

LESSON 18
THE GRACE FROM GOD
Compared to
THE GRACE OF GOD

Introduction: Everyone wants the free gift of eternal life that God offers by His grace. What most people don't want is to demonstrate that grace in their OWN lives for the benefit of other and for the glory of God. You can get saved by grace and then go back to your worldly ways and still go to heaven—but God wants more for you.

2 Thess. 3:16-18 Paul closes his epistle with words of hope. He hopes that the grace **“OF”** our Lord Jesus Christ will be with these believers. That is, he wants that grace to become one of their own attributes. We ought to exhibit the same grace that the Lord Jesus had for us.

2 Thess. 1:1-2 Here, Paul opens his epistle desiring grace and peace **“FROM”** God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ for these believers. So we know that there is grace **“FROM”** God as well as the grace **“OF”** God and both are available to ALL believers.

Grace Defined: Favor undeserved, gifts unearned. Grace to MAKE me pure (salvation, forgiveness of sins) and grace to KEEP me pure (victory over daily sins). Both are available to believers.

Ephesians 2:8-9 When you put your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, God, by His GRACE, gave you salvation from your sins. You didn't deserve it. You didn't earn it. God bestowed it upon you.

Acts 20:24 We can tell others (testify) the good news (Gospel) of the grace of God. There is no greater gift that you could give to another person than the Gospel of the grace of God.

1 Peter 1:13 There are BENEFITS that God freely gives the believer in addition to His free salvation.

- He seals you with His Holy Spirit (2 Cor. 1:22, Eph. 1:13, 4:30)
- He will lead and guide you into all truth (John 16:13)
- He will catch you out of this world and into His presence (1 Thess. 4:13-18)
- He is going to give you a glorious body (Philippians 3:21)
- He is preparing a place for you in Heaven (John 14:3)
- He will give you a future with no sickness, sorrow, pain, or death (Rev. 7:17, 21:4)

This is all Grace **“FROM”** the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 4:15-16 God also provides “**grace to HELP in time of NEED.**” This is an additional portion of grace that God gives you so you can handle difficult situations. You must go to God and ask Him for this. Christians face trials and troubles like everybody else, but they can endure that trial better than the unbeliever because of the added grace that God provides for that trial.

2 Corinthians 12:9 Here God personalizes His grace toward each individual for their need. “**My grace is sufficient for THEE.**” This is “victory grace.”

2 Corinthians 8:6-9 Jesus Christ is our example of how to demonstrate the grace “OF” God in our lives
8:19 toward others. He gave up everything to come to this earth and do what was necessary
9:7-9 to save us. In like manner, we ought to be willing to put down our lives for the benefit of others. We can’t do this and we won’t do this without the grace of God.

It takes grace to forget about your own PHYSICAL and MATERIAL well-being—for the SPIRITUAL well-being of others. God has the grace to make you willing to care for others.

Titus 2:11-13 The grace of God will TEACH us to deny “**ungodliness and worldly lusts**” so that we can “**live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present evil world.**” This is how a Christian is supposed to live every day until Jesus comes.

If you’re not living like you know you’re supposed to be living, it’s not because God didn’t give you enough commandments to know how to do it. It’s because you lack grace to do it. If the grace of God is operating in your life, you will not be living to please yourself; you will live to please God—and you’ll lay down your life for the salvation of others. That’s what Jesus Christ did for you.

Genesis 6:7-9 “**Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.**” Here is another Bible definition of grace. It is a favorable impression made upon another.

Anybody can be saved by grace, but God will not give the same rewards to everybody. God rewards right behavior. God rewards obedience. God rewards your service for Him. God has an extra measure of blessing, reward, and grace—if you will live in accord with His will and purposes for your life.

John 1:12-14 Jesus is FULL of grace and truth. Not only has God given us grace, but He wants to FILL us with grace. He doesn’t want us to just be a recipient of salvation. He wants us to be a channel of blessing to others.