

INTRO: WHY SO MUCH FUSS ABOUT GRACE??? September 14, 2014

1. Questions For Thought
 1. If You Were To Rate Your Acceptance By God On A Scale Of 1-10 (With 10 Being The Best), How Would You Rate Yourself?
 2. Do You Feel Like God Loves You But Is Sometimes Disappointed In You?
2. 1st We Want To Lay A Foundation For Grace.
Why Is Grace So Critically Important?
Why Do We Need Grace?
The Way We Understand Grace Will Affect Our Entire Christian Life!!!
3. We Will Talk About **Man's Unsaved Condition**
Is Man Basically Good And Just Needs A Little Help Or Is Unsaved Man In "Total Depravity?"
Does Man Have A Free Will?
4. We Will Talk About The **Law**
What Is The Purpose Of The Law?
Is It For Christians?
5. We Will Talk About **Salvation**
How Has The Gospel Been Confused And Misrepresented In Churches Today?
We Need A Clear Understanding Of The Gospel To Share With The World!
How Were People Saved In The Old Testament?
6. We Will Talk About The **Glorious New Covenant** Compared To The Law.
Much Of The Organized Church Lives Partly In The New And Partly In The Old!!!
7. Finally We Will Talk About The Necessity Of Understanding **Grace** And Receiving And Maintaining A Revelation Of This Most Important Truth!
Much Like A Worldview It Will Affect Our Entire Walk With The Lord!

3. MAN'S UNSAVED CONDITION - FACTS

1. Adam Was Created In God's Image – Seth Was Born In Adam's Likeness, After His Image (Genesis 5:1,3)
2. Alienated From God (Col. 1:21 / Ephesians 4:18)
3. All Have Sinned – Fallen Short Of God's Glory – Sinner (Rom. 3:23)
4. Blind – Spiritual Eyes Closed (II Cor. 4:4 / Ephesians 4:18 / John12:40)
5. Born In Sin (Psalms 51:5)
6. Cannot Receive Things From God (I Cor. 2:14)
7. Carnal (Rom. 7:5, 8:7 / I Pet. 1:14)
8. Children Of Satan – Not God's Children – Under Satan's Dominion (John 8:44, 47 / I John 5:19)
9. Children Of Wrath (Eph. 2:3 / John 3:36)
10. Condemned (John 3:18, 5:29 / Luke 6:37)
11. Controlled By Sinful Desires – Enslaved By Passions – Evil Desires – Wicked Activities - Imprisoned By Sin – Slaves – Under The Power Of Sin (John 8:34 / Gal. 3:22 / Prov. 5:22 / Rom. 3:9 / Rom. 6:17 / II Tim. 2:26 / Titus 3:3 / Romans 7:8)
12. Cursed (Galatians 3:10)

13. Darkened Mind - No Understanding (John 8:43 / Rom. 3:11 / Ephesians 4:18)
14. Dead In Trespasses – Sins (Eph. 2:1, 4 / Col. 2:13-15 / I John 3:14-15)
15. Deceitful Heart (Jer. 17:9 / Rom. 3:13-14)
16. Deceived (Titus 3:3)
17. Defiled Conscience (Titus 1:15-16)
18. Desperately Wicked – Great Wickedness (Jer. 17:9)
19. Destruction And Misery Mark Their Paths (Rom. 3:16)
20. Disobedient – Sons Of Disobedience (Titus 3:3 / Ephesians 2:2)
21. Do Not Know Peace – No Peace (Is. 57:21 / Rom. 3:17)
22. Do Not Seek For God (Rom. 3:11)
23. Enemies Of God – Hostile To God (Rom. 5:10, 8:7 /Colossians 1:21-22)
24. Every Inclination Of Man’s Heart Is Evil – Evil Thoughts (Gen. 6:5 / Mark 7:20-23)
25. Feet Are Quick To Shed Blood (Rom. 3:15)
26. Filthy (Ps. 53:3)
27. Foolish (Titus 3:3)
28. Hate God (John 15:23)
29. In Adam (1 Cor. 15:22)
30. In Darkness (Eph. 5:8)
31. Incapable Of Changing Himself Spiritually (Jeremiah 13:23)
32. Incapable Of Responding To God On Their Own (John 6:44, 65)
33. Like Sheep Without A Shepherd (Matt. 9:36)
34. Living An Empty Way Of Life (1 Peter 1:18)
35. Lost (Luke 19:10 / Matthew 18:11)
36. Love Darkness – Sin (John 3:19)
37. No Fear/Reverence For God (Romans 3:18)
38. No Hope (Eph. 2:12)
39. Perishing (John 3:16)
40. Powerless – Without Strength (Rom. 5:6)
41. Rejecters Of Christ (John 12:48)
42. Righteousness As Filthy Rags (Is. 64:6)
43. Self-Seeking (Romans 2:8)
44. Separated From Christ – Without God – Estranged (Eph. 2:12 / Colossians 1:21-22)
45. Their Speech Is: An Open Grave, Sting Of A Poison Snake, Cursing, Bitterness (Rom. 3:13-14)
46. Turned Aside Or Away – Gone Astray (Is. 53:6 / Rom. 3:12)
47. Unbeliever (Hebrews 3:19)
48. Ungodly – Unrighteous (Rom. 5:6 / Rom. 3:10, 12)
49. Without God In The World (Ephesians 2:12)
50. Worthless – Unprofitable – Useless – Wrong – Corrupt (Rom. 3:12)

