



GOD'S ABUNDANT GRACE

Grace in our salvation

EPHESIANS 2:8

- [Eph 2:8](#) For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—

WHAT IS OUR MOST SEVERE PROBLEM?

- Sin.
 - But we must be willing to admit that it is OUR problem. We caused the problem. Only HE can solve our problem.
 - Paul spends the first 3 chapters of Romans peeling back the ugliness of sin and brings us to the obvious conclusion in Romans 3:23:
 - “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”
 - Ephesians 2:1-3 describes the same, *abhorrent to God*, lifestyles we choose to live.
 - And we cannot blame others for our choices- not our family, not our friends, and especially not God – WE ALL FALL SHORT... But God is gracious
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BECAUSE GOD IS SO GRACIOUS...

- HE made it His goal to rescue us from our sin
 - Romans 3:26 tells us "he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus."
 - Romans 5:8 reminds us that "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
 - Verse 6 and 7 focus us on God's grace by showing us just how foreign God's grace is to us
 - "You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die."
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GOD'S GRACE AND MAN'S FAITH

- What condition did God set forth for us to receive His grace?
 - Faith.
 - Hebrews 11:6 defines this condition for us - “And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.”
 - Romans chapters 3, 4 and 5 are the biblical Wikipedia of salvation, where God is the author and it cannot be changed.
 - 3:24 reminds us of the gift of grace
 - 4:16 reinforces the idea of grace through faith
 - 5:15-17 contrasts man's contribution to the world and Christ's resolution for all of us
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SALVATION BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST

- Ephesians 2:4-10 sums of the concepts we been looking at:
 - God's love for us
 - God's mercy on us
 - Our failure leads to God bestowing upon us His great blessings
 - But the mandatory condition that leads to His grace is our faith
 - Grace is for all but is delivered THROUGH OUR FAITH IN HIM
 - Grace is a gift. Although our faith is required it does not EARN His grace.
 - God has always wanted us to choose Him – we are His – He created us in His Son
 - He wants us to do good - He has always wanted us to do good.
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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

- Why is it important to recognize that grace not only saves, but removes all boasting on our part?
 - How is faith in Jesus developed
 - Is faith in Christ presented as a challenging condition to me met, or an easy condition? How do you feel about this condition?
 - According to Romans 6:1-7, what action did those who put their faith in Christ take and what did God accomplish for them?
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