



THE PROBLEM OF MIXING LAW & GRACE

COURSE COMMENTARY



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Course Requirements

- 1) Read Course Commentary
- 2) Take Mid Term Exam
- 3) Take Final Exam
- 4) Submit Exams to Dr. Gray @ graceESBS@bellsouth.net
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Covenant of Law vs. Covenant of Grace

Chapter One: Introduction To Law vs. Grace

Rightly Dividing The Old And New Covenants

To fully appreciate the new covenant of grace, we must first begin to understand what a “covenant” is. Down through the history of humanity, God has related to man through His covenants. A covenant is not merely a contract or legal agreement. It is much more than that. Also, in every covenant, blood is involved. That is why a marriage is not a contract. It is a covenant. In the act of consummating a marriage, there is supposed to be a shedding of blood. That shows you how serious a covenant is in God’s eyes. It is blood-based and inaugurated by blood.

I am going to show you a very simple way to understand the entire Bible. Look at the portion in your Bible that’s marked “Old Testament”; that deals essentially with the old covenant. When you look at the portion in your Bible that is marked “New Testament,” that is essentially the new covenant. However, the new covenant does not actually begin with the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John as these books deal predominantly with the life of Jesus before the cross. In fact, the new covenant begins after the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Therefore, the cross is our clearest marking point of where the new covenant begins.¹

“Dr, Charles, how is this relevant to me?”

¹Prince, Unmerited Favor, p. 97.

Hold on for just a moment. Before you give up, let me explain to you why understanding the division between the old and new covenants is of critical importance for every believer. It is critical because a whole lot of misunderstanding and misinterpretation of the Bible that exists in the church today is a result of people reading, studying, interpreting and teaching the Bible without a clear understanding of how to rightly divide the old and new covenants! They merrily quote Old Testament passages without appropriating the cross of Jesus in their interpretations. They make it seem as though the cross made no difference!²

So before you quote an Old Testament verse to show how God is angry with believers for their sins, don't forget that it is in the context of the Old Testament, where Christ had not yet died on the cross. Am I saying that you should not read the Old Testament? No, you should read it, but with Jesus as the key to unlocking all the precious gems hidden in God's Word. While Jesus is in the Old Testament concealed, He is in the New Testament revealed. The stronger your foundation in the new covenant, the more you will be able to see Jesus unveiled in the Old Testament.

If you are familiar with my ministry, you would know that I am a new covenant grace preacher who loves to teach from the Old Testament and unveil the hidden secrets of Jesus! All Scripture is God-inspired and beneficial—no question about that. But all Scripture also needs to be studied and read in the light of the cross today. Consider this brilliant piece of wisdom that the apostle Paul wrote to his young apprentice, Timothy: “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” (2 Timothy 2:15) I believe with all of my heart that this advice from God's Word holds true today for all believers reading the Word and especially would-be Bible teachers.³

Learn to rightly divide the covenants! God's personal promise to you when you do that is that you will not be ashamed. Nobody would be able to pull the wool over your eyes by quoting chapters and verses from the Old Testament out of context to

² Prince, Unmerited Favor, p. 97-98.

³ Prince, Joseph. Unmerited Favor, p. 98-99.

convince you that God is out to punish you for your sins, when you know with certainty that Jesus died once and for all for the full payment of all your sins.(Hebrews 10:12-14) No one can hoodwink you into believing that sicknesses and diseases are sent by God to teach you character and humility, when you know beyond the shadow of a doubt that Jesus came to give you abundant life, and took upon His own body all your sicknesses, pains and infirmities at the cross.(Mathew 8:16-17).⁴

Today, all the righteous requirements of the law are fulfilled in your life through Jesus!

Don't let anyone tell you that if you don't keep all the requirements of the law, God will not make you a success, because what the law could not do, God did by sending His Son, Jesus.(Romans 8:3) Today, all the righteous requirements of the law are fulfilled in your life through Jesus!

Do you see how powerful this is? Don't let anyone fool you with obscure passages from the Bible when Jesus has given you so many clear, explicit portions of Scripture that declare His favor and blessings over your life in the new covenant! Just because someone calls himself a teacher, prophet or an apostle doesn't mean that he has the authority to teach God's Word. Stop disqualifying yourself with the lack of knowledge of Jesus and His new covenant. Don't let anyone tell you that you need the law to make you righteous when you know that you are righteous today because of Jesus Christ!⁵

The Place Of The Law On This Side Of The Cross

So who is the law for? In 1 Timothy 1:8–10, Paul says, “But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully, knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of

⁴ Prince, Joseph. Unmerited Favor, p. 99.

⁵ Prince, Joseph. Unmerited Favor, p. 99-100.

mothers, for manslayers, for fornicators, for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers...”

My dear brothers and sisters, are you getting this? The law is not for you the believer, who has been made righteous in Christ! The law is not applicable to someone who is under the new covenant of grace. The law is for unrighteous people—unbelievers who have not received Jesus as their Savior. Its purpose is to bring them to the end of themselves and to help them realize that they need the Lord.

Paul makes the purpose for the law very clear in the Book of Galatians when he says, “Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.”(Galatians 3:24-25) That’s the role of the law—to show us that in and of ourselves, we will never be able to reach God’s perfect standards. Therefore, the law leads us to depend on Jesus, who justifies and makes us righteous through His finished work! I am for the law, but only for the reason God gave the law. He gave the law to point us to Jesus. The law was never designed for man to keep and no man has, or will ever be able to keep it.⁶

You see, my brothers and sisters, the law demands from man, but grace (unmerited favor) imparts to man. The law condemns the sinner, but grace (unmerited favor) makes the sinner righteous. The law brings death, but grace (unmerited favor) brings abundant life. The law is designed to expose all your deficiencies, but grace (unmerited favor) points you to your sufficiency in Christ. Under the law, God will leave when man fails. But under grace (unmerited favor), God will never leave you nor forsake you even when you fail. (Hebrews 13:5)

The law makes you sin-conscious, while grace (unmerited favor) makes you righteousness-conscious. The law tells you that you have failed, but grace (unmerited favor) shows you how you are more than a conqueror in Christ. The law is about what you must do, but grace (unmerited favor) is all about what Jesus has done. The law puts the burden on you to perform, while grace (unmerited favor) puts the burden on Christ’s performance. The law makes you self-conscious, but grace (unmerited favor) makes you Christ-conscious. I trust that you are

⁶ Prince, Joseph. Unmerited Favor, p. 101.

beginning to see that the new covenant of God's unmerited favor, which God says is "established on better promises,"(Hebrews8:6) is far more superior to the old covenant of law.

There was a time in church history during the dark ages where God's Word was kept from man. Interpretation of the Scriptures was limited to an exclusive group of people, and they used this to control and manipulate the masses. All kinds of heresies and beliefs that were based on man's traditions and not God's Word were used to keep people in fear. This shows us that without God's Word, the Church has no light. Thanks be to God that today, His Word is available in many languages. God's people no longer have to be subject to the interpretation of the Word based on the traditions of man, but they can read the Word and search out the heart of God for themselves. In addition, God has raised up the fivefold ministry of new covenant pastors, teachers, apostles, prophets and evangelists to equip the body of Christ.⁷

⁷ Prince, Joseph. Unmerited Favor, p. 101-102.

Chapter Two: Our Part In The New Covenant

While we are on the subject of covenants, it's important to know that in every covenant, there are certain terms and conditions detailing how we can experience God's blessings. In the Edenic covenant, all Adam and Eve had to do was to not partake from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Under the old covenant of law, we know that to enjoy God's blessings, one had to obey perfectly the Ten Commandments.

What about the new covenant? Since it is based entirely on God's unmerited favor and not our ability to keep the law or what we need to do, what exactly is our part in this covenant? How can we enjoy God's blessings in the new covenant when it is based on the finished work of the cross of Jesus? Do we have a part to play in the new covenant of grace? These are important questions, so let's explore this issue of "our part" in the new covenant.

To begin, let's establish the fact that when there is a new covenant, it does not make sense to try to experience God's blessings by returning to the practices under the old covenant. Imagine this: Your company has just been awarded a new contract with a major multinational company, and it is worth millions of dollars more than the old contract. Would you be reviewing the payment terms of the agreement based on the old contract or the new one? The answer is obvious. Yet, there are believers today who are trying to go back to the terms of the old covenant. They don't realize that the old covenant is no longer valid and that today, we don't even have the only provision that made being under the old covenant work for the children of Israel—the animal offerings to cover their sins.⁸

⁸ Prince, *Unmerited Favor*, p. 161-162

The Terms Of The New Covenant

Since we have a new covenant, what are its terms?

Turn with me to Hebrews 8:10–13 and see for yourself:

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.” In that He says, “A new covenant,” He has made the first obsolete... —Hebrews 8:10–13

The old covenant of law is all about what you must do. However, the new covenant is full of what God will do. Notice the number of times “I will” appears in this passage? Instead of having laws written on cold pieces of stone, God, under the new covenant, has declared that He Himself will put His laws in your mind and write them on your heart. God is very clear that He is done with the old covenant, so make no mistake about this—the laws that He will write on your heart are not the Ten Commandments. So what are the laws that He will put in you?

