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2025 Father's Day Special: The Prodigal Son, Part 1.

Grace Bible Church

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Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;

Colossians 2:6 Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,

What about grace after salvation?

How does God treat His children during the Dispensation of the Grace of God, Ephesians 3:2?

2 Timothy 2:1 You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2 Peter 3:18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Grace Orientation:

How our God the Father treats us in grace.

How we should treat others with the very same grace that we have received.

1 Peter 5:12 Through Silvanus, our faithful brother (for so I regard him), I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it!

“Christianity” is God reaching down to fallen, unworthy, depraved man.

“Religion” is man trying to impress God with his works and with his deeds.

Hebrews 13:9 Do not be carried away by varied and strange teachings; for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, through which those who were so occupied were not benefited.

James 3:15 This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic.

1 Peter 5:12 Through Silvanus, our faithful brother (for so I regard him), I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it!

Luke 15:1 Now all the tax collectors and the sinners [prostitutes] were coming near Him to listen to Him. 2 Both the Pharisees and the scribes began to grumble, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

1. The Lost Sheep, Luke 15:4-7.
2. The Lost Coin, Luke 15:8-10.
3. The Lost Sons, Luke 15:11-32.

Luke 15:11-32 is called The Parable of: The Lost Son, The Two Lost Sons, The Waiting Father, Divine Mercy, God’s Love for the Lost, & The Lost Son and The Dutiful son.

The Prodigal Son represents a believer who is a sinner, who refuses to depend upon or be governed by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke 15:11 And He said, “A man had two sons.

The “man” represents “God the Father”. The “sons” represent “believers”. “Prodigal” means “to waste” or “one who wastes their life away”.

Luke 15:12 The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the estate that falls to me.’ So he divided his wealth between them.

Each son had enough so that he was independently wealthy, and this represents the Logistical Grace applied to your life.

1 Corinthians 4:7 ...What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?

Luke 15:13 And not many days later, the younger son gathered everything together and went on a journey into a distant country [Cosmic System – World], and there he squandered his estate with loose living.

It was the son who moved away from the father.

It was not the father moving away from the son.

Hebrews 13:5 for He Himself has said, “I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you,”

James 4:8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Luke 15:14 Now when he had spent everything, a severe famine occurred in that country, and he began to be impoverished.

Whenever a believer goes astray for a length of time, eventually they will come to a point where they will begin to be in need.

The famine in Luke 15 represents a famine in the heart of each individual when it stops being nourished by the Word of God.

Luke 15:15 So he went and attached himself out to one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

kollaō = to glue, or to closely unite himself to a citizen of that foreign country.

Are you going to glue yourself to a citizen of the cosmos, satan's children? Or: Are you going to glue yourself to someone who has positive volition toward doctrine and is a child of God?

Times of distress often lead us to self-examination and those times are used by God to bring about changes or repentance in our life.

The Jews considered pigs as unclean animals and eating pig was expressly forbidden in the Mosaic Law, Leviticus 11:7 & Deuteronomy 14:8.

Luke 15:16 And he would have gladly filled his stomach with the pods [pig slop] that the swine were eating, and no one was giving anything to him.

2 Peter 2:22 It has happened to them according to the true proverb, "A dog returns to its own vomit," and, "A sow, after washing, returns to wallowing in the mire."

Luke 15:17 But when he came to his senses, he said [thought to himself], 'How many of my father's hired men have more than enough bread, but I am dying here with hunger!

Self-realization of the hopeless and useless predicament of the sinful life is the first step towards true repentance.

A life of sin can only give you destruction, while a life with your Father will offer you prosperity and happiness.

Luke 15:18 I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight; [Rebound technique] 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men."

The doctrine of Eternal Security says we're worthy because we are the sons of God and whether we are worthy or unworthy doesn't change our sonship.

Matthew 7:11 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!

Luke 15:20 So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him [Grace Orientation].

Luke 15:21 And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight [Rebound]; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

Luke 15:22 But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet;

The “best robe” refers to restoration to full experiential righteousness: The Robe of Righteousness.

The “signet ring” represented withdrawing from the Father's resources: Logistical Grace.

The “sandals” means that you once again have the opportunity of service and production: Divine Good.

Luke 15:23 and bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat and celebrate;

The fattened calf represents fellowshiping with God in the Word.

It represents feeding on Divine Truth or Bible Doctrine.

Luke 15:24 for this son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.’ And they began to celebrate [be merry].