



GRACE

Sermon Outline by Dr. Glen Davenport



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ghdavenport1@frontier.com

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By Glen Davenport - 04/15/'18

TEXT: John 1:14-17

14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

15 John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.

16 And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.

17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

INTRODUCTION:

The word "grace" can be found 170 times in the King James Version of the Scriptures. It is noteworthy to see the basic meaning: *kindness or favor* NEVER CHANGED. Although, Ezra 9:8 may have a shade of difference but the root of the word is ALWAYS the same.

The foundation of God's grace may be exposed II Peter 3:9, as we discover His will or perhaps we could say; His 'unwillingness'. It is written: *The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count*

slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

A. Within His will we find exactly how far He was willing to go to gain salvation for the human race.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16-18)

B. We see how much God was willing to forgive.

Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. (I Cor 6:9-11)

C. We see how hard it would be to break His will.

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Rom 8:38-39

I. Grace shows God's will to tolerate procrastination, even to the point of one's death.

Herein I am reminded of several people who put off salvation until the last minute of their lives.

A 'death-bed profession' is better than no profession - but as for god, His grace is ever present.

II. Grace shows God's desire to forgive sin, regardless of its nature.

God's grace appeals to the *fornicators, the idolaters, the adulterers, the effeminate, the abusers of themselves with mankind, thieves, the covetous, the drunkards, the revilers, the extortioners*, and I'm sure he reaches out to liars and murderers, sex offenders and doctors who perform abortions.

III. Grace is boundless and extends to all people in all places.

God's grace is extended to the lowest of lows. Criminality, shame and disgrace do not deter the Holy Spirit. He is full of grace to forgive.

IV. Grace is limitless and ranges from the beginning of time unto the 'gates of hell'.

God's grace called Adam and Eve out of from the darkness of sin into the light of Truth.

God's grace called Abram out of Ur of Chaldea and Lot out of Sodom and Gomorrah .

God's grace called the Apostle Paul out of 'the Jew's religion'. (Gal 1:13-18)

13 For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:

14 And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers.

15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace,

16 To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:

17 Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus.

18 Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and abode with him fifteen days.

V. Grace shows God's ambition to incorporate all sins into one act of forgiveness.

God's grace does not require men to name all of their sins. He only requires us to admit 'we are sinners' but on the individual basis.

Under the 'Law of Moses', when a man breaks one, he breaks them all. **(James 2:8-12)**

8 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:

9 But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.

10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

11 For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.

12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.

VI. Grace shows God's ability to reconcile even when reconciliation seems impossible.

God's grace can find a man in his darkness and awake him to the light. He has broken all laws of separation. (Eph 2:14-18)

14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;

15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;

16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:

17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.

18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.

VII. Grace manifests God's sufficiency to supply our needs.

God's grace is not found in many names and religions. His grace alone is sufficient. (II Cor 2:14 -17)

14 Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.

15 For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish:

16 To the one we are the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of life unto life. And who is sufficient for these things?

17 For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.

Conclusion: (Eph 2:8-1

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God

9 Not of works, lest any man should boast

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.