In John 13:34, God said that He has given us a new commandment—to love one another as He has loved us. In Romans 3:27, the apostle Paul mentions the law of faith. So the laws that God will put in your heart are His royal law of love and the law of faith.⁹

⁹ Prince, *Unmerited Favor*, p. 162-163.

Love Is The Fulfillment Of The Law

What does it mean to have God's law of love put in our minds and inscribed on our hearts? This brings about such powerful ripple effects that I don't even know where to start! When you begin to experience God's love and unmerited favor in your life, knowing that you don't deserve His grace, you will fall head over heels in love with Jesus. When you are full of the love of Jesus, that love overflows into all your relationships, first with God, then with your spouse, family members, friends, co-workers and with everyone whom you meet.

Without any commands from God, you will start falling in love with your spouse all over again. Romance blossoms and the grace of Jesus refreshes your marriage. You won't want to entertain thoughts of adultery because you are in love with your spouse. In fact, it is only when you are filled with Jesus' love for you that you can fulfill Paul's commandment in Ephesians 5:25—"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her." Men, do you realize that the focus is not on what we have to do or on our love for our wives? The truth is that we first need to be filled with the love of Christ for us. We can love only because He first loved us!¹⁰

Similarly, when you are consumed by Jesus' love, you will not be consumed by murderous anger even when you have been wronged, but would instead, have the supernatural ability to forgive others. That is why Paul said:

For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. —Romans 13:9–10

In fact, when you receive God's love, you will not just fulfill the law effortlessly, but you will also exceed it. The new covenant is all about having a living, dynamic

¹⁰ Prince, *Unmerited Favor*, p. 163-164.

and intimate relationship with Jesus. The law is inferior—it can only command you not to commit adultery, but it cannot make you love your spouse. Under the law, a person can stay home and not commit adultery physically with someone else, but his heart can be cold toward his spouse and he can be fantasizing about what he sees on the television and Internet. Under the law, you can have a form of law-keeping. But under grace, you will experience the true substance.

The law deals purely with the superficial, but grace goes much deeper. The law will not tell you how to save your marriage. But today, when God puts His laws into your heart, you can run to Him saying, “Lord, I can feel my wife growing further away from me. Teach me how to love her,” and God will lead you because He has promised that “all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them.”¹¹ If you feel the prompting to say some words of encouragement and affirmation to her, do it. If you feel the prompting to give her a hug, do it! Follow those promptings in your heart because the Lord will lead you to love your spouse!¹¹

God made it so easy for us in the new covenant. We no longer have to run to prophets to find out His will for us. He Himself leads us! For those of you who want to serve the Lord, but don’t know where to start, just ask yourself what is in your heart. If you have a desire to work among children, then do so. As a new covenant believer, that’s how your Father leads you. He puts His laws in your mind and writes them on your heart!

Perhaps you feel a prompting to bless someone financially, even though the person looks prosperous. Follow that prompting because today, God speaks to you directly and He has made it easy for you to know His will. We all know how looks can be deceiving. For example, many con artists believe that church folks are gullible. Therefore, they dress down with a well-rehearsed sob story so as to move you to give to them. On the other hand, there are noble people who dress up on Sundays to honor the occasion, but they are in dire straits financially. Hence, we need to follow the promptings of our hearts and not the sight of our eyes. So when you feel a desire to do something good for someone, do it, knowing that you have a brand-

¹¹ Prince, Unmerited Favor, p. 164-165.

new heart that hears God, and that it is God who works in you both the willingness and the performance of it!(Philippians 2:13)¹²

The Clause That Makes The New Covenant

Work Now, you know that the old covenant was contingent on the works and obedience of the Israelites to the law. So what does the new covenant hinge on? Beloved, God is so good. The new covenant that God has made is not dependent on anything that you and I must do because He knows that we will always fail. Listen carefully. The new covenant works because of one thing only, and it is the last clause of the new covenant—Hebrews 8:12. To the measure that you have a revelation of this clause and all its blessings, to that measure you will walk in it. Are you ready to look at this clause?

For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.” —Hebrews 8:12

Note the word “For.” It means “because.” The new covenant works because God says that He will be merciful to our unrighteousness, and our sins and lawless deeds He will remember no more! “No more” means that there was a time God remembered our sins, even to punish them to the third and fourth generations. (Exodus 20:5) This is found in the Ten Commandments. However, today, God says emphatically, “No more!” (A Double negative in the Greek.) “No more” means that God will never again remember our sins against us because He remembered (to punish) all our sins in the body of His Son. Jesus bore God’s punishment of our sins on the cross. Now, we can walk in the new covenant and hear God say, “Your sins and lawless deeds I remember no more.”

My dear brothers and sisters, the new covenant works because of the last clause. In other words, because of Hebrews 8:12, God can put His laws in our minds and write them on our hearts, and all of us can know Him and be led by Him!¹³

¹² Prince, Unmerited Favor, p. 165-166.

¹³ Prince, Unmerited Favor, p. 167.

Our Part In The New Covenant Of Grace

So here comes the million-dollar question: What is our part in the new covenant of grace? Our part in the new covenant of grace is to simply believe!

Next question: What should we believe?

The answer is simple. We are to believe in Jesus! But follow me closely now, this answer may not be as straightforward as it seems. If you were to ask people on the streets if they believed in Jesus, you would probably get all kinds of answers.

There would be those who believe that Jesus existed as a historical figure, moral philosopher, charismatic leader or prophet. Sadly, the truth is that believing all these things about Jesus will not save them.¹⁴

Today, we have bookstores selling books that are based on the teachings of the Gnostics, who do not believe that Jesus is the Son of God. These writings attempt to devalue and naturalize Jesus to make Him a mere mortal, a historical figure and nothing more. Just because you see the word “Jesus” mentioned in books or on their covers does not mean that their authors believe in Jesus.

Many of these writings are actually anti-Christ.

What It Means To Believe In Jesus

So let’s establish what it means to believe in Jesus. To believe in Jesus is to first and foremost, believe and receive Him as your personal Lord and Savior who died on the cross for all your sins. To believe in Jesus is to believe that Jesus is the only way to salvation and that once you receive Him, you receive the gift of eternal life. Furthermore, to believe in Jesus is to believe beyond the shadow of a doubt that all your sins—past, present and future—were all punished on the cross and that today,

¹⁴ Prince, *Unmerited Favor*, p. 167-168.

(this is where the last clause of the new covenant applies) all your sins and lawless deeds He remembers NO MORE!

Based on the new covenant of grace, what does God want you to believe? He wants you to believe with all your heart that He meant every word when He said, "...I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." You see, in the new covenant, there is nothing for us to do but to believe! Your part in the new covenant of God's unmerited favor is to believe that you are completely forgiven of all your sins, and that the blood of Jesus cleanses you from all your unrighteousness and lawlessness.

In God's eyes today, you are made perfectly righteous by Jesus' finished work. The emphasis of the new covenant is to know and believe that you are forgiven of all your sins and that God has literally erased them from His memory. If you don't believe this, it will be impossible for you to depend on and expect God to protect, provide and prosper you. If you don't believe this, it will rob you of the ability to receive His goodness, His blessings, His unmerited favor and His success in your life.¹⁵

The Power Of The Blood Of Jesus

"But...but...but...Dr. Gray, God is all-knowing. How can He possibly forget my sins?"

It is very simple, under the new covenant; God can declare that He will no longer remember your sins because your sins were already remembered in the body of Jesus at the cross. My dear brothers and sisters, there is one thing that God cannot do—He cannot lie. So He means it when He says that He will remember your sins no more. Our part in the new covenant of God's unmerited favor is to believe that God indeed remembers our sins no more!¹⁶

¹⁵ Prince, Unmerited Favor, p. 168-169.

¹⁶ Prince, Unmerited Favor, p. 169-170.

There is power in the blood of Jesus to forgive you from all your sins! The enemy fears this truth the most and that is why he attacks this teaching on the forgiveness of sins so vehemently. If the enemy can get you to believe the lie that you are not completely forgiven and keep you sin-conscious, he will be able to keep you defeated, condemned, fearful of God and caught in a vicious circle of failure.

Gnostic writings are malevolent because they propagate the lie that Jesus was a mere mortal, which means that His blood has no power to cleanse us from all our sins. This is a lie from the pit of hell! Jesus is the Son of God and His blood is untainted by any sin. That is why the shedding of His pure and innocent blood is able to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. His blood does not cover sins temporarily like the blood of bulls and goats in the old covenant. His blood blots out and completely erases all our sins. This is the blood of God Himself, shed for the forgiveness of all our sins! We need to start to realize that this is not a “basic teaching.” This is the gospel of Jesus Christ.

In the end times, people will not be anti-God, but they will be anti-Christ. The anti-Christ movement in the end times will attempt to devalue Jesus’ deity, the cross and His power to forgive all our sins. That is why, in these last days, we need more preaching about Jesus, His finished work and the new covenant of His unmerited favor. We need more new covenant, Christ-centered preachers who will put the cross of Jesus as the focus of all their preaching. The only way to stem this deception from creeping into the church is to focus on exalting the person of Jesus and the central tenet of the new covenant, which is the complete forgiveness of sins! This is the gospel and when the gospel truth is preached, people will be set free.

