



Blackfoot Church of Christ

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The Grace of God: What It Provides!

By Bill Sexton

Titus 2:11-13 "For the grace of God that brings salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ;.."

The Grace of God is one of the most wonderful factors in the universe. It is talked about by many, appreciated by some, and understood by few.

We need to look into the scriptures to see what they say relative to the GRACE of GOD. When we have found it, let us be careful that we abide by the teachings found therein, making such the foundation upon which we build. Our text affirms the following about GRACE:

Grace has appeared to all men -- it's available. That is a wonderful fact, meaning that each of us has equal access to God's repository of grace. It is wonderful because of what it brings: "Salvation" --Delivery from the power and penalty of sin. Being available to all and bringing the most important commodity needed by man: Amazing!

Teaching us! This may seem to be a strange characteristic. We may have accepted a definition of Grace or explanations of how it works so

that this concept of it teaching may appear out- of-the-way. However, let us be reminded that if such is the case, then our perception of grace should be altered to conform with the revelation.

Denying! God, in His grace, requires that we exert ourselves so that we deny certain things, refuse to accept or hold them. Again, this may be contrary to our perception of how grace works. If we have to deny certain things, WE DO something: does that not mean that it's not a GIFT? No. In fact it does not. God provides salvation. Once we understand that God has made salvation to all men, conditional, then we have no trouble with this idea.

- 1). Ungodliness! This is a disposition of heart and mind, lacking respect for deity. Such a person is arrogant, puffed up. God's grace require each to get rid of such a mind-set! A basic ingredient in man's character is respect for the Maker and Governor of the universe, God.
- 2). Worldly lusts! This is a mind set on following the worldly sanctioned behavior driven by lusts: disregard for restraints to keep drives of the body under control.

We should live soberly, righteously and godly! Such are positive elements in the will of God expressed by His grace. Again, these are actions which must be taken in order to be recipients of God's outpouring of His grace.

- 1). Soberly means being reasonable; using the mind to see, understand and make choices approved of God and are beneficial to us and our fellow man.
- 2). Righteously means basically to deal with our fellows fairly and justly. God's grace reaches down into the abyss to which we have descended, forgiving and raising us to a productive life.
- 3). Godly is the opposite of ungodly: having and manifesting deep respect and appreciation for God.

In This Present World--here and now. We have to continue in the world, but must not be a part of it, in the sense that we accept its values. Being not taken out of the world, we must rub shoulders with evil, observe and act positively against it, seeing its ruinous results.

Expectant: "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ;..."

Christians have so much to be looking forward to, due to the fact God's grace has appeared to all of us. Let us see the negative that we are to avoid. But then concentrate on the good.—

“BE DOERS OF THE WORD”

By Joe R Price

“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. ²⁵ But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. (James 1:22–25, NKJV)

God wants doers of the work; People whose faith is put into action by obeying His law of liberty. This passage explains why faith without works is dead (James 2:17). Faith is alone when it is not combined with doing what God command in His perfect law of liberty. We must use God's mirror – His perfect law of liberty – to look at our spiritual imperfections (our sins) and then do something about them! God provides the correction of our sins in His Son Jesus Christ. We must have the faith to be doers of the word by doing the work God commands for our blessing (James 1:23, 25). Do not deceive yourself. God's spiritual, eternal blessings do not come by only examining yourself in God's mirror. You must see yourself as God sees you and then do what He says in His “perfect law of liberty.” Then, you will be blessed in what you do.

Prayer Requests & Announcements

- Brenda has cataract surgery scheduled for this Tuesday and next.
- Juanita, Brenda's aunt is recovering from a head injury from a fall.
- Shirley Torres, Seattle WA (Torres' have visited our congregation) is fighting cancer. Chemo treatments have not been successful. They have decided to stop the Chemo and pursue other treatments to help enhance her quality of life.
- Kass' Grandmother has been diagnosed with Lung Cancer.
- Keep April in your prayers as she deals with health issues
- The Christians in the Philippines.
- Bible class tomorrow night 7:00pm at Chad and Kass' on evangelism

For prayer requests, call or text

Chad @ (208) 221-2587 or Ross @ (208) 680-6590

Assignments

<u>Today</u> Bible Study – Ross Ward Song Leader – David Porter Lord's Table – Tom Mitchell Sermon – Ross Ward	<u>Wednesday</u> Bible Study – Ross Ward Song Leader – Tom Mitchell Invitation – Ross Ward
<u>Next Sunday</u> Bible Study – Ross Ward Song Leader – Chad Mitchell Lord's Table – David Porter Sermon – Ross Ward	<u>Next Wednesday</u> Bible Study – Ross Ward Song Leader – Chad Mitchell Invitation – Ross Ward

Blackfoot Church of Christ
370 North Shilling Ave.
Blackfoot, Idaho 83221

Meeting Times:

Sunday Morning Classes 10:00AM
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00AM
Wednesday Evening 7:30PM



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