

Subject: God's Amazing Grace

Scripture: Titus 2:11-15

“Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.” It’s one of our favorite songs. But let’s be honest. Does the grace of God really amaze us? It should. The Christian life is grace all the way, God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense. The grace of God is one of those things we sometimes take for granted. Vance Havner said that we know some things so well we assume that what is a fact in our heads is a force in our hearts. Is the grace of God just a fact in your head or a force in your heart?

1. We are saved by God’s grace

Titus 2:11 *For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men.*

This is a special kind of grace. It brings salvation. God’s grace falls into two categories: common grace for believers and unbelievers and saving grace for those who are saved. The grace of God is for all people. That doesn’t mean that all people will be saved, but salvation is not limited to one group of people or one kind of people. John 3:16 does not mean that the whole world will be saved, but God loves the world and sent Jesus for people all over the world. God’s saving grace draws us to Christ, softens and opens our heart to the truth, and convicts us of sin and our need of Christ. Saving grace is the only difference between you and a lost person.

Ephesians 2:8-9⁸ *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:*⁹ *Not of works, lest any man should boast.*

You can’t save yourself any more than you can reach down and lift yourself up off the ground. Grace is the unmerited, undeserved favor of God toward guilty, hell-bound sinners. We are saved by God’s grace, but that’s not all.

2. We are sanctified by God’s grace

Titus 2:12 *Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.*

Titus 2:14 *Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.*

God loves us just the way we are, but He doesn’t leave us the way we are. The grace of God not only pardons and justifies us, but it teaches us to live a godly life. There is a negative aspect of being sanctified and there is a positive aspect to it. We must deny ungodliness (what is not like God) and worldly lusts (desires of the world). We must live soberly (clear thinking), righteously (doing what God says is right), and godly (like God).

God’s grace is not a license to keep on sinning. **Romans 6:1-2**¹ *What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?*² *God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?*

Being sanctified is a process that takes place as long as we are in “this present world.” There is a present world and a future world. Life in the future world motivates us to live in the present world. We look forward to Christ’s return and we look forward to our new home.

Titus 2:13 *Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ.*

2 Peter 3:13-14¹³ *Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.*¹⁴ *Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.*

Matthew 6:33 *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*

3. We serve by God's grace

We are saved by grace and not by works, but God's grace is not an excuse for laziness.

Titus 2:14 *Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.*

Titus 3:7-8⁷ *That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*⁸ *This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.*

1 Corinthians 15:10 *But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.*

Hebrews 12:28 *Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.*

2 Corinthians 9:8 *And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work.*

4. We are strengthened by God's grace

2 Timothy 2:1 *Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.* This is spiritual strength, not physical strength.

2 Peter 3:18 *But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.*

5. We speak by God's grace

Ephesians 4:29 *Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.*

Colossians 4:6 *Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.*

6. We sing by God's grace

Colossians 3:16 *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.*

7. We suffer by God's grace

2 Corinthians 12:9 *And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*

We don't know for sure what Paul's problem was, but we do know the solution to his problem. No matter how great or how long our suffering may be, God's grace is always enough.

God's grace is really amazing. By grace God saves, sanctifies, strengthens, and enables us to serve, speak, sing, and suffer for Christ. It's no wonder Paul always began his letters with the greeting, "Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ."

We all need God's grace and there is an infinite supply.

John 1:16 *And of his fullness have all we received, and grace for grace. We have one kind of grace in place of another.*

1 Peter 4:10 *As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. "Manifold" means many-colored. For every shade of trial there is a shade of grace. For every kind of assignment there is a special kind of grace.*

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come
Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home.*