

You have probably heard the hymn **"Amazing Grace"** countless times, *but what is it exactly that makes God's grace so amazing?* The Bible explains how a holy God has lavishly poured out His grace and forgiveness to undeserving sinners, people who rightfully deserve His judgment. **What a miracle of grace!**

The hymn continues, "That saved a wretch like me." *But how does God actually save sinners?* There is much confusion about this question. Proverbs 14:12 warns: **"There is a way which seems right to a person, but its end is the way of death."** What if what **"seems right"** to you about grace and gaining entrance to Heaven is wrong?

Most religious leaders tend to emphasize **four things** when they explain how a person can enter Heaven, and most people agree with those things, they **seem right**: 1) God loves you, 2) Christ died for you, 3) God wants to save you, **but** 4) He won't unless you **"do your part."** But there are falsehoods in those teachings that are taking people down the path to destruction.

If your salvation depended in any way on **you**, **"doing your part,"** (which it **doesn't**), the requirements might include: accepting Christ as Lord and Savior, striving to keep the Ten Commandments, doing good works, attending church, being baptized, and participating in the sacraments. But doing your best to obey any or all of these things, **does not qualify** a person for Heaven. **Why is that?**

Because even our best efforts to gain God's eternal acceptance fall far short of the holy standard that Jesus set forth in Matthew 5:48- **"Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect."** This wasn't merely a suggestion or something to aspire to. God is so pure and sin is so offensive to His holy nature, He cannot allow even a single sin to ever be in His presence. Romans 3:23 states: **"All have sinned and come short of the (heavenly) glory of God."**

Galatians 3:10 warns: **"Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the book of the law."** And Jeremiah 17:9 reveals why we will never achieve God's holy standard: **"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked ..."** Each of us possesses a sinful, rebellious heart that will break God's law countless times over our lifetimes. And since God requires us to be blameless on judgment day, **we desperately need a Savior, to cancel the huge sin debt that each of us owes!**

But here's the Good News! Everyone who is enabled by God to rest the entire weight of their soul on what **Christ accomplished on the cross, will be saved!** When Jesus went to the cross, **the greatest miracle in history** took place. The full punishment that guilty sinners deserve for breaking God's commandments was

laid upon Him, and **His perfect righteousness** was credited to them. Now, when God looks upon them, He considers them **just as sinless** as Christ Himself! 2 Corinthians 5:21 declares: ***"He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."***

Sadly, most preachers talk out of both sides of their mouth when they speak about God's grace. On the one hand, they proclaim that salvation is "completely by grace," but, almost in the same breath, they insist that people must still **"do their part"** in order to be saved. But Ephesians 2:8 says the complete opposite: ***"For it is by Grace you have been saved, through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God."*** Faith is simply the sinner's open hand that receives God's free gift, it contributes nothing.

Salvation is **God's work alone**, from its design in eternity past to its fulfillment in eternity future, and everywhere in between. True grace is **predestinating** grace: which means that before you or I had ever done anything good or bad, God had already determined who would receive His unmerited favor. (Read Romans 9:11)

Romans 8:30 traces the unbroken chain of God's saving purpose: ***"Those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified;*** (made sinless) ***those He justified, He also glorified."*** (admitted into heaven) Every link in that chain rests entirely on **God's sovereign will—not** on human free will.

Perhaps you're wondering: "Can these Bible verses be true? Is there really **nothing** that I can bring to the table that God can accept? Has He chosen me before time began? If I don't wake up tomorrow, where will I spend eternity?" Nothing is more important, or urgent, than finding the answer to those questions! They will determine your eternal destiny. But where should you look for answers?

In a world where most churches shy away from even discussing the topic of **God's free, predestinating Grace**, Todd's Road Grace Church in Lexington, Kentucky is unashamed to proclaim, teach, and rejoice in it, in our church services, on our television and radio broadcasts, and on our website: toddsroadgracechurch.com.

Many of the **Grace messages** by our Pastor, Todd Nibert, are also available on YouTube. Service times and broadcast information are listed at the very bottom of this page and also on the home page. Questions? Comments? Do you need a ride to church? