS MOST MISUNDERSTOOD TERM.
- B. "**GRACE**" IS THE UNMERITED FAVOR OF GOD.
  1. Some think it means man has no part at all in his own salvation.
  2. This idea has found root in the church.
- C. IN THIS LESSON WE WANT TO SEE **WHAT GRACE DOES, HOW GOD PROVIDES** MAN WITH IT, AND **WHAT THIS MEANS** TO MAN.

## I. GOD IN HIS GRACE HAS DONE WHAT FOR MAN?

- A. HE HAS **PROVIDED A SACRIFICE**.
  1. Man sins( **Rom. 3:23** ), and **sin demands payment**( **Rom. 6:23** ).
  2. Out of his love, God seeks to deliver **all men** from this death( **1 Tim. 2:4** ).
  3. God, thru grace, provides a sacrifice( **Heb. 2:9; 1 Pet. 1:18-19; 2:24** ).
- B. HE **REVEALS THAT SACRIFICE** THROUGH GRACE.
  1. God reveals this grace **thru the gospel**( **Acts 20:24, 32** ).
  2. **Romans 10:17; Acts 18:27; 14:3.**
  3. Called thru his grace( **2 Tim. 1:9** ). How?( **2 Thess. 2:14** ).
- C. GRACE **TEACHES**( **Titus 2:11-12** ).
  1. But **God reveals all his will in the Bible**( **2 Tim. 3:16-17** ).
  2. To stand in Grace is to stand in the gospel( **Rom. 5:2; 1 Cor. 15:1-2** ).
  3. Grace not only saves, it defines our lives.

## II. MAN MUST RECEIVE GOD'S GRACE.

- A. GOD'S GRACE **GIVEN TO ALL**( **Titus 2:11** ).
- B. **MEN CAN REJECT** GOD'S GRACE( **2 Cor. 6:2** ).
- C. **FAITH IS NECESSARY** TO HAVE ACCESS TO GRACE( **Rom. 5:1-2** ).
  1. Salvation is a gift that can be had **only if we believe**( **Eph. 2:8** )
  2. Faith, once again, is dispensed in God's word( **Rom. 10:17** ).
- D. **BUT FAITH ALONE IS NOT SUFFICIENT**( **James 2:24** ).
- E. BUT WHAT ABOUT **Ephesians 2:8-9**?
  1. The passage does teach that **salvation is not of one's self**, it is God's gift.
  2. The works is **verse 9** are works in which man might be tempted to take credit, **works that** in and of themselves **merit salvation**.
  3. If this excludes the necessity of works, what about **James 2, Gal. 5:6**.
  4. The fact is that though man can never make up for his mistakes, God has placed certain **conditions** on him for the acquisition of salvation.
  5. **Grace does not preclude obedience**( **Heb. 5:8-9; Eph. 2:10** ).

## CONCLUSION:

- A. YOU CAN ONLY BE SAVED BY GOD'S GRACE.
- B. GOD'S GRACE CAN BE YOURS BY FAITH IN GOD( **Rom. 10:17** ).
- C. SAVING FAITH IS MANIFEST IN OBEDIENT WORKS( **Gal. 5:6** ).

- D. OUR WORKS WILL NEVER MERIT SALVATION.
- E. HOW WERE THESE EPHESIANS SAVED?( **Acts 19:5** ).