There should be no compromise when it comes to the gospel of Jesus. Forgiveness of sins is based on His grace (unmerited favor) alone and we have access into this grace by faith. Our part is to only believe! This is what makes the gospel the good news. Take away the complete forgiveness of sins and it is no longer the “gospel,” which means “good news.” Believe that all your sins are forgiven. That is your part in the new covenant.¹⁷

¹⁷ Prince, Unmerited Favor, p. 170-171.

Be Free From A Judgment Mentality

In the new covenant of grace, God is effectively saying, “I want you to believe that you are forgiven. I want you to know and to believe that you are a person enjoying My mercy. I want you to believe that I remember your sins no more.” I am not the one saying this. Read Hebrews 8:12 for yourself.

Sadly, many Christians believe the complete opposite. They don’t believe that their sins are totally forgiven. They don’t believe Hebrews 8:12, that God does not remember their sins. And some Christians know, but do not really believe. This affects their relationship with God. Instead of seeing that their sin debt has been completely cleared and settled by Jesus on their behalf, they expect God to deal with them according to their sins!

When something negative happens in their life, their first thought is, “I knew it—the “chickens has come home to roost”. God is coming after me for what I did in the past!” Instead of taking God at His Word, these believers believe that negative things happen to them because God is punishing them for some sin in their life.

Perhaps someone has told them that God punishes them when they fail. Perhaps they were taught that you reap what you have sown. My Beloved brothers and sisters, today we do not reap what we have sown. That is old covenant talk. In the new covenant, we are enjoying the benefits of the heavy price that Jesus paid on the cross. We sowed nothing, but through Jesus, we have reaped every blessing. That’s called unmerited favor!

There are passages in the Bible that have been erroneously used to justify and perpetuate a judgment mentality among believers, like Galatians 6:7–8, which says, “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he

will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.”¹⁸

Sowing And Reaping In The New Testament

My brothers and sisters, when reading the Bible, it is important to rightly divide the Word, and more importantly, study the scripture in its full context. The context of Galatians 6:7–8 is about sowing money. It has nothing to do with sowing sin. However, some ministers have used the principal of sowing and reaping to intimidate believers into thinking that if they sowed sin, they should expect to reap judgment, condemnation and punishment from God.

Conversely, if they sowed righteous deeds, does that mean that they should expect to reap eternal life? If that is so, where is the cross of Jesus in this equation?

Such an interpretation of this passage negates the cross and places our eternal salvation on a fragile balance. In this man-made equation, our “salvation” hangs on what we do and are careful not to do, instead of being rooted in what Jesus has done.

Don’t allow anyone to confuse you with faulty interpretations of the Word. The context of Galatians 6:7–8 is about sowing and reaping money. The verses before and after (verse 6 and verses 9 and 10) clearly show that the context is talking about blessing the teachers of God’s Word with all good things, and blessing the household of faith. Hence, sowing to the flesh here refers to using money for self-indulgence instead of being generous for the kingdom of God. The verse is saying that sowing money to indulge oneself leads to results that can decay, whereas sowing money into the kingdom of God leads to results that are eternal.

While it is true that in the old covenant, he who sows to the wind shall reap the whirlwind¹⁹ (in the context of sin), it is no longer true. Jesus, at the cross, changed

¹⁸ Prince, Unmerited Favor, p. 172.

¹⁹ Hosea 8:7

EVERYTHING! He reaped all the punishment of the sins that we sowed and we reaped all the blessings that He sowed. Hallelujah!²⁰

In the new covenant, there is no verse on sowing and reaping that is used in the context of sin! The principle of sowing and reaping is only used in the context of sowing and reaping money, and sowing and reaping God's Word. (Luke 8:11) It is never used in reference to sin! So don't let inferior interpretations of Bible passages rob you of the certainty that ALL your sins have been forgiven. Your total forgiveness of sins is clearly spelled out in scriptures like Ephesians 1:7, which declares that in Christ "we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace [unmerited favor]"!²¹

Your Forgiveness Is Based On His Perfect Sacrifice

You are forgiven not according to the riches of your good works, but according to the riches of God's grace (unmerited favor). All your sins—past, present and future—have been forgiven. Don't draw a timeline of God's forgiveness of your sins. There are some Christians who believe that the forgiveness they received spans only from the day they were born to the day they became Christians. From that point onwards, they think that they need to tread very carefully in case they lose their salvation. Did you know that this belief is not scriptural? Colossians 2:13 states clearly that we have been forgiven of all our sins:

And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses.

—Colossians 2:13

Does "all" mean the same thing to you as it does to me? My Bible says that all our sins have been forgiven by Jesus' one sacrifice on the cross. We have been forgiven once and for all! The high priests in the old covenant had to offer sacrifices for sins daily. Jesus, our perfect new covenant High Priest, "did once for

²⁰ Prince, Unmerited Favor, p. 173-174.

²¹ Prince, Unmerited Favor, p. 174.

all when He offered up Himself.” (Hebrews 7:27) On the cross, He took upon Himself all the sins that you will commit in your lifetime, and once for all paid the full price for all your sins. Christ does not need to be crucified again for your future sins. In fact, all your sins were in the future when He died on the cross. So when you received Jesus into your heart, ALL your sins were completely forgiven!²²

Why A Revelation Of Your Forgiveness Is So Important

“But...Dr. Charles, why is an understanding of the complete forgiveness of my sins so important for me to walk in the New Covenant?”

That is a great question. Let me share with you some of the implications involved.

First, if you have no confidence that all your sins have been forgiven, then your eternal security and salvation will always hang in the balance.

Second, if you think that your sins were not fully dealt with at the cross, then you can never have the confidence to enjoy the Lord’s presence because you can never be sure if He is on your side, or if He is waiting to punish you for your failures. You will constantly feel unworthy because of your assessment of your conduct, and you can never really have the boldness to ask God for big things, or believe that He will give you success in your life.

Third, if you do not believe that Jesus has already forgiven all your sins, it means that when you fail, you will believe that you are not “right” with God and that fellowship with Him has been cut off. And instead of depending on His unmerited favor to overcome your failure, you will feel that you need to confess your sin, be remorseful and make amends with God before you can restore fellowship with God and depend on Him again.²³

²² Prince, Unmerited Favor, p. 175.

²³ Prince, Unmerited Favor, p. 176.

It comes down to this: Once you don't have a clear sense of your complete forgiveness, you will constantly be on an emotional seesaw. Sometimes, you feel that things between you and God are all right, but at other times, you don't think that it is so. Sometimes, you feel confident that the Lord is with you to make you a success, but at other times, you feel like you blew it and the Lord will not help you until you confess your sin and make amends. You will be in a constant cycle of feeling insecure, where you are always hopping in and out of God's favor. All these feelings depend on how well you think you have performed, and ignore the cross of Jesus altogether. My friend, God does not evaluate you based on your behavior. He sees only Jesus' perfect work. But because you do not believe that Jesus has indeed forgiven you of all your sins, you end up feeling like a total and complete hypocrite and failure. I hope that you are beginning to see that understanding the complete forgiveness of your sins is not just for theologians. Thinking that your sins are not completely forgiven will fundamentally affect your relationship with Jesus. While He is all ready to bless you, give you favor and make you a success, unbelief in His finished work robs you of the ability to receive His goodness, His blessings, His unmerited favor and His success in your life.

The cross of Jesus qualified you, but unbelief in the main clause of the new covenant disqualifies you. Meditate on what God says about your sins in the new covenant and free yourself to receive from Him today. The new covenant is based entirely on His unmerited favor. There is nothing for you to do, nothing for you to perform, nothing for you to accomplish. Look at the table on the next page. It encapsulates the essential differences between the old and new covenants. Your part in the new covenant is just to have faith in Jesus and to believe that you are totally forgiven and free to enjoy the new covenant blessings through His finished work!²⁴

²⁴ Prince, *Unmerited Favor*, p. 177-180.

The Differences Between The Old Covenant Of Law And New Covenant Of Grace

Under the old covenant of law...²⁵

- God demanded righteousness from man.
- God will visit your sins to the third and fourth generations (Exodus 20:5).
- The children of Israel were blessed only if they obeyed God's commandments perfectly—inwardly and outwardly (Deuteronomy 28:13–14).
- The children of Israel were cursed if they did not obey God's commandments perfectly (Deuteronomy 28:15–16, 18, 20).
- Depending on self-effort produces behavior modification without heart transformation.
 - The blood sacrifices of animals covered the sins of the children of Israel for only one year, and the process had to be repeated every year (Hebrews 10:3).
 - Obeying the law could not and did not give the children of Israel the power to stop sin in their lives. The law has no power to make anyone holy, just and good.
 - The children of Israel were robbed of their confidence in the goodness of God because they were always looking at themselves to see how well or poorly they performed (i.e. self-conscious).
 - The children of Israel could not have an intimate relationship with God because their unrighteousness put distance between them and God.

²⁵ Prince, Unmerited Favor, p.180.

- The children of Israel could not enter the holy of holies (where the presence of God was). Only the high priest could, and that only once a year, on the Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16:2, 14).
- The children of Israel were under the ministry of death (2 Corinthians 3:7).