MAN'S UNSAVED CONDITION – QUESTIONS:

1. What is Sin?
2. How many Sins do you have to commit to be a sinner?
3. Is “Sin” what we do or who we are?
4. Describe man’s unsaved condition
5. Is unsaved man “Totally Deprived?”
6. Are all sins willful or do we sometimes sin by accident?
7. Have you filed spiritual bankruptcy? Chapter 11 or Chapter 7?

MAN'S UNSAVED CONDITION – CONCLUSIONS

1. All Men Have Sinned
2. His Sin Separates Him From God
3. Man Is Also Born In Sin From Adam
4. All Of Man’s Best Efforts Are Filthy Rags
5. Man Is Spiritually Dead
6. Man Is in “Total Depravity” And Needs God To Rescue Him
7. Man Is Spiritually Bankrupt
 - Chapter 11 Temporary – Basically Healthy Company –Given Time Can Work Through Its Financial Difficulties
 - Chapter 7 Deep In Debt – No Future As A Viable Business – Came To An End Of Its Financial Rope

4 - THE PURPOSE/RESULT OF THE LAW:

1. Shows Us What Sin Is (Romans 3:20, 7:7)
2. Caused Sin To Increase Because Sins Were Not Imputed Before The Law (Romans 5:20)
3. To Give Sin Power (1 Corinthians 15:56)
4. Shows Man's Sinful Condition (Galatians 3:19)
5. Show The Sinfulness Of Sin (Romans 7:13)
6. To Make Man Unjust (Galatians 2:16 / 3:11, 20)
7. Judge Sinful Behavior (Romans 2:12)
8. To Leave Men With No Excuse – Stop Every Mouth (Romans 3:19)
9. To Show Everyone Their Guilt Before God - Condemns (Romans 3:19 / Galatians 3:19)
10. Aroused/Stirred Up Sinful Desires (Romans 7:5, 8, 9, 11) - New Red Bike
11. Killed Me (Romans 7:9-11)
12. To Put Man Under A Curse – Must Obey It All 100% (Galatians 3:10)
13. Brings God's Anger - Wrath (Romans 4:15)
14. Ministry Of Death – Condemnation (2 Corinthians 3:7, 9)
15. To Restrain Ungodly And Sinful People (1 Timothy 1:9-10)
16. Guardian/Custodian To Bring Us To Christ (Galatians 3:23-24)
17. A Shadow Of Good Things To Come (Hebrews 10:1)
18. Alienates Us From Christ (Galatians 5:4) - For Believers
19. Causes Us To "Fall From Grace" (Galatians 5:4) – For Believer

MORE FACTS ABOUT THE LAW:

1. No One Is Made Righteous By It - Justified – Does Not Impart Life (Romans 3:20, 28 / Galatians 2:15-16, 3:11, 21)
2. Called Weak And Unprofitable (Hebrews 7:18-19)
3. The Flesh Does Not Submit To The Law (Romans 8:7)
4. Following The Law Is Either 0% Or 100% - 1 Sin Makes You 100% Guilty (Galatians 3:12 / James 2:10)
5. Brings A Curse To Those Who Don't Follow It 100% (Galatians 3:10, 13)
6. The Punishment For Those Who Break It Is Death (Romans 6:23)
7. Not Of Faith (Galatians 3:12)
8. Law Requires Shedding Of Blood For Forgiveness (Hebrews 9:22)
9. Produces Self-Righteousness (Philippians 3:9)
10. The Law Is For Non-Christians/Unbelievers (1 Timothy 1:9)
11. Jesus Came Not To Destroy The Law But To Fulfill It (Matthew 5:17)
12. In Effect From Moses Until Christ Came (Galatians 3:19)
13. The Law Was Added 430 Years After "The Promise"
14. The Law Is Not Opposed To Promises Of God (Galatians 3:21)
15. Does Not Nullify "The Promise" (Galatians 3:15-18)
16. The Law Is Righteous, Holy And Good (Romans 7:12)
17. The Law Is Spiritual (Romans 7:14)
18. Christians Are Not Under The Law – Ended For Christians When They Believe – Released From It – Died To It (Romans 7:4,6, 10:4 / Galatians 2:19, 3:25, 5:18)

