

# Lesson 62 - Grace

**The Day of Atonement** 

10/08/11 MEETING: PRESENT – I AM, Bob and Cindy

BT – Listen for My Word. How to live in these last days. Righteous and obedient. My people will know. They will discern right from wrong from serving me and serving themselves. It is now. Who will take hold of My hand? I AM reaching out for you. Step up be all that you can be for Me. My reward is great. If you only knew. Come now little ones, the time is now. CT – Majesty, King of King, Give praise to your Lord for forgiveness and mercy from everlasting to everlasting. Grace abounds through Jesus Christ. The Holy of Holies is in your heart where I dwell; keep it clean. Your heart is so important to where you are with me. Keep it clean and clear. Have mercy and grace for others just as I had it for you. Live my example. If you stumble, pick yourself up, brush yourself off (cleanliness of heart, mind and soul) and start back up. The closer the walk with me the further the distances will be between the stumbles. All that was (held) within the Holy of Holies should be held within your heart (Laws – obedience and righteousness; Mercy seat– Mercy; Budding stick – faith; and Me- I AM).

Today we are going to talk about grace but first let's look at several definitions of grace.

# Webster's Dictionary:

Grace is 1) unmerited divine assistance given humans for their regeneration or sanctification; a virtue coming from God; a state of sanctification enjoyed through divine grace. 2) approval, favor; mercy, pardon; a special favor, privilege; disposition to or an act or instance of kindness, courtesy, or clemency; a temporary exemption; reprieve. 3) a sense of propriety or right; the quality or state of being considerate or thoughtful.

### **Cornerstone Master Study Bible:**

Grace is the undeserved acceptance and love received from another, especially the characteristic attitude of God in providing salvation for sinners.

In secular Greek "grace" referred to something delightful or attractive in a person, something that brought pleasure to others and came to mean a favor or kindness done to another or of a gift that brought pleasure to another. Viewed by the recipient, "grace" referred to the thankfulness felt for a gift or favor.

This week the Lord delivered this message, Grace abounds through Jesus Christ. Thus we are being told unmerited divine assistance comes through Jesus Christ. Approval, favor, mercy, pardon, clemency, all come from and through our Lord Jesus; in spite of the fact that we do not deserve any of this. How awesome is that?!! Let's look at some of the elements of grace.

### **Undeserved Acceptance**

The bible tells us in **Romans 3:23** "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God", but it goes on to say that we are **24**"being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus". Basically, it is saying that we are receiving undeserved acceptance (because we are sinners) through the sacrifice and grace of Jesus Christ.

#### **Undeserved Love**

We have been told of His love for us in **John 3:16,17** "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." And in **Romans 5:8** But God demonstrates His own love towards us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. His love like His acceptance is undeserved because we are sinners. However, it is freely given.

### **Unmerited Mercy, Pardon, & Clemency**

Previously, we established that we are sinners. Therefore because we are sinners; because we fall short, this is why we desperately need God's mercy as noted in these verses from **Ephesians 2:1-9** And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the prince of power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. These verses above truly explained God's grace for us as disobedient sinners by reaffirming His love and mercy, just as the verses did above.

#### **Unmerited Divine Assistance**

The bible tells us in many places of unmerited divine assistance, lepers and paralytics healed, the mute spoke, and the blind could see. Jesus even raised Lazarus from the dead. Many have received unmerited divine assistance. The book of **Nehemiah 9** tells of the divine assistance the Israelites received as they were wandering through the wilderness. 11And You divided the sea before them, so that they went through the midst of the sea on the dry land; and their persecutors You threw into the deep, as a stone into the mighty waters. Moreover You led them by day with a cloudy pillar, and by night with a pillar of fire...15You gave them bread from heaven for their hunger, and brought them water out of the rock for their thirst... 20 You also gave Your good spirit to instruct them, and did not withhold your manna from their mouth, and gave them water for their thirst. 21 Forty years You sustained them in the wilderness; they lacked nothing; their clothes did not wear out and their feet did not swell. Our God is an awesome God. He assists us more than we will ever know or realize. In fact this reminds me of a message He gave me.

05/31/2011 CT DREAM – I was working in a hospital. The administration of the hospital had reduced the work force. They were pushing the remaining workers way past their limits. They

