



Pt 1 - God's Saving Grace

"What is Grace?"

We cannot understand the Christian life fully unless we understand God's grace. It is through His grace that He brings us to Himself.

...What is Grace?

The Bible says God is a gracious God.

Psalm 86:15 - Psalm 145:8

In the original Hebraic writing the word Gracious carries the meaning of stooping down in kindness to an inferior.

God's Grace is His love in action. Giving us what we need, not what we deserve. It is God's unmerited favour and goodwill toward us.

... Five aspects to God's saving grace

1. God's Grace is a free gift

Romans 3:24

The fundamental difference between Christianity and every other religion is that **Christianity is built upon grace**. Every other religion is based upon works.

Titus 3:4-7

He paid for our salvation on the cross and now grace is a free gift to us.

2. God's Grace is received by faith

Ephesians 2:8-9

Faith is the key that unlocks the door to heaven.

Salvation isn't based on our performance but on God's promise of grace.

3. God's Grace is available to everyone

Romans 10:12-13

God says His grace is available to anybody who opens up their heart in faith.

4. God's Grace comes through Christ

John 1:17

Why through Jesus?

On the cross, He paid for our sins. Grace is free, but it is not cheap. It cost Jesus His life!

Galatians 2:21

If we could be saved and could get to heaven on our own merits, the cross would be a waste of time! But there was no other way. We're either going to get into heaven in Christ, or we're not going.

Grace comes through Christ and only through Christ.

5. God's Grace is extended throughout eternity

Romans 6:23

The results of God's grace are going to go on and on forever.

Eternal life is one of the benefits of grace. You could say that grace is the gift that keeps on giving. God saves the best for last and the best is yet to come.

Have you ever thought of what is heaven really going to be like?

- It's going to be a place of reward. We are rewarded for the character that we developed and the way we served other people here on earth.
- It's going to be a place of release where we're free from all pain, all suffering, all sadness, all sorrow, all grief, all depression, all loneliness, etc.

Isaiah 30:18

God wants to be gracious to you. He's waiting for you to accept His grace. He enjoys being gracious.

... Take home point

We're never going to get a better deal than God's free gift of Grace! But it's up to us to open our life to the grace of God through Jesus Christ. It's our only hope. **How will you respond to God's free gift of grace?**