

The Grace and Mercy of God

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Introduction

The qualities of God's character by which He shows Himself compassionate, accepting and generous to sinful human beings, shielding them from His wrath, forgiving them and bestowing on them His righteousness so that they can live and grow in faith and obedience.

Grace and mercy are particularly expressed through God's covenant with his chosen people and through Jesus Christ's atoning death on the cross.

1. How are God's grace and mercy made known by Jesus Christ in John 1:16-17?

John 1:16-17

16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.

17 For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.

1. How are God's grace and mercy made known in Jesus Christ in John 1:16-17?

a. His fullness - The word *fullness* (pleroma) means that which fills or the total. It is the totality of all that is in God.

Col. 1:19

¹⁹ For it was the *Father's* good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him,

1. How are God's grace and mercy made known in Jesus Christ in John 1:16-17?

b.-1. In Jesus

In Jesus is all the wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption—all the abundance of God.

1 Cor. 1:30

³⁰ But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption,

1. How are God's grace and mercy made known in Jesus Christ in John 1:16-17?

b.-2. In Jesus – We are complete in Him.

All that Christ is, the very **fullness of His being**, is **given to us who believe**—all His “love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance” (Gal. 5:22-23).

1. How are God's grace and mercy made known in Jesus Christ in John 1:16-17?

Grace and truth

God's grace and truth, does not come by the law, but by Jesus Christ.

2. What is the result of God's grace?

Titus 2:11

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,

3. What is the outcome of God's mercy in Eph. 2:4-7?

Eph. 2:4-7

4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,

5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

6 and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

7 so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 9

3. What is the outcome of God's mercy in Eph. 2:4-7?

Man is dead in trespasses and sins, but God is rich in mercy. He has intervened in the destiny of man; He has interrupted the doom of death and judgment. God has had mercy upon us!

1. God made us alive with Christ (vv. 4–5).
2. God has raised us up with Christ (v. 6).
3. God has seated us in the heavenly realm—in Christ (v. 6).
4. God had one great purpose: to show us the riches of His grace—in the ages to come (v. 7)

4. Explain Eph. 2:8-10.

Eph. 2:8-10

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God;

⁹ not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

4. Explain Eph. 2:8-10.

A. Salvation is a free gift of God.

It is by grace alone that man is saved. Man can do nothing whatsoever to save himself. He cannot earn, win or merit salvation.

Rom. 11:6

⁶ But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace.

4. Explain Eph. 2:8-10.

B. Salvation is received by faith.

Man must believe just what God says and accept His Word, accept His free offer of salvation.

When man accepts the fact that God says He will save him, God takes him and creates him into a “new man”.

4. Explain Eph. 2:8-10.

C. We are God's workmanship.

1. We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus.
2. The believer experiences two creations, both a natural birth and a spiritual birth.
3. The spiritual birth is the point of this verse. When a man believes in Jesus Christ, God *creates him in Christ*

4. Explain Eph. 2:8-10

1. We are created to do good works. God saves man *for good works* not by good works.
2. The believer just shows that he is God's workmanship by the life he lives and displays.
3. Works are an evidence of salvation.