

KNOWING GOD LSN 8

67

THE GRACE OF GOD

GRACE

67

- A. **Short Definition: God's unmerited kindness**
- B. **Long Definition: God's commitment to do good to those who do not deserve it**

GRACE

68

- **God's grace offers wholly undeserved blessing.**
- **God's grace also offers "disproportionate blessing" – see Matthew 20:15, "Because I am generous!"**

GRACE

68

- **Mercy is popularly presented as a counterpart to saving grace, i.e., mercy withholds what we deserve and grace gives us what we don't deserve.**
- **"Mercy" is connected to salvation in passages like Titus 3:5 – "He saved us. . . according to His mercy."**
- **But the core idea of this term centers more on compassion for those in distress.**

GRACE – KEY VSS

68

- *After you have suffered for a little while, **the God of all grace**, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you (1 Pet. 5:10).*
- **The God of all grace provides every gift needed in any situation.**

GRACE – KEY VSS

68

- *"Ho! Every one who thirsts, come to the waters; And you who have no money come, buy and eat. Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost (Isa. 55:1).*
- **God blesses those who are wholly undeserving and bids them go on a shopping spree even when their pockets are empty!**

GRACE – KEY VSS

68

- *For the Lord God is a sun and shield; **The Lord gives grace** and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly (Psa. 84:11).*
- *And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, **full of grace and truth** (John 1:14).*

GRACE – KEY VSS

69

- *For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. For the Law was given through Moses; **grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ** (John 1:16-17).*
- **This verse should not be construed as a denunciation of the Law which is a gift!**

GRACE – KEY VSS

69

- *For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. For the Law was given through Moses; **grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ** (John 1:16-17).*
- **This verse declares that the enjoyment (realization) of God's grace was made possible through Jesus.**

GRACE – CLARIFIED

69

1. **Grace is, by definition, not a divine obligation:**
 - *And He said, "I Myself will make all My goodness pass before you, and will proclaim the name of the Lord before you; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show compassion on whom I will show compassion" (Ex. 33:19).*

GRACE – CLARIFIED

69

1. **Grace is, by definition, not a divine obligation:**
 - **The receipt of grace in any situation is neither automatic nor assured. God decides when and to whom to show grace.**
 - **Grace is part of the trust collection and not subject to our expectations.**

GRACE – CLARIFIED

69

2. **Grace allows us to stand in God's presence.**
 - **As we near the end, the "big shots" ask, "who is able to stand" (Rev. 6:15-17)?**
 - **This is the question of the ages and was addressed in the wilderness.**

GRACE – CLARIFIED

70

2. Grace allows us to stand in God's presence.

- *The Lord said to Moses: "Tell your brother Aaron that he shall not enter at any time into the holy place inside the veil, before the mercy seat which is on the ark, **or he will die**; for I will appear in the cloud over the mercy seat. Aaron shall enter the holy place with this: with a bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering" (Lev. 16:1-3).*

GRACE – CLARIFIED

70

2. Grace allows us to stand in God's presence.

- God was teaching Aaron, and Moses, and Israel, **and you and me**, that there is a way for us to stand in the holy place, through the shedding of innocent blood!
- **Bulls, sheep, and goats were but the illustration.**

GRACE – CLARIFIED

70

2. Grace allows us to stand in God's presence.

- The real tabernacle (heavenly) is where our high priest has appeared who is also the one true Lamb, the perfect sacrifice. One day, in that place, you and I will actually **stand in the presence of God!**

GRACE – CLARIFIED

70

2. Grace allows us to stand in God's presence.

- *Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into **this grace in which we stand**; and we exult in hope of the glory of God (Rom. 5:1-2).*

GRACE – CLARIFIED

70

2. Grace allows us to stand in God's presence.

- Faith is the means by which we are "introduced" into the grace circle.
- Saving grace is only one facet of grace.
- This circle also includes heart grace, sustaining graces, and future grace.