Under the new covenant of grace...²⁶

- God imparts righteousness to man through the finished work of Jesus (Romans 4:5–7).
- God will by no means remember your sins (Hebrews 8:12; 10:17).
- Believers don't have to depend on their self-efforts to receive God's blessings, because Jesus fulfilled every one of the requirements of the law on their behalf (Colossians 2:14).
- Believers can enjoy God's blessings and undeserved favor because Christ became a curse for them on the cross (Galatians 3:13).
- Beholding the loveliness of Jesus and His finished work brings about inner transformation, which produces good works that are motivated by God's love (2 Corinthians 3:18).
- The blood of Jesus has removed the sins—past, present and future—of believers, completely and perfectly, once and for all (Hebrews 10:11–12).
- Sin has no dominion over believers (Romans 6:14), as the power of Jesus to overcome temptation kicks in when they are conscious that they are righteous in Christ apart from their works (Romans 4:6).
- Believers can have a tremendous sense of confidence and security in Christ because they are now looking to Jesus and not themselves (i.e. Christ-conscious).

²⁶ Ibid.

- Believers can enjoy a close, intimate relationship with God their Father because they are made righteous by faith in Jesus (2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 5:7–9; Hebrews 10:10). •

Not only can believers enter God's holy presence, they can also come boldly to His throne of grace to find mercy and grace in their time of need because of Jesus' perfect atonement (Hebrews 4:16).

- Believers are under the ministry of Jesus' abundant life (2 Corinthians 3:6; John 10:10).

Chapter Three: The Problem With Mixing The Two Covenants

Do you know why many believers today have a confused perspective of God? What would cause believers to think that God is sometimes angry with them, but at other times pleased with them? Why would some believers think that their heavenly Father would actually punish them with sicknesses and diseases when it would be unthinkable for them to inflict such draconian measures on their own children? What accounts for this apparent schizophrenia that exists in the body of Christ today? I submit to you that this confusion stems from what is called “Galatianism”.

Galatianism is essentially a mixture of covenants. It is the intermingling of teachings about God which contain a little bit of the law as well as a little bit of grace. The church in Galatia was struggling with this and from the severity of Apostle Paul’s tone to the Galatians, it is obvious that Paul regarded this issue very seriously.

You will never find Paul saying to the believers in the church of Corinth, “O foolish Corinthians!” Yet, we know that the church in Corinth was in a mess. The people were involved in all kinds of outward sins. They were in strife, envy and jealousy, and some of them were even going to temple prostitutes. There were believers suing one another in court. The people were also misusing the gifts of the Spirit. All in all, there were all kinds of immoral activities going on in the church of Corinth. There was utter chaos! Yet, not once did Paul call them “foolish Corinthians”, or in our modern vernacular, “STUPID Corinthians!” Search your Bible. You won’t find even one instance.

On the contrary, Paul affirmed the Corinthians and told them, “God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.”¹ He spoke positively to them, assuring them that they “come short in no gift” and that

they would be confirmed to the end, and “be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ”². Isn’t that amazing?

Wrong Doctrine Is Worse Than Wrong Behavior

Now, notice the stark contrast between Paul’s treatment of the Corinthian church and the Galatian church. To the church in Galatia, he said, “O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you...?”³ Further on, he says again, “Are you so foolish?...”⁴ Paul was angry! He was upset with what was happening in Galatia and he made it clear that he was not happy at all with the Galatians. Most people would expect Paul to be more upset with the believers in Corinth, but he was not. His intense reaction toward the church in Galatia reveals what is of priority to God. It is clear that in God’s eyes, believing the wrong doctrine is worse than exhibiting wrong behavior!

In case you didn’t get it the first time, let me say it again:

To God, wrong doctrine is far worse than wrong behavior!

When it came to wrong behavior in Corinth, Paul was cool and collected toward the believers. He was able to handle their wrong behavior because he knew that the grace of God was able to take care of their spree of wrong behavior. That is why he was able to speak positively to them, even telling them, “I thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus...”⁵ But when it came to wrong doctrine in Galatia, he rebuked the believers there because they nullified God’s grace by mixing it with the law.

In the very first chapter of Galatians, Paul says, “I marvel...” or as you and I would say today, “I am appalled...” What appalled him? Paul continues: “I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.”⁶

Paul was angry because the Galatians were turning away from the “grace of Christ” to “a different gospel”, and because there were some people who wanted to “pervert the gospel of Christ”. Paul had preached the gospel of grace to the Galatians, but he found that there were Judaizers who introduced elements of the law to them, mixing God’s grace with the law. Do not belittle this problem. It was a serious problem and it made Paul very angry. Since Paul was full of the Holy Spirit and his anger was Spirit-inspired, it would benefit us to really understand why the mixture of law and grace angered him.

Grace Is The Solution To Wrong Behavior

Imagine that you have a pile of dirty laundry in your living room and every day, the pile grows bigger. The stench from the pile gets stronger and more unbearable as each day passes. Is this a big problem? Well, it depends. As long as your washing machine is working, it will not be a problem for long. No matter how much dirty laundry you have, as long as your washing machine is working, there is still hope. The dirty laundry only becomes a problem if you destroy or get rid of the washing machine. Without a washing machine, the dirty laundry that is piling up certainly becomes a big problem. What are you going to do with all that dirty laundry if you don’t have a fully functioning washing machine? You see, the dirty laundry is “wrong behavior” and the washing machine is “grace”. Now, don’t get me wrong, we certainly don’t want our homes to stink. But if you have wrong behavior, as long as there is grace in the church, grace will teach and give you the power to overcome your wrong behavior. But if there is no grace in the church, or if grace is mixed with the law and nullified, then what hope is there for overcoming your wrong behavior?

Allowing Mixture Perverts The Gospel Of Christ

That is why Paul had to be firm with the Galatians. By allowing grace to be mixed with the law, the Galatians had perverted the gospel of Christ. Paul had preached the gospel of grace to them, but after he left, some Judaizers came and told them lies like, “Yes, it is good that you are saved by grace, but it is not enough for you to just have Jesus. You must also know and abide by the Law of Moses to be pleasing to God.” In essence, they were saying, “Grace is good, but grace must be balanced with the law.” So they taught the Galatians things like the Ten Commandments and told them that they had to be circumcised. Paul’s response was to pronounce a double curse on those who preached the false gospel to the Galatians! His tough stance toward those who preached mixture represents the heart of God today.

You Cannot Balance Grace With Law

“Dr. Charles, you believe in grace, while I believe that you must keep the law to be justified. Does it really matter if I believe differently from you?”

Well, it mattered enough to Paul for him to pronounce the double curse. Many believers do not think that it is a serious matter to have mixture. But our response to the mixture of law and grace should be in alignment with Paul’s — He was appalled that the Galatians were mixing law and grace. In most places today, the problem is not pure law. You will not find pure law in Christian churches. What you will find in many places today is a mixture of law and grace. You will hear teachings that combine the old and new covenants. You will hear things like, “Yes, you are saved by grace, but now that you are saved, you had better not take it for granted. You have to start living a holy life by keeping the Ten Commandments.” This is called mixture — you have a little bit of grace and a little bit of law. Many believers think that this — balancing law and grace — is all right. However, the Lord has shown me that what man calls balance, God calls mixture.

My brothers and sisters, you cannot balance law and grace. Your justification is either entirely a work of His grace or it is by your own works. His grace will be nullified when you add even a little mixture of man's own efforts to be justified. This is serious. God hates mixture.

While most people have no problem with agreeing that they have been saved by grace, they are nevertheless still subjecting themselves to the law. They are depending on the "works of the law" or their obedience to the law to earn, merit and deserve God's blessings. When they do well in their own estimation, they expect to be blessed. But when they fall short and fail, they heap on themselves guilt and condemnation, and expect to be punished.

In the new covenant, God doesn't want us to be blessed when we obey the law and cursed when we fail. Doesn't such a system sound awfully similar to the old covenant? Grace is the undeserved, unmerited and unearned favor of God — the moment you try to merit the free favors of God, His grace is nullified.

In the new covenant, God wants us to be blessed on account of His Son and what He did on the cross. It has nothing to do with our performance or ability to keep the law. Those trying to be justified by their law-keeping still have an old covenant mentality, even if they profess that they are in the new covenant. They have reverted to the old system that was based on works and obedience, rather than trusting in the new system that is based on faith and believing. When there is mixture between the old and new covenants, between the covenant of law and the covenant of grace, you lose both and the benefits of the two covenants are nullified! How do we know this? What is the scriptural basis for this? Let's look at what Jesus said:

Mark 2:22

22"And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine bursts the wineskins, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But new wine must be put into new wineskins."

What was Jesus referring to when He shared on the new wine and old wineskins? He was referring to the mixture of the two covenants. The new wine represents the new covenant of grace, while the old wineskin represents the old covenant of law.

Have you seen old wineskins before? They are brittle, hard and inflexible. That's the law. It is inflexible. And when you pour the new wine of grace into the old wineskin of the law, you will lose both because the wineskin will be ruined and the wine will be spilled. The virtues of both the old and the new covenants will be cancelled out and lost. I can't understand why many believers are still trying to balance law and grace. If you are for the law, be for the law completely. If you are for grace, then be for grace completely. It is impossible to balance the two of them! That is why Jesus also said:

Revelation 3:15–16, NKJV

15 I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot: I would that you were cold or hot. So then because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew you out of My mouth.

