

Understanding Grace

What is the difference between “mercy” and
“grace”

Some basics

- All of us have sinned, Eccl. 7:20; Rom. 3:23; I Jn. 1:8
- As a result of my sin, I deserve death, Rom. 6:23
- As a result of my sin, I deserve hell, Rev. 20:12-15
- David pled for God's mercy, Ps. 51:1-2
- The good we experience, including salvation, is a result of the grace of God, Eph. 2:5; Jas. 1:17
- We should therefore worship God, giving thanks, Heb. 4:16

Definitions (Old Testament)

- Grace

- **H2580** chên (BDB)

- 1) favour, grace, charm

- 1a) favour, grace,
elegance

- 1b) favour, acceptance

- Mercy

- **H2617** chêsêd (BDB)

- 1) goodness, kindness,
faithfulness

- 2) a reproach, shame

Definitions (New Testament)

- Grace

- **G5485** charis. (**Strong**)

- *graciousness* (as *gratifying*), of manner or act (abstract or concrete; literal, figurative or spiritual);
- especially the **divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life; including gratitude**);
- acceptable, benefit, favour, gift, grace (-ious), joy, liberality, pleasure, thank (-s, -worthy).

- Mercy

- **G1653** eleeō (**Mounce**)

- Actively to pity, have compassion on;
- Pass. to receive pity, experience compassion, [Mat 5:7](#); [Mat 9:27](#); [Mat 15:22](#);
- Actively to be gracious to anyone, show gracious favor and saving mercy towards;
- Pass. to be an object of gracious favor and saving mercy, [Rom 11:30-31](#);
- **Spc. to obtain pardon and forgiveness**, [1Ti 1:13](#); [1Ti 1:16](#).

Definitions

- Grace
 - “God blessing us despite the fact that we did not earn it”



Definitions

- Grace
 - “God blessing us despite the fact that we did not earn it”
- Mercy (a subset of grace)
 - “God does not punish us as our sin deserves”, De. 4:30-31; I Tim. 1:13

