

The Christian's Relation to Grace

- Christians Stand in Grace
- We Must Continue in Grace
- We Must Grow in Grace
- We Must Be Strong in Grace
- False Ideas About Grace

As Christians, we must never lose sight of the amazing nature of God's grace.
Without it, we would have no hope.

Grace is God's unmerited favor, extended to us through Jesus Christ
—a gift we could never earn, but so desperately need.
—Grace can be described as, When God gives us what we need, instead of what we deserve.

In [Titus 3:1–8](#), Paul reminds the church to be ready for every good work,
not because we deserve salvation, but because God has shown us mercy.

Paul had just described how we were once foolish and disobedient,
but God's kindness and love appeared—not because of our works, but by His mercy and Grace.

- “That being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.” ([Titus 3:7](#))

Using the Scriptures as our guide,
Let us now walk through, four major aspects, of “*The Christian's Relationship to Grace*”.

We begin by recognizing that the life of a Christian begins with grace, and so therefore...

I. **Christians Stand in Grace**

—that is, grace continues to be the foundation, on which we stand, day by day.

From [Rom.5:1-2](#), Paul teaches on justification by faith,
showing that Christians, now enjoy peace, and a standing with God, through grace.

- He said, “Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ:
By Whom also we have **ACCESS by faith**, into this **Grace** wherein we **STAND**,
and rejoice in hope, of the glory of God.”

From [1Pet.5:12](#), Peter reminds suffering Christians to remain grounded,
knowing they stand firmly, in the genuine Grace of God.

- He said, “This is the **TRUE Grace** of God, wherein ye **STAND**.” ([1Pet.5:12](#))

Before we can stand in Grace, we must first **Enter** into it.

This is done through obedient, trusting faith IN Christ—not by our own goodness.

A. **Grace is Accessed by Faith**

From [Eph.2:8](#), Paul is reminding Gentile believers, that salvation comes through God's mercy
—not works, lineage, or law—but through faith.

- “For by **Grace**, are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the **Gift** of God.” ([Eph.2:8](#))

The text from [Rom.3:24-26](#), follows Paul's explanation, that all have sinned and fallen short.
Grace becomes the solution, through the atonement of Christ.

- He said, “Being justified freely by His grace, through the redemption that is IN Christ Jesus...
that He might be just, and the justifier of him, which believeth IN Jesus.”

From [Acts chapter 10](#), we learn that God had just shown Peter in a vision,
that He now accepts all people who obey Him, not just the Jews.

As Peter begins preaching, to the Gentile household of Cornelius, he declares this powerful truth:

- “God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation,
he that **Feareth** Him, and **Worketh righteousness**, is **Accepted** with Him.” ([Acts 10:34-35](#))

Grace is offered to all, but it is accessed by faith
—a faith that trusts, obeys, and submits to the righteousness of God.

After entering grace by faith,

B. We Remain in Grace, through Living by Faith

...Our continued faithfulness—our daily walk—is what keeps us grounded in grace.

From [Rom.6:14–16](#), Paul addresses a misconception: that grace excuses sin.

He firmly states, that grace Delivers us, from sin's control, NOT into it.

- “For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under Grace... Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are...?”

Grace sustains our walk with God—but only when we choose to live in obedience, NOT rebellion.

Having entered into grace, we must NOT Fall, from it.

II. We Must Continue in Grace

The New Testament makes it clear, that Grace is something, we CAN leave behind, if we are not careful.

After preaching in Antioch, Paul urges the new believers, to remain steadfast in God's favor and truth.

- The Bible says, “Paul and Barnabas... persuaded them to **Continue** in the **Grace of God**.” ([Acts 13:43](#))

A proud heart resists God's authority, but...

A. Humility Invites Grace

Obedience is the pathway, to remaining in grace.

From [Jas.4:6–7](#), James warns against worldliness and pride, urging believers to turn back to God, with humble hearts.

- He said, “God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God.”

Grace continues in the heart, that yields to God, and walks in humility—NOT pride.

B. Living In Grace Requires Service

Not only to God, but to one another.

...This is part of what grace teaches us to do.

From [1Pet.5:5–6](#), Peter emphasizes the attitude that pleases God.

- “Be clothed with humility... humble yourselves... that He may exalt you, in due time.”

Paul reminds believers, that Christian liberty is not a license to sin, but a call to serve.

- He said, “By love, serve one another.” ([Gal.5:13](#))

Submission is NOT weakness—it is the Strength of Grace, in Action.

Some believe that grace gives permission to sin—but the opposite is true.

C. Grace Empowers Us To Overcome Sin

From [Rom.6:1–2, 6](#), Paul dismantles the false idea, that more sin, brings more grace. Instead, grace calls for transformation.

- He said, “**Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?**
God forbid... Our old man is crucified with Him... that we should NOT serve sin.”

To continue in grace, we must leave sin behind.
A life of willful sin, removes us from God’s favor.

Grace is not static.

Just as we mature physically and emotionally,

III. We Must Grow in Grace (spiritually)

—maturing in our understanding, love, and service.

Peter encourages growth, as the safeguard against false teaching.

- He said, “**But GROW in Grace, and in the Knowledge, of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.**” ([2Pet.3:18](#))

The only way to grow in grace is to...

A. Grow by Using God’s Word

We must move from spiritual milk, to solid food.

From [Heb 5:12–14](#), The writer rebukes immature believers, who should have grown by now.

- The Bible says, “**Strong meat belongeth to them, that are of full age... who by reason of use, have their senses exercised...**”

Growth in Grace, comes through Study, Application, and Practice of God’s word.

True growth begins in the heart with...

B. Sincere Love for Jesus Christ

Paul’s closing prayer, ties grace to a genuine heart of love, for Christ.