For years, I have heard preachers preaching that in Revelation 3:15–16, Jesus was referring to people who are not “red-hot for Jesus”. Have you heard that expression before? And what does being “red-hot for Jesus” mean? Traditionally, we have been taught that it means that you are reading ten chapters of the Bible a day, witnessing to your colleagues and attending every prayer meeting you can find! To be cold means just the opposite — you stop doing these things entirely.

As a college student, I actually exceeded this. I read twenty Chapters a day! This improved my knowledge of the Word, but it did not keep me “red hot for Jesus”. It actually was just helping me tread water with my fear issues, but that is a discussion for another day!

The verse has always been preached as though it were about our actions and behavior. But Jesus said that He would rather we be cold or hot, and not lukewarm. This wouldn't make sense if He was referring to actions and behavior, because wouldn't being lukewarm for Jesus still be better than being completely cold? So why would He want the church of Laodicea to be cold (if they weren't hot)? Come on! I always tell my church this: When you come on Sunday, don't forget to bring your brains along! Don't just take in everything you hear. You have to test the

message and make sure that it is consistent with the gospel of Jesus. The gospel simply means “good news”. So if what you are hearing is not good news, but instead deposits fear, doubt, judgment and condemnation in your heart, throw it out, my friend, because it’s not the gospel of Jesus.

Be Hot Or Cold, Not Lukewarm

Now, would you like to know what Revelation 3:15–16 really means? The two verses would only make sense when they are interpreted in the light of the mixture of the covenants of law and grace in the church of Laodicea. The Lord was saying that He would the church be cold — entirely under law, or hot — entirely under grace. You see, if you were at least completely under law, it would lead you to despair and into the saving arms of Jesus. The law would unveil to you your sinfulness and inability to keep the full measure of it, and this would cause you to see your need for His grace.

But when you have mixture, where you believe in grace, but still hold on to the law, you neutralize the convicting power of the law to bring you to the end of yourself so that you will cry out for the grace of the Savior. That is why you cannot be cold and hot at the same time, or be for both law and grace at the same time. The moment you attempt to balance grace with the law, you neutralize both and each covenant is robbed of its full effect in your life. You become lukewarm because of the mixture, and God hates mixture because it robs you of the power to reign in life through the abundance of His grace! You cannot put new wine into old wineskins. You will lose both!

This is exactly what Paul was saying to the Galatians when he explained to them the purpose of the law:

Galatians 3:24–25

Therefore, the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

The law was our “tutor”, or according to the King James Version, our “schoolmaster”, to bring us to the end of our own efforts and to Christ. The law is an impossible standard for man to keep. The Pharisees brought the law down to a level where they could keep it. They really thought that their works, their reading the Scriptures and their loud prayers could justify them. But when Jesus stepped onto the scene, His harshest words — He called them a “brood of vipers”⁷ — were reserved for these very legalists. He brought the law back to its pristine standard. According to Jesus, once you fantasize about a woman, you are guilty of adultery. Once you are angry with a brother without cause, you are guilty of murder.

“Dr. Charles this is an impossible standard. We will all fail!”

Exactly! Finally, you are getting it. Jesus was showing us the true standard of God’s law and holiness. It is impossible for man to keep His law! If you are not for grace, then make sure that you are entirely “cold” — completely under law. Don’t mix law and grace. When you put yourself completely under law, you will find that the law will be your tutor to bring you to the end of yourself. When you finally acknowledge that you cannot save yourself, you will turn to the Savior and His grace will fill your heart. You see, when you think that you can, His hands are tied and He cannot. But when you know that you cannot, that’s when HE CAN! Get it?

Can You Save Yourself?

Before a lifeguard attempts to rescue someone who is drowning, he will wait for the person to give up on his efforts to save himself. If the person is still struggling, with his hands flailing and legs kicking everywhere, a well-trained lifeguard will not come close to him just yet because he knows that he will be pulled down and both will drown. So even though the lifeguard wants to save the drowning person, he cannot until the person has exhausted his strength and gives up trying to save

himself. Then, the lifeguard immediately grabs hold of him and brings him to safety.

Similarly, when you think that you can still save yourself, God's grace cannot flow. If you mix law and grace, both will "drown" and you will lose BOTH. In other words, the person who is "drowning" must know that he is drowning and that he cannot save himself. (Now, isn't that a deep revelation!) Only when he gives up on his efforts can grace come and rescue him. Jesus had no effect on the Pharisees precisely because they thought that they were self-sufficient in their law-keeping and saw no need for the Savior. They had no revelation that they were drowning!

Falling From Grace

Paul told the Galatians, "Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace."⁸ This is the true definition of "falling from grace". Today, when someone sins, ministers say that the person has "fallen from grace". But Paul never told the Corinthians that they had fallen from grace despite all their sins. To fall from grace then is to fall into the law. Notice that grace is the high ground. When you are under the law, you have fallen from your high ground of grace. In the Ark of the Covenant, the mercy seat is positioned above the Ten Commandments. You fall from grace when you go back to the Ten Commandments.

The law makes everything of man's efforts, while grace gives all the glory to God. That is why Paul told the Galatians that the gospel is not a man-pleasing gospel⁹. He was essentially saying, "If I want to please man, I would be preaching the law." Legalistic people react when they hear that they can no longer boast in their self-efforts to keep the law. The only people who appreciate grace are those who have come to the end of themselves, to the end of their own efforts to save themselves. They have tried over and over again until they have finally given up and admitted that they cannot meet the law's unyielding standard. That's the time when they are ready to receive God's undeserved favor — His saving grace.

We are all against sin, but grace is the power to get out of sin.

My dear brothers and sisters, we are all against sin, but grace is the power to get out of sin. The more entangled you get with the law, the more the law will stir up sin in you. The law was designed to expose sin. It is sad that many preachers refuse to accept the gospel of grace until they themselves are caught in sin. Only when they find themselves ensnared by sin do they realize that only grace can give them true power over sin. This is what Paul asserted when he said, "For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace."¹⁰ The good news is, you can embrace the grace of our Lord TODAY and have dominion over sin TODAY!

My Journey Toward Understanding Grace

By the way, in case you are wondering, I was not introduced to the gospel of grace because of any moral sin. The Lord revealed His grace to me through my own struggles against all the erroneous teachings and wounds I had received in my youth.

I have had a sense of God's presence in my life for as long as I can remember. I was raised in the Southern Baptist Church. I received Him as Savior at age 12.

But, Perhaps I should start at the beginning. I have known God's voice since I was a small child. Since I was about 7 or 8 (probably earlier) I have been fascinated with Scripture and the incredible adventures of Faith in the Bible. Once I understood the need to ask Him to come into my life, I prayed to receive Him at age 12. There was a struggle for a few months because I understood that asking for the gift of salvation meant yielding control of my life to Him. I was not sure I wanted to give up that much control. But once I did, it seemed like the most natural thing in the world. Though sometimes, I must admit, I have taken things back and worried over things best left in His hands.

When I was about fourteen it came to me that there had to be more to God and the Christian life than coming in, sitting down, singing a few hymns, having a couple of prayers and hearing some guy speak for 20 to 40 minutes. This began a quest for

me to know and experience all of God there was. This has taken me some interesting places: Other denominations (The Assemblies of God, The Evangelical Presbyterian Church, The Presbyterian Church of America, The Episcopal Church USA, and The International Communion of Charismatic Episcopal Churches) the Charismatic Movement as well as many books, bible conferences and a great deal of study and contemplation. I have gained much through my quest, but I always seem to sense that there is more. I do not believe that an active and growing faith is ever satisfied to stop and say “I have learned all there is of God and I have experience all there is to experience with God.” We must continue to seek Him all our days and we must feed on His word all the days of our life.

I was called to ministry at age 16. I went to a Christian university and earned a degree in Christian Ministry as well as studying on my own areas not typically taught in Baptist churches, but nevertheless are a part of scripture. I learned about our Identity in Christ, the Infilling of the Holy Spirit, walking by faith not by sight and trusting God no matter what the circumstances. In addition I earned the Master of Divinity degree. I have served God in a variety of ministries and church staff positions. It was during my time at seminary that I came to the realization that God was calling me to serve Him outside the Baptist tradition in which I had been raised.

This journey was interrupted at a young age when I was abused by a distant relative. But, this was not the only wound I would receive in my life. I felt rejected by much of my family. I was never backwoods, country or red-neck enough for my mother’s family and I was “too religious”, not out spoken enough, and took things “too personal” for much of my father’s family.

I took the hurts with me and entered ministry. I was further wounded by many of the pastors I worked on staff with.

One of the turning points in my life was doing summer missions in Florida. This opened my eyes to many spiritual truths including what the Church could and should be. I was assigned to a contemporary/ semi-charismatic congregation. I had

many opportunities to learn about the person and work of the Holy Spirit, our Identity in Christ, and about prayer ministry.

A second event that has impacted who I am today is being divorced and what God has taught me through this process. This was the final straw for me and I slammed the door shut in the wall I had built around myself and firmly locked the door. Without getting in to all the details at this point, I will just say that I am Biblically divorced as defined by Scripture. I offered to go through counseling and work things out. She refused and filed for a final decree. She has since re-married and divorced again.

