

The Gospel Of The Grace Of God

First we need to consider some facts. The Gentiles did not seek God even though His attributes are clearly seen through creation (**Romans 1:18-32**). The Jews who had the law practiced the same things as the Gentiles (**Romans 2:1-6**). Therefore, all mankind has sinned and come short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). And, the wages of sin is death, eternal separation from God (**Romans 6:23; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-9**).

Therefore, we are in need of the gospel (good news). The later part of **Romans 6:23** says, “the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” What is this gospel? First of all, it is that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures. He was buried, and rose again the third day according to the Scriptures (**1 Corinthians 15:1-4**).

In what is called the Great Commission, we are to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature (**Mark 16:15**). Those who believe the gospel are to repent and be baptized for the remission of their sins (**Mark 16:16; Luke 24:45-47; Acts 2:38**). When we do this, we are added by the Lord to His church (**Acts 2:47**). We are to remain faithful unto death and we will receive the crown of life (**Revelation 2:10**).

We are reminded that “the free gift *is* not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many” (**Romans 5:15**). Paul said that according to the grace of God which was given to him, as a wise master builder he has laid the foundation, and another builds on it. “But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ” (**1 Corinthians 3:10-11**).

Paul wrote of the dispensation of the grace of God that was given to him for us. As we read the Scriptures we may understand Paul's knowledge in the mystery of Christ. The Gentiles should be fellow heirs with the Jews, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel. Paul said that he became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to him by the effective working of His power. (**Ephesians 3:2-7**).

Are we able to be like Paul who did not consider persecution or his own life as dear to him? He wanted to finish his race with joy, and the ministry which he had received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God (**Acts 20:24; 2 Timothy 4:7-8**). Will we be able to say that “by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God *which was* with me (**1 Corinthians 15:10**).

We are workers together with God (**1 Corinthians 3:9**). We are to plead with people not to receive the grace of God in vain. God said that in an acceptable time He has heard us. And in the day of salvation He has helped us. Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation (**2 Corinthians 6:1-2**). We are to look carefully lest anyone of us fall short of the grace of God. We are to be careful lest any root of bitterness springs up and causes trouble, and by this we may become defiled (**Hebrews 12:15**).

Notice what Paul said about the grace of God and our responsibility. “For the grace of God that

brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works. Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you (**Titus 2:11-15**).

Something to think about!

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