

Knowing Jesus Bible Study Guide #8 The Law and Grace

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Today we are going to look at the role of grace and the Law in the plan of salvation and highlight the two ditches that we can fall into if we misunderstand this important subject.



GRACE - to understand grace we need to understand it from the perspective of the Old Testament where Ezra uses it to describe the salvation they have received.

*7 Since the days of our fathers to this day we have been very guilty, and for our iniquities we, our kings, and our priests have been delivered into the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity, to plunder, and to humiliation, as it is this day. 8 And now for a little while **grace** has been shown from the LORD our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a peg in His holy place, that our God may enlighten our eyes and give us a measure of revival in our bondage. 9 For we were slaves. Yet our God did not forsake us in our bondage; but He extended mercy to us in the sight of the kings of Persia, to revive us, to repair the house of our God, to rebuild its ruins, and to give us a wall in Judah and Jerusalem. 10*

The New King James Version. (1982). (Ezra 9:7–10). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

1. Here we see that Grace has three characteristics.

- We receive _____ from God
- Grace _____ us
- Grace _____ us (gives us new strength to overcome)

2. Let's see if this is how grace is used in the New Testament.

- Acts: 11:23 - Whose grace is it? _____
- Acts 15:11 - How were both Jews and Gentiles saved, by _____
- 2 Corinthians 12:9 - Grace is the power of Christ that _____ in us.

3. To be saved by grace also implies being declared righteous before God. What word is used in the Bible to describe this reality.

ANSWER: Romans 3:24 - being _____.

The word justification in the New Testament means that you are declared righteous and are given a righteousness that is not your own. Example: If you are standing before a judge for a crime committed and the judge declares you not guilty you are justified in the sight of the law. This is what happens to everyone who repents of their sin and accepts what Jesus has done for them on the cross.

4. Grace really is another word to describe _____.

Proof: Galatians 2:21 - All righteousness comes through the death of Christ.

As you can see from the above texts, grace really is talking about Jesus Christ. We receive grace from Jesus. It is Jesus who saves us and we are revived and empowered by Christ in us. The righteousness we have before God is the righteousness of Christ. Grace is really just another word for Jesus. Therefore there is absolutely no way anyone can be saved outside of grace.

5. Why can't a person be justified before God by keeping the Ten Commandments perfectly?

ANSWER: Romans 3:21-25 - Because all have _____.

6. Does faith in Jesus do away with the Law in the life of a Christian?

ANSWER: Romans 3:31 - YES _____ NO _____

7. What is the plan of God for the ultimate work of grace in our lives?

ANSWER: Ephesians 2:8-10 That through grace we would do good _____.

The result of grace is not works we do to appease God but rather works that God does through us by the power of Christ in our lives.

8. Is grace then like an umbrella insurance policy that allows us to sin all we want and still be saved?

ANSWER: Romans 6:1-2; 15 Yes _____ No _____

9. What then is the purpose of the Ten Commandments in the plan of salvation?

ANSWER: Romans 3:20 - The Law tells us what _____ is.

10 Can the law possibly be done away with?

ANSWER: Galatians 3:24-25 - The Law shows us our need of a _____.

11. When is a Christian under the Law? Is it for obedience to the Law?

ANSWER: Romans 3:19 - A Christians is under the Law when they _____.

12: What is the one condition where a Christian can say they are not under the Law?

ANSWER: Galatians 5:18 - When they are led by the _____.

The Gospel is so clear. The expectation is that a Christian does not sin because they are born again by the Spirit and walk according to the Spirit. It is possible for a Christian to sin and when they do they are under the Law. Fortunately John writes in 1 John 1:9 that if we repent and confess our sins God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

13: What is the result of willful sin in the life of a Christian? What is it called?

ANSWER: Hebrews 10:26-29 It is called _____ the Spirit of grace.

When a Christian chooses a tradition or teaching through which they then break the commandments given us by Christ - (this includes the Ten Commandments), or they simply choose to live in sin as a Christian they are really fooling themselves. They are spitting on grace and really are only going to judgment.

14. What is James' last word to Christians?

ANSWER: James 2:8-12 - Speak and act as if you were being judged by the _____ Commandments.

ANSWERS KEY: 1.A) grace; 1.B) saves; 1.C) revives; 2.A) God's; 2.B) grace; 2.C) dwells; 3.) Justified; 4.) Jesus; 5.) Sinned; 6.) NO. 7.) Works 8.) NO; 9.) Sin 10.) Savior; 11.) Sin; 12.) Spirit; 13.) Insulting; 14.) Ten