Grace -Too Good To Be True!

Amazed by God's Grace

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

The Gathering Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Hale, Pastor Ray of Hope Christian Church | Decatur, GA

Romans 3:18-26

21. But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify.

22. This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

Grace is a gift that is undeserved.

The study of grace is a study of contrasts.

"Ratchet" when God came up with a "Remedy"

The function of the conjunction "but" is to introduce a phrase or clause that contrast with what has already been mentioned.

Sin

Transgressions – which are basically acts of rebellion or the willful breaking of God's law, it's crossing the line.

Sin

Iniquity talks about guilt or mischief, you know all those crazy things we do, we don't mean any harm, but they are wrong anyway.

Sin

Sin is the general word that talks about missing the mark, not living up to God's expectations, God's standards. But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known. This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

This righteousness is a "gift" of faith. To be justified is to be declared not guilty, even though you clearly did what you are accused of.

All are "justified" freely by his "grace" through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Romans 3:24

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthian 5:21

God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement through the shedding of his blood.

Romans 3:25

Like the rest we were by nature deserving of wrath, "but" because of his great love for us, God who is rich in mercy made us alive with Christ.

Ephesians 2:3b-5a

Matthew 27: 45-46

I Peter 2:22 – 25

By his death, Jesus completely satisfied the justice of God that required eternal death as the penalty for sins.

Discussion

1. Have you fully accepted the gift of God's grace in your life? If not, why not? If you have, what made it possible?

2. What difference does knowing that God has declared you righteous make in your life?



But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared.

Because Jesus completely paid the awful penalty of his sins God could expend his grace to us through complete and total forgiveness of our sins.

The word forgiveness literally means "to carry away." The act of carrying sin away is basically the removal of sin, guilt, and the remembrance of sin.

"...as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us."

Psalm 103:10-12

"You have put all my sins behind your back."



"I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist."



"You will tread our sins underfoot and hurl our iniquities into the depths of the sea."

Micah 7:19

God covers our sins.

God never brings it up again. God does not count the sin against us. I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions; for my own sake and remembers your sins no more.

Isaiah 43:25



In what ways have you recognized God's grace in your life for the sake of Christ?

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