At this point I left active ministry for more than fifteen years.

I went through DivorceCare and Beyond DivorceCare programs at a local church. After for several years of sitting out of Ministry, I led the DivorceCare Ministry at a previous church for about two years and then sat out of all ministry and just attended church some.

A third event that has had an impact on me is that I spent for approximately three years at Saint Paul's Church, Shreveport. Being part of the Anglican expression of faith in Christ enriched my faith immensely. To further my understanding of this rich heritage, I took an Anglican History course at the Diocesan School of Western Louisiana.

But, what has impacted me the most in my Christian faith was when I finally found my answer in Christ Jesus by being introduced to the Gospel of Grace teachings that is best exemplified by the ministry of Joseph Prince, Senior Pastor of New Creation Church, Singapore. I have learned about the Love and Grace of God toward us in a way that has transformed my life in many ways. My health has improved, my damaged emotions have been healed, my outlook on life has improved, and I have been given a new direction for ministry. I have a joy and peace that I have never known prior to this. God can and does restore, heal, and transform lives, not just save them!

A walk of faith is not always easy. I have had my share of struggles and difficulties through the years, but I have found it to be worth everything one goes through.

Legalistic Preaching Can Lead To Fear And Bondage

I heard a great deal of legalistic preaching as I was growing up. Some I believed, some I didn't. One of the teachings I heard growing up was the unpardonable sin of blaspheming the Holy Spirit. Have you ever heard this teaching before? I did not believe it, but let me share with you the testimony of a brother who did. He writes:

“I would walk down the streets evangelizing people, all the while thinking that I had lost my salvation. I did this because I had hoped that one day, those whom I had witnessed to would go to heaven and God would ask them, ‘How did you get saved?’ and they would say, ‘By someone called Joseph Prince.’ Then, God would realize that I was in hell and He would remember me. I really believed that! I tried with all my might, all my strength and all my vigor to keep the law. I was confessing all my sins almost every waking minute, until my mind nearly snapped.

“It was only until I came to the end of myself that I saw the need for my beautiful Savior Jesus Christ, and it was He who opened my eyes to the new covenant of grace. Well, that was my journey toward discovering the gospel of grace. So my friend, I know what it means to be under the law. I have first-hand experience of the impossibility of keeping the law and it has led me to Christ, just as Paul said that it would.”

It Is Time To For Us To Leave Babylon

My Beloved brothers and sisters, mixing law and grace is dangerous. It will cause you to live in confusion. It will cause you to think that God is sometimes pleased with you, but at other times angry with you. Confusion makes you believe that the same God who can heal you today may also punish you with a disease the next day. Mixture leads to confusion and God is not the author of confusion. But praise be to God, the Gospel Revolution is setting God's people free all around the world.

I see the body of Christ coming out of Babylon. The word “Babylon” means “confusion by mixing”, and I see the church coming out of the bondage of mixture and confusion. Hallelujah! The church has been in Babylon for too long, but it is coming out.

My brothers and sisters, it is time for you to come out of mixture and confusion. Choose either the covenant of grace or the covenant of law. Either you enjoy the blessings of the Lord through His undeserved, unearned and unmerited favor, or you trust in your own efforts and your own behavior to deserve, earn and merit favors from the Lord. You cannot hold on to both. I pray that you will choose the first. Come out of Babylon and enjoy the abundance of His grace today!

Chapter Four: The Law Has Been Fulfilled

I heard about a conference a few years ago where one of the speakers got up to preach, he said with great conviction in his voice, “The greatest call in your life is to your family!” The crowd loved it, and the entire auditorium clapped and cheered in agreement. At the next session, another speaker got up and declared with fiery passion in his eyes that “the greatest call in your life is to missions”. This time, the crowd went wild and the entire auditorium reverberated with shouts of “Amen!” Then, it was time for the grace preacher to preach, and he prayed, “God, they have used up all the ‘greatest calls’. Give me something!” And when he stood up, the Lord put this in his heart and shared, “The greatest call in your life is to be a worshipper!” You see, long after all the missions have been accomplished on earth, and long after families are united in heaven, we will continue worshipping our beautiful Savior Jesus Christ for all that He has done for you and me, for all eternity.

It is all about Jesus! It is all about His finished work!

The more you appreciate the finished work of Jesus and all that He has done for you to reign in life, the more you will worship and glorify Him! Let's look at the Word of God to see more of His finished work.

John 1:17 KJV

17For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

Have you noticed that truth is on the side of grace, not the law? Notice also that the law was given. This implies a sense of distance. In contrast, grace came! Grace is personal and came as a person — the person of Jesus Christ. The law is hard, cold and impersonal. You cannot have a relationship with two pieces of stone. But grace is gentle and warm. Grace is not a teaching or doctrine. Grace is a person and you can have a relationship with a person. God is not interested in mere obedience and submission. He is a God of love and He longs to have an intimate relationship with you. This is what makes Christianity unique. Many of the world's belief systems are governed by moral codes, rules and laws. But Christianity is not about these things. It is about having a relationship with Almighty God.

Our God came, died a cruel death on the cross and paid the full debt of sin with His own life so that you and I can reign in life today. His sacrifice on the cross speaks of relationship. Jesus came to reconcile sinful man with a holy God. When you receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, you are made holy and righteous by His blood once and for all. And you can enter boldly into the presence of Almighty God without any guilt, condemnation or expectation of punishment. Because of the cross, the price for sin has been paid, the judgment executed, the anger toward sin exhausted, the veil torn and the way to intimacy with God opened. Sin no longer hinders you from entering His presence. His blood has removed all vestiges of your sins!

Jesus Fulfilled The Law!

The moment you place the Law of Moses between you and God again, you are negating the finished work of Jesus, for if righteousness could come through the law, then Christ died in vain¹. Christianity cannot be reduced to an impersonal list of do's and don'ts. Jesus' death has fulfilled the righteous requirements of the law of the old covenant. The Word of God tells us that the "handwriting of

requirements” has been nailed to the cross². Jesus came to fulfill all the requirements of the law on our behalf, so that the way to God is now opened. Hallelujah!

“Dr. Charles, you are saying that we are no longer under the law. But Jesus Himself said that He did not come to abolish the law.”

That is exactly right my dear brother (or Sister), but you have to quote what Jesus said completely. He said, “I have not come to abolish the law, but to fulfill it.” Jesus did not sweep the law under the carpet. He came and fulfilled every requirement of the law perfectly on our behalf. All that we were unable to do, He did on our behalf. So by Jesus, the law has been fulfilled!

When you have fulfilled your debt to the bank for the mortgage on your house, you should stop sending in your monthly payments because the debt has already been fulfilled and you are wasting your money! If the bank sends you a letter demanding more payment from you, all you have to do is produce the deed to your home. In the same sense, the debt that you and I owed to the law has already been fulfilled by our Savior Jesus Christ! Hallelujah! When the devil comes to accuse you with the law, and shows you how you have fallen short and failed, all you have to do is point to the payment that Jesus made on the cross. Christ is your title deed, which is why you are called a Christian today. You are not your own. You have been purchased with the precious blood of Jesus Christ. The law has no hold over you anymore!

The Devil Has Been Disarmed

You probably know that the issue of “nuclear disarmament” periodically flares up as big news from time to time. But are you aware that there is someone more sinister who has already been disarmed? The Bible says that God has “disarmed principalities and powers”. We know from the book of Ephesians that “principalities and powers” refer to Satan and his cohorts. So the devil has already been disarmed! But do you know what weapon he was wielding before his forced disarmament? Let’s see what the Word of God says about this:

Colossians 2:14–15

14having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

Based on the context of the verse, the devil was armed with the “handwriting of requirements that was against us”. What “handwriting of requirements” was so powerful that it required the death of Jesus to wipe it out? On Mount Sinai, God wrote the Ten Commandments on two tablets of stone. The “handwriting of requirements” was thus a reference to the law that was written by the finger of God. The devil then armed himself with the law to accuse and condemn man! Now listen carefully to this: God didn’t give the law to arm the devil, but the devil, knowing that the law was against man, took advantage of it and has been using it against man.

You have been redeemed from the curse of the law.

The law always condemns and keeps man away from God. Hence, the devil uses it as his weapon to further alienate man from God. That’s why when God nailed the law to the cross, He made a public spectacle of the devil and all the powers of darkness! Once the law was nailed to the cross of Jesus, God knew that the law no longer had the power to condemn man as long as he believed on Jesus. Therefore, when you know and believe that Jesus has fulfilled completely the righteous requirements of the law, the devil cannot use the law to condemn you every time you fail. Even if he uses the law and points to your sins today, you can point to the cross of Jesus and reject the condemnation. You may say, “No one can blot out God’s handwriting.” Yes, you are right. No man can, but God can! And God did it righteously. My dear brother or sister, you have been redeemed from the curse of the law. The devil and his crew have been disarmed. Hallelujah!