wanted bigger profits at the cost of quality. I was working with a baby and I ended up making a mistake because I was being asked to do too much (especially since I was not a nurse). I had given the baby a shot it didn't need and because it got the shot it was going to have to keep getting shots forever. I went home from work. I was feeling bad for the baby, I was very upset with myself for making such a stupid mistake and I was upset with the hospital for forcing their employees to work in this type of environment. Then when I got home Bob was there with a man and a lady, both looked wild and rebellious. They were all smoking and drinking. I was in a bad mood from work and seeing Bob with these two people smoking and drinking was not improving my mood any. For some reason I got in my purse; the woman, who looked like a hoochie momma, asked me for money. Then as she started pressuring me to give her money, Bob took her side; he told me to give her money even though I didn't really have enough to share. I got even madder because he had taken her side and was not supportive of me. I opened up my wallet and took out every cent I had which wasn't very much. I threw it down on a table and said fine take it; at which point, I left the house and went and got in my car. The car started driving forward without me changing gears or putting my foot on the gas pedal. It was as if it was moving forward because of my state of mind. I started working at changing the gearshift and slamming my foot on the brake. The car finally stopped and I woke up. I asked the Lord what that dream meant. I couldn't figure it out. I had gotten so mad in my dream that it actually gave me a headache in real life. The Lord told me that I did not realize all that He had protected us from by moving us to Grapeland. He let me know that we had received many blessings and protections by moving here, more than I could know. More than we would ever begin to realize.

Bob and I are no different or no better than you. The Lord gives generously to all. His grace is undeserved and unmerited yet He gives it freely.

## The Holy of Holies

The Lord also spoke of the Holy of Holies this week. He said, The Holy of Holies is in your heart where I dwell; keep it clean. Your heart is so important to where you are with me. Keep it clean and clear. And He explained this further when He said, All that was (held) within the Holy of Holies should be held within your heart (Laws – obedience and righteousness; Mercy seat – Mercy; Budding stick – faith; and Me- I AM).

I think with the words above that the Lord is painting a picture for us. He is revealing what is to be held in our heart. Those items that were within the Holy of Holies are symbolic for what should be in our hearts.

**Mercy seat** – Mercy (I think the Mercy seat is also symbolic of love and sacrifice) **Aaron's Budding Stick** – Faith

**Manna** – Provisions for others (The Lord did not state manna in the words He gave this week, however, it was in the Holy of Holies and I believe it also paints a picture of what should be in our hearts. The Lord provided for those wandering in the wilderness. Likewise we should provide for others who are wandering in their wildernesses. The Lord did expressed this in the words He gave this week when He said, Have mercy and grace for others just as I had it for you. We are to make provisions for others just as the Lord did for us. Remember this is a symbolic picture not limited to "manna" or food.

<u>Laws</u> – The laws are symbolic of our obedience and righteousness. Therefore the law plays a necessary part in keeping our hearts clean. Just as the Lord taught us this week when He said, The Holy of Holies is in your heart where I dwell; keep it clean. However, some believe

grace does away with the law as explained on the THH website at <a href="http://www.takehisheart.com/fundamentalistopposite.htm">http://www.takehisheart.com/fundamentalistopposite.htm</a>

Years ago the Lord revealed to me that the preaching of grace, love, and judgment are totally out of balance. Judgment has to do with God's laws, His statutes, His Word. So we can visualize the preacher who preached this, "Don't get into legalism, it will bring pressure!" going through street intersections disregarding the laws saying, "Grace, grace, grace, I don't want any pressure!" You know what will happen!

I have heard many Christians say, "Don't get under the law!" What they don't understand is that you get <u>under the law by breaking the law</u>, not by fulfilling it. Ask anyone in jail when they got under the law! If these men obey their own words, or ideas of what the Bible says concerning the law, they are in trouble because of the law of faith.

### Romans 3: 27

Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith.

So if they work the law of faith, according to them, they would be under the law rather than fulfilling it.

The Lord is now writing His laws and statutes in the hearts of those who will let Him. He is preparing a church, spotless and holy for Himself.

### Ephesians 5:

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

The church must <u>focus on becoming spotless</u>. She cannot be holy and without blemish while breaking God's laws and statutes any more than Jesus could be. Jesus said the way is narrow that leads to life. It's time we embrace God's laws and statutes through love as Jesus did! It's time for fundamentalists to change their attitude towards the law! It's time for the church to walk on Mount Zion.

The Lord tied this all together when He said this, Listen for My Word. How to live in these last days. Righteous and obedient. My people will know. They will discern right from wrong from serving me and serving themselves. We cannot serve Him and have a bad heart.

## Considerate & Thoughtful

This is the final element of grace we will be studying and it involves this part of the definition from above: a sense of propriety or right; the quality or state of being considerate or thoughtful. I believe we can see this part of the definition from these words the Lord gave us this week when He said, They will discern right from wrong from serving me and serving themselves and these Have mercy and grace for others just as I had it for you. Live my example. Being considerate and thoughtful is part of what is to be in our heart. It is grace within us. Grace was described above in the verses from Ephesians and I saved the final line of that paragraph for here which says:

**Ephesians 2:10** For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

This was the conclusion to Paul's statement of the gift of grace, that we are to walk as Christ walk. Therefore we are to Have mercy and grace for others just as I had it for you. Live my example.

Who will take hold of My hand? I AM reaching out for you. Step up be all that you can be for Me.

May each of us step up, keep our hearts clean and clear, holding onto our Holy of Holies.

May the Lord Bless and Keep You, Cindy

http://www.takehisheart.com