

# THE GRACE OF GOD

(Gal 2:21 KJV) I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

## 1. GRACE.

### 1. *Undeserved acceptance and love received from another.*

1. Especially the characteristic attitude of God in providing salvation for sinners.
2. For Christians, the word "grace" is virtually synonymous with the gospel of God's gift of unmerited salvation in Jesus Christ.

### 2. *To express this, the New Testament writers used the Greek word charis, which had a long previous history in secular Greek.*

1. Attractiveness. Related to the word for joy or pleasure, charis originally referred to something delightful or attractive in a person, something which brought pleasure to others.
2. Favor or kindness. From this it came to have the idea of a favor or kindness done to another or of a gift which brought pleasure to another.
3. Thankfulness. Viewed from the standpoint of the recipient, it was used to refer to the thankfulness felt for a gift or favor.

### 3. *Divine enablement.*

## 2. GRACE IS A NEW TESTAMENT CONCEPT.

### 1. *Old Testament.*

1. Used in sense of obtaining favor of another; finding grace in the sight of another.
2. Never used in the sense of obtaining favor, especially unmerited favor.

### 2. *New Testament.*

1. Grace and truth through Jesus.
  1. (John 1:14 KJV) 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.
  2. (John 1:17 KJV) For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.
  3. (Rom 5:17 KJV) For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.
  4. (Rom 16:20 KJV) And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.
2. Divine favor.
  1. Joseph. (Acts 7:10 KJV) And delivered him out of all his afflictions, and gave him favour and wisdom in the sight of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and he made him governor over Egypt and all his house.

2. God=s divine favor.
  - (1) (Rom 4:4 KJV) Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.
  - (2) (Rom 4:16 KJV) Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,
  - (3) (Rom 5:2 KJV) By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.
  - (4) (Rom 11:6 KJV) And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.
3. Grace in contrast to the law.

### 3. OTHER MEANINGS OF GRACE.

#### 1. ***Thanksgiving.***

1. (Rom 6:17 KJV) But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.
2. (2 Cor 2:14 KJV) 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.
3. (2 Cor 8:16 KJV) But thanks be to God, which put the same earnest care into the heart of Titus for you.
4. (Col 3:16 KJV) Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.
5. (2 Cor 9:15 KJV) Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.

#### 2. ***Divine power or enablement.***

1. (Acts 4:33 KJV) And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.
2. (Acts 20:32 KJV) And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

#### 3. ***According to God=s pleasure.***

1. 9 spiritual gifts of 1 Cor. 12.
2. I am what I am by the grace of God. (1 Cor. 15:10).