However, if you insist on being under the law, you are actually arming the devil again! God has nailed the law. He has

blotted out its requirements, taken it out of the way and disarmed the devil. But when you subject yourself to the old covenant system of the law, you are putting that weapon back into the devil’s hands. Every teaching that says, “We have to keep the law to be blessed by God,” is putting the weapon of the law back into the

devil's hands. Instead of resting in God's disarmament, people are rearming and remilitarizing the powers of darkness!

Let me stress that the law is holy, just and good. Please don't misconstrue that I am saying otherwise. But even though the law is holy, just and good, it has no power to make you holy, just and good. You see, the law was designed to expose your weaknesses, your sins, and your inability to be holy, just and good. It is like a mirror that exposes your flaws — your blemishes and pimples. But you cannot take the mirror, and begin to rub your face with it to clean off your blemishes and pimples, because that is not the mirror's purpose! You need to understand that no amount of keeping the law can make you holy. Only the blood of Jesus can do that. Nevertheless, the law is holy. It is not from the devil. It is from God Himself.

The Purpose For The Law

God gave the law for one purpose, and that is by the law, the world would have the knowledge of sin⁵, and recognize their need for a Savior. Without the law, there would be no sin⁶. For example, if there were no law on how fast you can drive on a particular road, that is, there were no speed limit, the state trooper cannot stop you and give you a ticket for speeding. In simple terms, no law equals no sin. No recognition of sin equals no need for a Savior! The law was given to bring man to the end of himself so that in his despair, he would see his need for Jesus. Because of the law, no man can say that he is not a sinner and no man can say that he doesn't need Jesus. That is the purpose of the law. It was not designed to make you godly, but to expose your ungodliness.

What the devil has done is to keep the law over people's heads all the time, so that they will constantly feel condemned and guilty. The devil is the master legalist who constantly reminds you of how unworthy you are. He is known as the accuser of the brethren⁷. Here are some of his common attacks:

“You call yourself a Christian?”

“You are a hypocrite!”

“Forget about praying. God will never listen to your prayers.”

“Look at your life. You dare step into church?”

My dear brother and sisters, these are lies, ALL lies! The devil is using the law to make you conscious of all your shortcomings. But through Jesus Christ, you are no longer under the condemnation of the law. The devil has been disarmed by the power of the cross! Jesus, who knew no sin, has been condemned on your behalf on the cross. Through Jesus Christ, you are now made righteous apart from the works of the law. So when you hear the voice of the accuser condemning you, remind yourself that you are the righteousness of God through Jesus Christ. Declare it out loud! Each time louder than the first:

“I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus!”

“I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus!”

“I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus!”

Righteousness is a gift. It is not a reward for perfect obedience to the law. You are clothed today not in your own righteousness, which is self-righteousness, but with the righteousness of Jesus Christ. God sees you as righteous as Jesus Himself.

Only Grace Brings Hope

Only the radical preaching of grace brings hope to believers. Only the finished work of Jesus can bring us wholeness, completeness and shalom-peace. Some people say that the Christian life is very hard. My dear brother or sister, it is not hard, it is impossible! The only one who can live it is Jesus Himself, and He wants to do it in us today. That is why it is not up to our own efforts to fulfill the Law of Moses. It was fulfilled on our behalf and the price for our sins has been paid on the cross. Our part today is to believe in our Savior, and receive from Him the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness. The Christian life is a life of rest in Christ Jesus and His finished work. It is time to rest from your own efforts and to enjoy Jesus! The devil hates the gospel of grace because it causes the believer to reign in life. And when you reign, the devil does not!

Only the finished work of Jesus can bring us wholeness, completeness and peace.

Chapter Five: The Main Clause Of The New Covenant

You have done it now! You have committed the “unpardonable sin”. You got a divorce! Have you heard this “unpardonable sin” teaching before? Whether it has been openly taught from the pulpit, or just through the actions of others, this is often taught in churches and all too often in our families as well.

This erroneous teaching says that all sins can be forgiven, but if you commit the sin of blaspheming the Holy Spirit (Matthew 12:31), there is no forgiveness. That’s how this sin came to be known as the “unpardonable sin”. My conscience was very sensitive and the more I thought about the possibility of committing the unpardonable sin, the more I was convinced that I had committed that sin! My thoughts became increasingly negative and I even started to doubt God. This gave me even more reason to believe that I had indeed blasphemed the Holy Spirit.

Discovering The Gospel Of Grace

The more I believed that I still had unforgiven sins, the more I believed that I had used up all of God’s grace in my life. No one taught me about the blood of Jesus, or showed me that my behavior was actually dishonoring the blood of Christ and negating Jesus’ work on the cross for me. No one preached the good news to me, so at that time, I really thought that my sins were greater than God’s grace.

Well, let me declare once and for all that there is no sin that a Christian is not forgiven of. When you understand why God sent the Holy Spirit, you will realize

that the unpardonable sin is simply to consistently reject Jesus! The Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit came to testify of and witness about Jesus Christ. Jesus said:

“The Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.” (John 15:26 NKJV)

To blaspheme the Holy Spirit is therefore to continually reject the person of Christ whom the Holy Spirit testifies of. Study the Word of God carefully. Who was Jesus speaking to when He spoke of the unpardonable sin? He was speaking to the Pharisees, who continually rejected Him as their Savior and plotted to kill Him on several occasions. They even accused Him of having an unclean spirit, saying, “He has Beelzebub. By the ruler of the demons He casts out demons.”(Mark 3:22). Jesus’ response was, “Assuredly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven... but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condemnation.”(Mark 3:28-30). Why did He say that? The next verse tells us that it is “because they said, ‘He has an unclean spirit.’” The Holy Spirit is present even today to witness about Jesus. Therefore, to blaspheme the Holy Spirit is to keep on rejecting the gospel of Jesus and to depend on your own efforts to be saved. Jesus was warning the Pharisees not to commit this sin, and to stop rejecting Him. This clearly does not apply to the believer. You see, in reading the Bible, it is important to note who the words were spoken to and to ascertain if the words are relevant for the believer. In this case, Jesus was speaking to the Pharisees who had rejected Him and who even made claims that He had an unclean spirit. Imagine their audacity! As for you, my dear brother or sister, have full assurance in your heart that it is impossible for a believer to commit the unpardonable sin. A believer has already received the gift of eternal life and will never be “subject to eternal condemnation”.²⁷

Let me give you another example. You may have heard some preachers yelling at unbelievers and using the term “a brood of vipers”. But Jesus never called sinners

²⁷ Prince, *Destined to Reign*, p. 91-92.

— not even the prostitutes and corrupt tax collectors — “a brood of vipers”. Never! Those harsh words by Jesus were reserved only for the Pharisees (Matthew 12:34, 23:33) whose fixation on the law blinded them from seeing God in the flesh — Jesus, who gave the law in the first place and who came to fulfill the law on man’s behalf. So learn to rightly divide the Word of God whenever you read the Bible. Not everything that Jesus said was spoken to the church.

Feed On The Letters Of Apostle Paul

Have you noticed that Paul never mentioned the unpardonable sin? Not one time, in all his letters to the churches, did he warn Christians about the unpardonable sin. If Christians could commit the unpardonable sin, he should have mentioned it in every epistle that he wrote. On the other hand, Paul emphasized that Jesus, by His death on the cross, has made us “alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses” (Col. 2:13). I have checked the original Greek word for “all”²⁸ in this verse and guess what? “All” means ALL! Jesus, with His own blood, has forgiven you of ALL your sins, so there is no sin that is unpardonable! By one perfect sacrifice, Jesus has cleansed you of the sins of your entire life and you are now sealed with the promise of eternal life! Now, this is good news that will establish your heart with grace and confidence.

God does not leave you wondering whether you are saved or not. He tells you outright that you are His and that nothing can ever separate you from the love of Christ. Not even sin because His blood is greater than your sin! Knowing that all your sins are forgiven is crucial for your health, peace of mind, wholeness and wellness. My struggle with the unpardonable sin during my teenage years is a case

²⁸ Strong, NT: 3956

in point. The more you believe that all your sins are forgiven by the blood of Jesus, the more you will become whole — body, soul and spirit!

Knowing that all your sins are forgiven is crucial for your health, peace of mind, wholeness and wellness.

I hope that by now, you can see the dangers of lifting the Word of God out of its context. We have to be careful not to take a verse out of its context and build a teaching or doctrine around it. Bible teachings have to be confirmed by several supporting verses and these have to be studied within their proper contexts. When you hear teachings that put fear in your heart and place you under bondage, don't just swallow them hook, line, sinker, fisherman and boots. Look at the context of the verse, and see if it is a new covenant truth or an old covenant teaching. Who was the verse spoken or written to, and how is it applicable to you today? Just remember that all new covenant truths exalt Jesus and His finished work. Hallelujah!²⁹

The Main Clause Of The New Covenant

It is sad that you hardly hear the main clause of the new covenant being preached today:

Hebrews 8:8–12

“For finding fault with them, He says, “BEHOLD, DAYS ARE COMING, SAYS THE LORD, WHEN I WILL EFFECT A NEW COVENANT WITH THE

²⁹ Prince, *Destined to Reign*, p. 95.

