

## Understanding Grace Session 3 – Established in Righteousness

### I. Review

#### A. Previous Sessions

##### 1. Week 1 – Introduction to Grace

- a. Old Testament vs New Testament
- b. Everything that we receive in the new covenant comes through grace.
- c. Grace is God giving us what we do not deserve and what we cannot earn.
- d. Two Works of Grace
  - 1) Forgiveness of Sin
  - 2) Empowerment for deliverance from Sinning

##### 2. Week 2 – Saved by Grace

- a. Sin vs Sinning
- b. We are not sinners because we sin. We sin because we are sinners. *We inherited the condition of SIN from Adam.*  
*Romans 5:12-21*
- c. We are saved by grace – *Ephesians 2:5 and Ephesians 2:8*
- d. We must be able to fully accept God's grace for our forgiveness of sin (The condition of Sin) prior to experiencing the benefit of deliverance from sinful activity (Sinning).
- e. Last week's closing scriptures

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

**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.*

## II. Established in Righteousness

### A. What is righteousness?

1. The quality or state of being righteous
2. **Righteous** = Morally right or justified
3. Webster = “Free from guilt or sin”
4. **Bible Definition** = The condition which is acceptable to God – *being in the state of what we ought to be.* – upright, accepted, in right standing with God.
5. Prior to salvation we are in a state/condition of **UNRIGHTEOUSNESS**
6. *After salvation we are RIGHTEOUS.*
7. The change of position from unrighteousness to righteous is what qualifies us to receive every benefit of salvation.

### B. The new covenant provides a **Change of Status**, that the old covenant did not.

### C. Isaiah 54 – A prophetic outlook on God’s new covenant of Grace.

1. **Isaiah 54: 7-10 (NLT)** – <sup>7</sup>“For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with great compassion I will take you back. <sup>8</sup>In a burst of anger I turned my face away for a little while. But with everlasting love I will have compassion on you,” says the LORD, your Redeemer. <sup>9</sup>“Just as I swore in the time of Noah that I would never again let a flood cover the earth, so now I swear that I will never again be angry and punish you. <sup>10</sup>For the mountains may move and the hills disappear, but even then my faithful love for you will remain.

*My covenant of blessing will never be broken,*” says the LORD, who has mercy on you.

***This is a direct contrast between the old and new covenant!***

**NKJV – Statements**

*With great mercies I will gather you...*

*So, have I sworn, I will not be angry with you nor rebuke you...*

*My kindness shall not depart from you nor my covenant of peace be removed...*

***This is grace language for a grace covenant.***

2. **Isaiah 54:14-15 (NKJV)** – <sup>14</sup>*In righteousness you shall be established; You shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear; And from terror, for it shall not come near you. <sup>15</sup>Indeed they shall surely assemble, but not because of Me. Whoever assembles against you shall fall for your sake*
3. **Isaiah 54:17 (NKJV)** – *No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, And their righteousness is from Me,” Says the LORD.*
4. The blessing of the new covenant of grace as proclaimed by Isaiah is based upon **RIGHTEOUSNESS** (*Right Standing with God*)
5. This righteousness is from the Lord (vs 17).  
*My righteousness is not from me but from the Lord  
I am right because of him not because of me  
He made me RIGHT/RIGHTEOUS*

6. **Established** = *To be firm or stable – Fixed securely – settled – to be fastened to. We are to be firmly established in our righteous standing with God that we received by grace from him! The key to be blessing is to never allow anything to move you from your righteousness.*

**D. My Righteousness is established in Jesus**

- a. **1 Corinthians 1:30 (NKJV)** – *But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption*

**1 Corinthians 1:30 (AMP)** – *But it is from Him that you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God [revealing His plan of salvation], and righteousness [making us acceptable to God], and sanctification [making us holy and setting us apart for God], and redemption [providing our ransom from the penalty for sin],*

- b. **2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV)** – *For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.*

**2 Corinthians 5:21 (AMP)** – *He made Christ who knew no sin to [judicially] be sin on our behalf, so that in Him we would become the righteousness of God [that is, we would be made acceptable to Him and placed in a right relationship with Him by His gracious lovingkindness].*

- c. **Philippians 3:8-9 (NLT)** – <sup>8</sup>*Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ.<sup>[a]</sup> For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith.*

**E. My righteousness is established by faith**

1. Paul stated to the Philippians that he became righteous through faith.
2. My required cooperation to become righteous is to “*Have Faith*”.
3. **Romans 3:28 (NKJV)** – *Therefore we conclude that a man is **justified by faith** apart from the deeds of the law.*
4. **Romans 5:1 (NKJV)** – *Therefore, having been **justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,*
5. **Galatians 2:16 (NKJV)** – *knowing that a man is not **justified by** the works of the law but **by faith** in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be **justified by faith** in Christ and not **by** the works of the law; for **by** the works of the law no flesh shall be **justified***
6. **Romans 1:17 (NKJV)** – *For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.”*

- F.** To be established in righteousness, I must be established in faith.  
*I enter my new state of righteousness by faith.  
 I maintain my state of righteousness by faith.  
 Faith and confession are the only two works required for salvation.  
 Guard your faith and confession.*