

CHRISTIAN LITE

Christian Lite / Cheap Grace

November 17th, 2019

God's true grace is expensive, valuable, opulent, it cost Jesus his life and by his death, resurrection and ascension to heaven, sent us his Holy Spirit, it is nothing to be cheapened, minimized and reduced. As Christians, we can't cheapen it for anything.

In our last message we talked about God's costly grace and the cost of discipleship. A comparison between costly and cheap grace is like the cast system you see in many countries; you have the super rich and privileged in contrast to the extremely poor and needy.

Cheap Grace is defined by [Dictionary of Christianese](#) as; *“An attitude toward God's grace and forgiveness marked by toleration of sin in oneself and expectation that no matter how much one sins; Jesus will continue to forgive it.”* This is believing a lie; it's walking in deception and is not true.

It can be likened also to; *“Christian lite n. Also, Christian light. [Christian + lite (or light) 'having fewer calories or being less substantial than a similar product'; patterned after the name of various low-calorie sodas and beers such as Miller Lite] A selective presentation or practice of Christianity that is calculated not to offend.”*

A good question to ask yourself today; are you Christian Lite? Are you concerned that you're going to offend someone by sharing the good news of the gospel? The Bible says that gospel is offensive to those who are perishing, so you're guaranteed to offend somebody by preaching the Bible if they are unrepentant and perishing. Do you want to be a friend of the world and sinners? You're to be friendly to sinners, showing them the light of Jesus, but not to partake in the sin they are in. That's when you become 'Christian Lite'. In doing so is when you start cheapening the costly grace that Jesus did on the cross. When you do that, you're crucifying Jesus over and over again by participating in the same sin.

Here's a quote from Dietrich Bonhoeffer on [Cheap Grace](#); *“Cheap grace is the grace we bestow on ourselves. Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, Communion without confession... Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate.”*

Ask yourself again; are you living Christian Lite? Are you the lite (easy, effortless, fluffy, flimsy) in a worldly setting or are you light, as in you are on fire for Jesus and world can't deny that you aren't? You're not ashamed of the gospel, the light is on like a floodlight and the light of Jesus is shining bright! Today you can walk as a sinner or as a saint. You can walk in expensive grace, adorned by the power of the Holy Spirit or you can walk in the rags of the world and compromised by cheap grace. Cheap grace doesn't want to give up anything and does not want to let go of the world and the sin.

Cheap Grace takes you out of spiritual warfare, causing you to surrender to take up residency in the devil's camp. You put down your sword, the Bible, and don't use it to fight the devil any longer. You're walking in compromise.

The devil will ensure you'll be provided for, not as a prisoner of war, but a citizen that now is used to propagate his false teaching to cause other Christian brothers to surrender to a lifestyle of compromise. Where you used to use your Bible by quoting scripture in the face of spiritual warfare for provision in Jesus' name, you're now weakened and have laid down the sword. This can apply to any area of your life where you had to stand in authority, do spiritual warfare reminding the devil to flee and to cease his attacks against you.

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In cheap grace, the devil will ease off his fiery darts and flaming missiles because you're now in his camp. You'll maybe start to see provision and the bills being paid, not because your fighting and contending in faith for it but because you've stepped out of the camp of living by faith and fighting the good fight of faith, into the camp of the devil.

You see, the devil is making an illusion in cheap grace. By easing off the attacks on you, he gets you to think that God's blessing is now on you because now you're at ease, being taken care of, you have peace etc. But it's deception and trickery. He's just pulled his demon troops off your life because now you're in his camp.

But you must remember; God **will** provide for your every need and **will** heal every sickness and disease with his costly grace, that's in His word and those are His promises to you as a Christian.

The devil will provide for you to ease into what would be called, resting in what Jesus already did on the cross, so long as you surrender the rights to using your sword, the Bible, as a weapon against him and his demons. So long as you don't submit to God and resist him, he'll back off. So long as you don't remind him that he's defeated, he'll back off. So long as you don't remind him that you have the power of the Holy Spirit in you to bind him in Jesus' name, he'll back off.

When was the last time you spoke Bible scriptures to the devil reminding him of God's covenant with you? Did Jesus conquer everything on the cross? Absolutely He did. Does Jesus want you to rest in Him? Absolutely He does. But we still have a battle to fight until we die and go to heaven. The great Apostle Paul says in **2 Timothy 4:7**; *"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."* He was the warrior of warriors. He's our hero, the one we use as an example to live by. If we don't have a devil to fight, why did he say the following;

Ephesians 6:10-20; *"10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the [a]wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of [b]the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— 19 and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak."*