HOUSE OF ISRAEL AND WITH THE HOUSE OF JUDAH; NOT LIKE THE COVENANT WHICH I MADE WITH THEIR FATHERS ON THE DAY WHEN I TOOK THEM BY THE HAND TO LEAD THEM OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT; FOR THEY DID NOT CONTINUE IN MY COVENANT, AND I DID NOT CARE FOR THEM, SAYS THE LORD. “FOR THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: I WILL PUT MY LAWS INTO THEIR MINDS, AND I WILL WRITE THEM ON THEIR HEARTS. AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. AND THEY SHALL NOT TEACH EVERYONE HIS FELLOW CITIZEN, AND EVERYONE HIS BROTHER, SAYING, ‘KNOW THE LORD,’ FOR ALL WILL KNOW ME, FROM THE LEAST TO THE GREATEST OF THEM. “FOR I WILL BE MERCIFUL TO THEIR INIQUITIES, AND I WILL REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE.”

“I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.” Memorize this, beloved, for this is the main and final clause of the new covenant!

Unfortunately, it seems that what the average Christian believes today is the complete opposite. They believe that God is not merciful to their sins. When something goes wrong, inwardly they think, “Well, the rooster has come home to roost. My past sins have caught up with me. All these terrible things are happening to me, to my family and to my finances because of the sins that I have committed.” When they have a flat tire, they start thinking to themselves, “What sin is God punishing me for now?” This kind of thinking is so prevalent in the church because Christians don’t really believe that they are under the new covenant.

The problem with the church today is wrong believing. I’m sorry to tell you this, but if you refuse to believe what God has said about the forgiveness of sins in the new covenant, then you are actually in disobedience. Jesus Himself defined the new covenant for us at the last supper when He said, “This is My blood of the new

covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.” (Matthew 26:28). The main clause of the new covenant is the forgiveness of all your sins because of the shed blood of Jesus Christ. I don’t care how many good deeds you have done, how much money you have given to charity or what leadership position you hold. If you do not believe the main clause of the new covenant, you are in disobedience.

God Does Not Keep An Itemized Account Of All Your Failures.

God put the main clause of the new covenant as the last clause to show us that it is this final clause that makes everything work. If you don’t believe the main and final clause, you are rejecting the new covenant and negating the finished work of Jesus. The new covenant says that God is merciful to all your unrighteousness, and has forgotten your sins plus your lawless deeds. If God says that He has forgotten them, then He has truly forgotten them. Who are we to contradict Him? God cannot lie!

“But how can God forget my sins?”

He can because He is God! If He said it, then He has done it. You know that sin you committed many years ago? God has forgotten it. Contrary to what you might have been taught, God does not keep an itemized account of all your failures. There is no big projector screen in heaven to show all your sins from the day you were born to the day you return to heaven. All records of your sins have been incinerated by the blood of Jesus when He cried out, “It is finished!”(John 19:30). His blood has removed the sins of your entire life. When God looks at you today, He sees you covered with Jesus’ blood and completely righteous.³⁰

³⁰ Prince, *Destined to Reign*, p. 97-98.

Only the devil, you yourself and the people around you (especially “religious” people, but not true Christians) will bring your sins to your remembrance. So when you are weighed down by the mistakes of your past, run to God and lean on His grace! Why?

“For He will be merciful to your unrighteousness, and your sins and your lawless deeds He will remember no more.” ---Hebrews 8:12

This is the main clause of the new covenant of grace!

Chapter Six: Sit Under New Covenant Ministries

Be sure that you are receiving from a ministry that is established on the new covenant of grace, and not from a ministry that slips in and out of the two covenants. Failure to rightly divide God's Word leads to confusion and God calls this "mixture." He cannot bless mixture, which portrays Him as being angry with us sometimes because of our failure to keep the law, but wanting to bless us at other times because of His grace. Mixture teaches that God is happy with us sometimes, but at other times, our fellowship with God is broken because of our failures.

A believer can find no peace, no assurance and no confidence in mixture. You cannot put new wine into an old wineskin because you will lose both.¹¹ The law will lose its convicting power to lead you to Christ if it is balanced with grace. Grace will lose its essence of being unmerited, unearned and undeserved when people are told that they still need to depend on themselves and their works to deserve God's presence and favor. It is an outright contradiction. What man calls "balance," God calls "mixture."³¹

Test Everything You Hear With God's Word

I encourage you to test everything you hear with God's Word. I always tell my church to read the Bible for themselves instead of simply swallowing all that any preacher, including myself, says. Be wise and don't just swallow everything—hook, line, sinker, fisherman and even his boots! Be discerning when you hear something that does not sit well in your spirit, such as when a preacher tells you that "God gives you sicknesses to teach you a lesson." Ask yourself, "Is this in line with the new covenant of God's unmerited favor? Are there new covenant scriptures to back this teaching up?"

³¹ Prince, Joseph. Unmerited Favor, p. 102-103.

The answer is obvious once you align it with Jesus and what He has done on the cross for you! Why would God give you sicknesses when Jesus has taken every sickness and disease upon His own body at the cross? With full assurance in your heart that sickness is not from God, you can have faith to be healed! But what assurance can you have if you believe the lie that the condition is from God? Now, instead of thinking that God is against you, you realize that He is on your side! Your confidence is restored, faith is renewed and His healing can flow unabated through every cell, tissue and organ in your body!

To end this course, let me just share with you the words of Miles Coverdale, who said, “It shall greatly help thee to understand scripture, if thou mark not only what is spoken or written, but of whom, and unto whom, with what words, at what time, where, to what intent, with what circumstance, considering what goeth before, and what followeth after.”³²

Essentially, he was saying that to understand the Bible, we need to read everything in its context. What powerful advice from the man who translated and produced the first English Bible in the 16th century.

My brothers and sisters, rightly divide the covenants whenever you read the Bible and you will never be ashamed. Now that you have received Jesus into your life, you are under the new covenant and it is your new covenant right to enjoy Jesus’ unmerited favor to succeed in life!³³

³² Coverdale’s Dedication and Preface, Coverdale’s Bible, Retrieved October 18, 2017, www.bible-researcher.com/coverdale1.html

³³ Prince, Joseph. Unmerited Favor, p. 104.

Closing Words

My Dear reader, thank you for taking this journey with me into God's Love For Us. You've been a wonderful and attentive travel companion, and I pray that you've been blessed by the truths shared in this course. While there is so a great deal of emphasis on God's Love in some circles, I am concerned that it is a very poorly understood subject among believers today. I trust you are beginning to see that there is transformative power found in believing right about how much we are loved by God. If you can change what you believe, you can change your life.

There were some surprises when doing the research for this commentary. Like many, I assumed that the topic of God's Love For Us was a fairly well understood subject. It was quite surprising to find how little most Christians (including myself) actually know about the subject.

The topic of God's Love For Us and its effects on people has been and remains a poorly understood subject. It is my prayer and hope that we may find that rediscovering the Biblical teachings about Condemnation can enrich our lives and our ministries.

Throughout this course, I have endeavored to show you the gospel of Jesus Christ through the Scriptures as well as through the testimony of others. Because of Jesus' finished work at the cross, He will never be angry with you nor rebuke you even when you fail. So don't ever forget the main clause of the new covenant, which says that your sins and your lawless deeds, He remembers no more!

Many believers are defeated today because they do not know the God of the new covenant of grace. I believe with all of my heart that because you took this wonderful journey with me you saw for yourself, all the things concerning Jesus Christ and His finished work, your heart would now burn with His extravagant love for you. Jesus truly puts the “amazing”, the “wonderful” and the “marvelous” back into grace!

Today, God is all about blessing you with His grace — His undeserved, unearned and unmerited favor — in every area of your life. Stop trying to deserve and earn your own acceptance before God with your own works and efforts. It will only frustrate the grace of God and nullify the effects of the cross in your life. My Dear brother or sister, Jesus already finished the work! Believe with all your heart that it is not about what you need to do today, but about what has already been done and accomplished on your behalf.

My Beloved brothers and sisters, I have proclaimed to you the gospel of Jesus Christ and am fulfilling the commission He gave me to bring Jesus back to central place in the church by rolling away the stone and opening people’s eyes to reveal more of Jesus and His finished work. I know that if you have believed this good news of His grace, your life has begun to be radically transformed, together with the countless believers around the world who have already been impacted by the Gospel Revolution. I pray that this course has torn down the fences of controversy that the enemy has erected around the teaching of God’s grace and the gift of righteousness, so that you may indeed receive not just grace, but the “abundance of grace”, and receive not just righteousness, but the “gift of righteousness”, and start reigning in life. Start reigning over sin, over sickness, over condemnation, over financial lack and over the curse of the law through the ONE, Jesus Christ.

All that I have shared works most powerfully and effectively within the environment of the local church. These truths are for the greater good of the body of Christ and should never result in you becoming a law unto yourself. Beloved, I

want to see you enjoying the safety of the covering of a local church where there is accountability and submission. This is where our blessings are tremendously multiplied.

I thank you for taking this journey with me and for giving me the opportunity to unveil more of Jesus to you. You have been a wonderful traveling companion. We should do this again soon! In the meantime, until the next course begins, BE BLESSED!!!

In His Grace, *Dr. Charles.*

I look forward to hearing from you about how our Lord Jesus has touched and impacted your life with His amazing grace.

It is all about Jesus and His finished work!

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