

The Abundance of God's Provision

Introduction

A. God is absolute in Truth, Love and Holiness. One of the marvels of all time is that He has made it possible for sinners like ourselves to be brought into a living relationship with Himself and to be assured that we will spend eternity in Heaven.

B. God's love is an action. In love He sent His own Son into the world to be our Substitute in death. What divine holiness demanded, so that we could be forgiven and accepted, divine love provided.

God commendeth (manifested, proved) His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

C. God's loving provision is so great the Bible often makes use of the word "abundant" to indicate the vast benefits that have come to all of those who have received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. (John 1:12,3:36)

I. Mercy is a Part of God's Abundant Provision, I Peter 1:3.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively (living) hope by the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Observation: Mercy is what we need as sinners. If God dealt with us according to our sin – no one could go to Heaven. Jesus Christ paid the debt of our sin. In Him God has had mercy upon us. No one realizes how great is this provision of mercy until he truly repents of his sin. Only then can we understand the depths of God's loving provision.

II. Grace is a Part of God's Abundant Provision, I Timothy 1:12-15.

And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, Who hath enabled me, for that He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious, but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

Observation: This is the testimony of the Apostle Paul. He was a very great sinner against God when he was a very religious man. We are reminded by this that it is possible to be thoroughly convinced you are right – and be dead wrong. Paul was wrong. God dealt with him and he confessed that he was a sinner and was in need of God's mercy which divine grace provided. Grace is "God's love in action toward sinful men".

III. Pardon is a Part of God's Abundant Provision, Isaiah 55:7.

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

Observation: The mercy and grace of God makes it possible for God to pardon or forgive sinners. Forgiveness is exactly what we all need in that all of us have sinned. The believer has complete forgiveness. (Col. 2:13).

IV. Life is a Part of God's Abundant Provision, John 10:10.

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Observation: The wages of sin is death, according to Romans 6:23. When the human race fell in Adam then death became the sad characteristic of all living creatures. (Romans 5:12) Jesus Christ came into the world to reverse this. This chapter of John describes Him as the Good Shepherd Who gives His life for the sheep. He suffered our death that we might receive the gift of life. In John 10:28 he said, "And I give unto them eternal life and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand"

V. Peace is a Part of God's Abundant Provision, Psalm 37:11; John 14:27.

But the meek shall inherit the earth, and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace. Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you. Not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Observation: Peace is first of all a relationship and then a feeling. God's wants the believer to know that he is at peace with God. This is a tremendous benefit. No amount of money can buy real peace. It's great to have the matter settled and be at peace with God.

VI. Joy is a Part of God's Abundant Provision, Philippians 1:26; Galatians 5:22.

That your rejoicing may be more abundant in Jesus Christ for me by my coming to you again. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace

Observation: Joy is a characteristic the Christian life. When we are doing the will of God and walking with God in faith, love and hope – then we will know the joy of the Lord. It would be wonderful if God had only provided a way to get to Heaven. He has provided much more – even a joyful daily life of fellowship with Himself.

VII. Certainty is a Part of God's Abundant Provision, Hebrews 6:17,18.

Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath. That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us.

Observation: The foundation of our belief and faith is God and His Word. He is absolute in Truth and can be trusted. God has given us His Word and has confirmed it by an oath. The believer has certainty.

VIII. Prayer is a Part of God's Abundant Provision, Ephesians 3:20.

Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.

Observation: The greatest promises in all the Bible relate to prayer. This is one area where we cannot fail. True prayer will be abundantly answered.

Conclusion: In addition to all of these the believer is assured of Heaven. "For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." (I Peter 1:11)