Praying in the Spirit, in unknown tongues, is praying God's perfect will. Through it also, the Holy Spirit will show you what and how to pray in the understanding. Day or night, when you sense the spiritual warfare looming in your heart and mind, pray in tongues and watch the Lord move on your behalf. Are you living a crucified walk in Christ? Are you an ambassador in chains, even though you may not have physical chains on your body? Whether you want it or not, the closer you draw to Jesus, you'll walk a crucified walk because you have to die to self and that's what makes grace, costly. It will cost you everything that gets in the way of your relationship with God.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 says; *"3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not [a]carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,"*

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This is the authority that you walk in as a Christian in the midst of spiritual warfare. You don't lay down and quit, no, you stand and fight in the name of Jesus. Cheap grace would have you just default to, 'Jesus did it all'. But costly grace causes you to stand and fight in the power of the Holy Spirit. That's one of the reasons the Holy Spirit was sent, to give us power. Up until the disciples received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, they were floundering, some even denied Christ and all deserted Him. So Jesus sent His Holy Spirit to not only comfort them, but to give them power to stand and fight the good fight of faith. Jesus did do everything in his life, death, resurrection and ascension. But we still have to stand and resist the devil.

Remember, the devil wants to cheapen God's grace and get you to lay your sword down, which is the Bible. He might not care about the comfortable scriptures but he sure doesn't want you taking your authority as a Christian by using the Bible to send him fleeing in Jesus' name. When he's tempting you to sin and to continue to live in sin, he doesn't want you using the Bible to say, 'it is written satan, flee from me'.

The cheap grace Christian will say you don't need to do battle with the devil with your double-edged sword (the Bible) anymore, because Jesus did it all, you can enter into a new rest. But even Jesus says in **Matthew 18:18-19**; *"18 Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. 19 "Again[a] I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven."*

Jesus knew the battle they would have to wage in their Christian walk. But he gave them authority to use his name as a sword. Jesus loves you so much he's give you authority in his name to use against the devil.

I believe that we are living in an age where many Christians have crossed over to the devil's camp and embraced doctrines of demons on CHEAP GRACE, and have surrendered to a life of Christian ease that is free of spiritual warfare and conviction of sin.

If you're in that place of cheap grace, if you really examined your heart, you'll see where you crossed over and laid down your Bible, the sword.

Jude 3-4 says; *"3 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I was compelled to write to you [urgently] appealing that you [a]fight strenuously for [the defense of] the faith which was once for all [b]handed down to the saints [the faith that is the sum of Christian belief that was given verbally to believers]. 4 For certain people have crept in unnoticed [just as if they were sneaking in by a side door]. They are ungodly persons whose condemnation was predicted long ago, **for they distort the grace of our God into decadence and immoral freedom [viewing it as an opportunity to do whatever they want], and deny and disown our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.**" Amplified Bible*

This destroys the cheap grace teaching that says that God covers all our sins, past, present and future. Now we know Jesus forgives us our sins, but we have to confess them and repent of them, then and only then are they forgiven. Distorting God's grace as Jude says, is cheap grace which allows someone to live immorally, to do whatever they want with no consequences. Ultimately cheap grace will cause you to deny Jesus, as Jude says.

So long as you lay down your sword and are no longer fighting the devil with it, you're no threat to the kingdom of darkness and that's why the sins of the flesh in Galatians 5:19-21 will master you. You won't have conviction that they are sin because you've distorted God's grace that Jude talks about, for your own pleasure.

Will you offend some Christians who believe in cheap grace because you're standing and fighting the good fight of faith? Maybe. But you're offending the devil in them that's lied to them, that's all.

So, where has or is the devil sneaking into your life thru a side door, and has convinced you to lay down your Bible to no longer fight the devil with it? The devil is the master deceiver and liar. He deceived Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, do you think you're going to be passed by? His words ring clearly a thousand times over,

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“did God really say that...or did he mean this?” Cheap grace will have you believe that and pervert the word, even by sneaking in the side door somewhere. But you have the sword of the Spirit and the name of Jesus to bind him...and he must flee.

It may be thru the radio, or TV or the internet, where cheap grace theology is being taught on a wide scale. The devil just loves it when you lay down your sword (Bible), and embrace cheap grace, he delights in giving you false rest, and provision, so long as you're not a threat to him or his demons, he'll give you the best of the best in exchange for you to compromise the Bible scriptures.

1 Timothy 6:11-16 says; *“11 But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. 12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. 13 I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate, 14 that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ’s appearing, 15 which He will manifest in His own time, He who is the blessed and only [a]Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, 16 who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen”*

If cheap grace was a truth, this scripture would not be true. Keeping the commandment without spot, fleeing sin and taking the way of escape. The Apostle Paul admonished Timothy to fight the good fight of faith. Dust off the Bible on your shelf, find the scriptures that you need to stand on to fight the sin that is crouching at your door.

Titus 2:11-14 talks about trained by saving grace; *“11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.”*

Be zealous for good works in Christ, be trained by the costly grace of God, live soberly, righteously and godly.