

EXTRAORDINARY: Extraordinary Grace
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Definitions of Grace:

- God's unmerited favor
- God's power released on our behalf
- God doing for us what we cannot do for ourselves
- God's riches at Christ's expense

"Grace is the opposite of merit...Grace is not only undeserved favor, but it is favor shown to the one who has deserved the very opposite."
— *Harry Ironside*

John 1:14-17 NKJ

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.'" And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Truth: You're living in sin.

Grace: I've taken your sin on Myself.

Truth: You're bound by sin.

Grace: I've come to set you free.

Truth: You can't overcome sin on your own.

Grace: I've conquered sin so you can live in victory over it!

3 Major Truths About Grace:

1. GRACE is a FREE GIFT from GOD.

Romans 5:15-16 NKJ

But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification.

Ephesians 2:4-5 NLT

But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by GOD'S GRACE that you have been saved!)

Ephesians 2:8-10 NLT

God saved you by his GRACE when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

2. GRACE operates through RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Romans 5:17-21 NIV

For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ! Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous. The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. 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.

Righteousness: the ability to live in God's presence without a sense of condemnation, inferiority or rejection

2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJ

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

3. GRACE must be received by FAITH.

Romans 5:1-2 NIV

Therefore, since we have been justified through FAITH, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by FAITH into this GRACE in which we now stand...

Hebrews 11:1 NKJ

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:6 NKJ

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

“You cannot earn grace. You have to receive it by faith!”