

Understanding Grace Session 2 – Saved By Grace

I. Review of Session 1

Titus 2:11-12 (NKJV) – ¹¹*For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹²teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age*

A. Last Week – Introducing Grace

1. Old Covenant vs New Covenant
2. Everything that we receive in the New Covenant comes through Grace.
3. Grace Definition – The free and unmerited favor of God
Grace is God giving us what we do not deserve and what we cannot earn. The Law gave us what we deserved.
4. Two Major Works of Grace.
 - Forgiveness of Sin/The entry point of Grace into salvation.
 - Empowerment for righteous living/deliverance and transformation.
5. Last week's concluding statements:
 - God dealt with the sin issue through the cross.
 - People do not go to hell because of sinning, they go to hell for rejection of the remedy for sin (Jesus).
 - To enjoy the deliverance from sin that grace brings, I must first be able to receive the forgiveness of sin that grace brings.

II. Saved by Grace

A. Understanding the Condition of Sin

1. Sin vs Sinning

- a. Sin the noun vs sin the verb
- b. Many always associate sin with the act of sinning
- c. Sin is a condition that we are born into because of Adam's actions in Genesis.

2. **Romans 5:12-21 (NLT)** – ¹²When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned. ¹³Yes, people sinned even before the law was given. But it was not counted as sin because there was not yet any law to break. ¹⁴Still, everyone died—from the time of Adam to the time of Moses—even those who did not disobey an explicit commandment of God, as Adam did. Now Adam is a symbol, a representation of Christ, who was yet to come. ¹⁵But there is a great difference between Adam's sin and God's gracious gift. For the sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of forgiveness to many through this other man, Jesus Christ. ¹⁶And the result of God's gracious gift is hugely different from the result of that one man's sin. For Adam's sin led to condemnation, but God's free gift leads to our being made right with God, even though we are guilty of many sins. ¹⁷For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸Yes, Adam's one sin brings condemnation for everyone, but Christ's one act of righteousness brings a right relationship with God and new life for everyone. ¹⁹Because one person disobeyed God, many became sinners. But because one other person obeyed God, many will be made righteous. ²⁰God's law was given so that all people could see how sinful they were. But as people sinned more and more, God's wonderful grace became more abundant. ²¹So just as sin ruled over all people and brought them to death, now God's wonderful grace rules instead, giving us right standing with God and resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

- a. The condition of “Sin” entered the world through Adam.
- b. Adam’s condition of “Sin” was passed on to the entire human race.
- c. Because of Adam’s disobedience, we became sinners, not because of our sinning.
- d. We sin because we were born sinners.
Born into Sin not by our own choice or action.
- e. When we are born again, we are *Born into Righteousness*.
- f. Adam’s sin declared me to be a sinner.
- g. By Grace, Jesus’s righteousness declared me to be righteous.
If I believe in my heart and confess Him with my mouth.

B. Grace, the remedy for the condition of Sin

Before we can understand and receive Grace for sinful action, we must first receive grace for the condition of sin.

Ephesians 2:1-8 (NKJV) – ¹*And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ²in which you once walked according to the ^[a]course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, ³among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (**by grace you have been saved**), ⁶and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸**For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,***

1. Prior to salvation you lived your life according to the course of this world. You were just like everyone else.
2. Because of God’s great love and mercy, He made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in trespasses (bound by the condition of Sin)
3. By Grace we have been saved. Everything God did for us was a gift because of His grace.

4. Nothing we received was because of ourselves, vs 8.

5. What was our necessary part? Faith!

C. We must be able to accept our salvation by faith if we are going to reap the full benefit of being saved.

1. We must accept our forgiveness of Sin
 - a. Jesus is the answer to the sin issue
 - b. His perfection vs mine
 - c. He is the author and the finisher of my faith

Hebrews 12:2 (KJV) – *Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

2. We must accept our position of righteousness
Romans 5:19 – through Jesus' obedience, many are made righteous.

3. Perfect Love Casts Out Fear

1 John 4:18 (NKJV) – *There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.*

4. To accept our salvation by grace through faith means I do not attempt to earn my salvation or keep it by good works (Performance).
5. The #1 temptation you will face after being saved is to return to a performance means of being/staying saved.
6. This was the #1 issue of the early church which was made up of people who had previously practiced keeping the law for salvation.

D. Scriptures to consider.

1. **Galatians 3:11 (NKJV)** – *But that no one is ^[a]justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for “the just shall live by faith.*

Galatians 3:11 (NLT) – *So it is clear that no one can be made right with God by trying to keep the law. For the Scriptures say, “It is through faith that a righteous person has life.”*

2. **Galatians 2:16 (NLT)** – *Yet we know that a person is made right with God by faith in Jesus Christ, not by obeying the law. And we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we might be made right with God because of our faith in Christ, not because we have obeyed the law. For no one will ever be made right with God by obeying the law.*

NKJV – No flesh shall be justified by keeping the law.

- a. There is no justification by rule keeping or performance.
- b. Justification only exist through the grace of God by faith.
- c. We must guard against any thought of justification by works.
This includes thoughts of my salvation and my continued relationship with Him being based upon my good performance.
- d. Good thoughts toward my personal performance and negative thoughts regarding my personal failures.
Thinking I am justified because of my good actions.
Thinking I lose justification because of my negative/sinful actions.

3. **Romans 3:20 NLT** – *For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are.*
4. **Romans 11:6 (NLT)** – *And since it is through God’s kindness, then it is not by their good works. For in that case, God’s grace would not be what it really is—free and undeserved.*