- He said, “**Grace be with all them, that love our Lord Jesus Christ, in Sincerity.**” ([Eph.6:24](#))

Growth in Grace, flows from a deeper devotion, and a heart that genuinely Loves the Lord.

Maturing in grace, means refining our hearts with...

C. Humble Removal of Sin

—removing the impurities, that hinder our spiritual walk.

James calls for repentance and genuine transformation, in those who have strayed.

- He said, “**CLEANSE your hands... PURIFY your hearts... HUMBLE yourselves in the sight of the Lord.**” ([Jas.4:8-10](#))

Growth in Grace, is accompanied by repentance and a hunger for purity.

Grace also leads us to...

D. Serve God with Reverence

—with awe, not apathy or unconcern.

[Heb.12:28](#), follows a warning about not refusing the voice of God—calling us to serve with deep respect.

- “Let us have **Grace**, whereby we may **Serve** God acceptably, with reverence and godly fear.”

Grace doesn't make us casual—it makes us careful, humble, and reverent.

As grace grows, so does...

E. Serving Others Generously

Christians give, because they have received.

Paul commends the Macedonian churches, for their sacrificial giving—motivated by grace.

- He said, “They **Gave** of their own selves... For ye know the **Grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, yet for your sakes, He became poor...” (read [2Cor.8:1-2, 5, 9](#))

Grace transforms the heart, to Give, Share, and Serve selflessly.

A heart full of grace, is a heart that praises and...

F. Worships with Thanksgiving

Paul teaches that worship should be rooted, in thankfulness, flowing from a heart, touched by Grace.

- “Singing with **Grace** in your hearts, to the Lord.” ([Col.3:16](#))

When grace fills the heart, worship becomes natural and joyful.

The Christian life is not easy.

IV. We Must Be Strong in Grace

We need strength, that comes from God's grace—to endure, teach, and remain faithful.

From [2Tim.2:1](#), Paul is writing to Timothy, urging him to find strength in God's Grace, for the ministry ahead.

- “Thou therefore, my son, be **Strong** in the **Grace**, that is **IN** Christ Jesus.”

Grace empowers us to,

A. Teach Others

—to pass on the truth to others, who can continue the work.

- “Commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able, to **Teach** others also.” ([2Tim.2:2](#))
- “When for the time, ye ought to be **Teachers**...” ([Heb.5:12](#))

Strong Grace, doesn't keep to itself—it Teaches, Shares, and Builds Up others.

We need grace to carry us through, to...

B. Endure Hardships

Ministry is hard, and life is harder.

- “Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.” ([2Tim.2:3](#))

Strength from Grace, allows us to endure—not give up—when life gets difficult.

To remain strong in grace, we must keep our focus and...

C. Avoid Worldly Entanglements

—avoiding distractions, that pull us away, from God’s Grace.

The Bible says,

- “No man that warreth, entangleth himself, with the affairs of this life...” ([2Tim.2:4](#))

The Strength of Grace, keeps us unburdened, by worldly distractions.

Even when things get difficult, we must...

D. Live According to God’s Rules

—living and working within God’s revealed Truth.

The Bible says,

- “Yet, is he not crowned, except he **Strive Lawfully.**” ([2Tim.2:5](#))

Grace strengthens us, to walk the narrow path, NOT cut corners.

Grace doesn't make us lazy—it drives us to...

E. Labor More Diligently

The Bible says,

- “The husbandman (or farmer) that laboureth (that is, diligently works hard), must be first, partaker of the fruits.” ([2Tim.2:6](#))

The Christian who labors in the Lord, will taste the joy of the harvest—both now and eternally.

Having established the truth about grace, we now turn to,

V. False Ideas About Grace

Grace must be understood Biblically—not through religious tradition.

Grace does NOT mean,

A. “Obedience Is Not Necessary”

The Bible confirms,

- Jesus “became the **AUTHOR** of eternal salvation, unto all them that **OBEY Him.**” ([Heb.5:9](#))

Grace saves—but only those who obey Christ.

Grace does NOT mean,

B. "Once Saved, Always Saved"

The Bible confirms, it is possible to have,

- "...**Fallen from Grace.**" ([Gal.5:4](#); see also [Heb.3:12-14](#); [Heb.6:4-6](#); [Col.1:21-23](#))
- "...some shall **Depart** from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils." ([1Tim.4:1](#))

A person can depart from grace, through sin, unbelief or false teaching.

Grace does NOT mean,

C. "Sin Doesn't Matter"

The Bible confirms the possibility of...

- "Turning the **Grace** of our God, into lasciviousness..." ([Jude vs.4](#))

Misusing grace, to excuse sin, is condemned.

Grace does NOT mean,

D. "A Feeling or Emotion"

The Bible confirms,

- "The **Grace of God**... **Teaching** us that, denying ungodliness... we should **Live** soberly, righteously, and godly..." ([Titus 2:11-12](#))

So, **Grace** is **instructional**, and leads to holy living.

VI. Final Thoughts

The Bible is full of great comfort, for the those, faithfully abiding in God's grace.

- "God is faithful... Who will with the temptation, also make a way to escape..." ([1Cor.10:13](#))
- "That being justified by His **Grace**, we should be made heirs, according to the hope of eternal life." ([Titus 3:7](#))

The Christian life **Begins** and **Continues** IN Grace.

Let us Stand in it—Continue in it—Grow in it—be Strong in it—and Guard it, against error.

May we never misuse the grace of God, but instead walk worthy of it, to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

If you have a spiritual need, **The Lord invites**, and we await to assist.

Won't you **Come**...

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| Believing (Heb.11:6), Repenting (Lk.13:3), Confessing (Acts 8:37) , and Be Baptized INTO Christ (Gal.3:26-27) |
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...while we stand and sing.