

## The Grace of God in Salvation

### Introduction

- A. The message related to the grace of God is one of the most encouraging in all the Bible.
- B. While the most common definition of grace is "unmerited favor," Griffith Thomas said it more Biblically when he called it, "The love of God in action toward sinful man."
- C. Grace is the product of the love of God. His love culminated in the action of Jesus Christ coming into the world to give Himself as our ransom. The Bible gives the designation of "grace" to the benefits of His work to emphasize their source in love as well as the characteristics of "abundance," "mercy," "favor," and "gift."

### I. The Need of Divine Grace.

- A. Man's sinful condition must be reversed – to be accepted by God.
  - 1. As dead to God (Eph. 2:1) we need spiritual life (John 10:28).
  - 2. As alienated from God (Eph. 2:12) we need reconciliation (II Cor. 5:18-21).
  - 3. As unrighteous (Rom. 3:10) we need justification (Rom. 5:1).
  - 5. As guilty and condemned (Rom. 3:23) we need pardon (Rom. 8:1).
  - 6. As spiritually blind (II Cor. 4:4) we need enlightenment (II Cor. 4:6).
- B. Man's sinful condition can be reversed only through a sacrifice of a spiritual, substitutionary, vicarious, and priestly type.
  - 1. There would have to be a perfect obedience and sacrifice.
  - 2. The sacrifice would have to be of infinite worth.
  - 3. The sacrifice would have to be done by a human representative.
  - 4. The sacrifice would have to be made as a priestly offering.

### II. The Provision of Divine Grace.

- A. The Lord Jesus is the provision of grace in that He met the law's demand for perfect obedience and sacrifice.

. . . Much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ . . . For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. Romans 5:17,19

- B. The Lord Jesus is the provision of grace in that He met the law's demand for human representation and priestly office, by becoming a member of our race and serving as the Priest of God.

Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.  
Hebrews 2:17

### III. The Benefits of Divine Grace.

- A. Salvation is the provision of God in grace, Eph. 2:8,9.

For by grace are ye saved through faith and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast.

- B. Freedom from sin is the provision of God in grace, Rom. 6:14.

For sin shall not have dominion over you, for ye are not under law, but under grace.

- C. Enablement in trials is the provision of God in grace, II Cor. 12:9.

And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee, for my strength is made perfect in weakness. ...

- D. Instruction is the provision of God in grace, Titus 2:16,17.

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.

Summary: All the salvation benefits of grace have at least four characteristics.

1. They are all given as a free gift.
2. They all admit of no degrees.
3. They all are permanent.
4. They all depend only on the Lord Jesus Christ.

### IV. The Warning Regarding Divine Grace.

We then as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. II Cor. 6:1

Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law, ye are fallen from grace. Gal. 5:4

Comment: We have seen how great a provision God has made for sinful man in the divine provision of grace. There has never been any other way of being saved, (Gal. 3:6-18). To know of this grace, turn away in unbelief, and trust one's own works, is to treat God's gift of salvation as incomplete and somewhat inadequate to meet all spiritual needs. This is the height of ignorance, ingratitude, and presumption.