

Luke 17:7-10

- 7 “And which of you, having a servant plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, ‘Come at once and sit down to eat’ ?
- 8 But will he not rather say to him, ‘Prepare something for my supper, and gird yourself and serve me till I have eaten and drunk, and afterward you will eat and drink’ ?
- 9 Does he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I think not.
- 10 So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, ‘We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do’.”



God's Saving Grace

**Part 1: What are Grace
and Works ?**

I. What is Grace ?

Greek: “charis” or **Χαρις**

1. Favor, Kindness, Friendship

Gen. 6:8 → “But Noah found **grace** in the eyes of the LORD.”

2 Tim 1:9 → “Who has saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our **works**, but according to His own purpose and **grace**...”

2. God's Forgiving Mercy

Eph. 2:5 → “Even when we were **dead in sins**, [He] has made us alive together with Christ, (by **grace** ye are saved)”

What is Grace ?

3. The Gospel, as Distinguished from the Law

John 1:17 → “For the **Law** was given by Moses, but **grace** and **truth** came by Jesus Christ.”

Rom. 6:14 → “For sin shall not have dominion over you: for you are not under the **Law**, but under **grace**.”

4. A Gift

John 1:16 → “For of His fullness we have all received, and **grace** upon **grace**.”

1 Cor. 16:3 → “Then, when I arrive, I will send those whom you approve with letters of explanation to carry your **gift** to Jerusalem.”

1 Cor. 12:4 → “There are diversities of **gifts** [**charisma**], but the same Spirit.”

God's Saving Grace: Part 1

Good Known Text about Grace:

Ephes. 2:1-9 → "And you *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, ³ among 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.

⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in sins, made us alive together with Christ (by **grace** you have been saved),

⁶ and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus,

⁷ that 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,

⁹ not of **works**, lest anyone should boast."

John 1:17 → "For the **Law** was given by Moses, but **grace** and **truth** came by Jesus Christ."

II. Why do we need Grace, Anyway ?

Saying: "“You made your bed,
now you gotta sleep in it !”

Rom 6:23 → For the **wages** [ergon] of sin is death . . .

What are wages ?

Example: Every day you go to work . . .

Question: **Does your boss pay you at the end of the week because they are just very nice ?**

II. Why do we need Grace ? (Cont.)

Rom. 4:4 → “Now to him that **works** [**ergazomai**], the recompense is not counted as a **gift** [**charis**], but of debt.”

“Why do we need God’s grace ?”, then we need to consider the **consequences** of our life of **sin**.

Latin → Con + sequence

Con (together, with) + **sequir** (to follow)

⇒ If we **sin**, then we will be receiving our **wages**

Rom. 6:23 → “For the wages of sin is death”

II. Why do we need Grace ? (Cont.)

Gen. 2:17 → “But of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, thou shalt not eat...”

Gen. 3:4-5 → “And the serpent said unto the woman, You shall not surely die: ⁵ For God knows that in the day you eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”

So what did Adam & Eve earn ?

Gen. 3:24 → “So he drove out the man ... from the garden of Eden ...”

1 Cor. 15:22 → “For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.”

CONCLUSION:

1 Cor. 15:22 → “For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.”

We shall indeed be made alive in Christ:

- 1) In the Spirit
- 2) In a new body, that is NOT corruptible

Consider: Did we, as kids, always receive the punishments that we truly deserved ?

And if not, why not ?

A Fathers Love

Artist: George Strait

I got sent home from school one day with a shiner on my eye
Fighting was against the rules and it didn't matter why
When Dad got home I told that story just like I'd rehearsed
Then stood there on those trembling knees and waited for the worst

Chorus:

And he said: "Let me tell you a secret, about a father's love
A secret that my daddy said was just between us.
He said: Daddies don't just love their children every now and then
It's a love without end, Amen; It's a love without end, Amen"

When I became a father in the spring of '81
There was no doubt that stubborn boy was just like my father's son
And when I thought my patience had been tested to the end
I took my daddy's secret and I passed it on to him

Chorus

Last night I dreamed I'd died and stood outside those pearly gates
When suddenly I realized there must be some mistake
If they know half the stuff I've done they'll never let me in
Then somewhere from the other side I heard these words again.

Chorus

Jesus Loves You