19. Christ Ended The Struggle To Be Righteous To The Law For Believers (Romans 10:4)
20. We Were Married To The Law Now We Are Married To Christ (Romans 7:1-4)
21. Have No Relation To Your Former Spouse: The Law/Adultery (Romans 7:3)
22. Cast Out The Law - Isaac & Ishmael Story (Galatians 4:21-31)
23. Fulfilled By Those Who Live According To The Spirit (Romans 8:4)
24. "Falling From Grace" Has To Do With Following The Law Instead Of Trusting Christ 100% (Galatians 5:4)

MORE ABOUT THE LAW AND SELF EFFORT:

Trying to be perfect on our own is like throwing a rock at the moon –

one may throw it 20 ft. or another 200 ft. but it all falls short of the mark!!

Under the Law, God demands righteousness but man cannot produce it!!!

Jesus was born under the law.

We have died to the Law and are married to Christ – to continue under the Law is spiritual bigamy (adultery).

There is nothing we can do to add to or diminish Salvation.

It is not by Law abiding deeds that a person remains justified, but by faith!!!

If Salvation hinged on our obedience no one would go to Heaven!!!

The "Works" God Wants you to do is Believe in Jesus (John 6:29).

Living under the Law is looking outward to standards and attempting to lift ourselves to that height.

Leaning toward the Law is laziness. It is much easier then following the Holy Spirit.

As an unbeliever you were married to Mr. Law but you died when you became a believer. Now you have married another - Mr. Grace (Jesus).

Paul warned the Galatian church about (falling back into works and the Law) taking up in the flesh what God had accomplished in the Spirit – Making faith a set of rules (do's and don'ts) - Taking credit for things we do in our own strength - Trying to please God by our own efforts.

Law condemns the best of us - Grace saves the worst of us!!!

Law focuses on performance (what we do). Grace focuses on relationship (what Jesus has done).

Religion says we are holding onto God. Grace declares God is holding us!!!

Legalism = Self Effort

The message of the Gospel is not about "doing" - but "done" (IT IS FINISHED)!!

Good Works are not a "Root" of Salvation, they are a "Fruit."

Beware of Mixture - Grace & Law – A little leaven... (Galatians 5:1-9)

I would say the Law's 2 biggest weaknesses were:

1. Fallen man could not fully obey it
2. It could not forgive or save

Total Depravity – Unregenerate Man Cannot Produce Anything Pleasing To God In And Of Himself

Unregenerate Man Is Dead Spiritually And Unable To Respond To God

Every Part Of Man – His Mind, Will, Emotions And Flesh Have Been Corrupted By Sin.

Who We Are And What We Do Are Tainted By Sin Because Of The Fall

This Does Not Mean Man Is Unable To Do Good Things In Man's Evaluation

THE LAW – QUESTIONS:

1. What part has the Law played in your life?
2. Has anyone ever been saved by obeying the Law?
3. What does the Law demand to make someone righteous?
4. Does the Law produce Life or Death? (Romans 7:10)
4. Has anyone ever fully obeyed the Law?
5. What is the purpose of the Law?
6. Was the Law ever given to Gentiles?
7. What is the weakness of the Law?
8. Who is the Law for? (1 Timothy 1:9)
8. What ends our relationship/marriage with the Law? (Rom 7:1-6)
9. Our relationship with the Law is like Abraham's to Ishmael. What does scripture tell us to do? (Gal. 4:29-30)
10. What does it mean "Christ came not to destroy the Law – but to fulfill it?" (Matt. 5:17)
11. What part should the Law have in the life of a Christian?
12. What did the Jerusalem council in Acts 15 decide about the Law for Gentiles?
13. Why may we not want "The Ten Commandments" to be one of the 1st things we teach our children?
14. What replaces the Law in a believer's life?
15. Why is it easier to live by rules than by the Holy Spirit?

CONCLUSIONS ABOUT THE LAW: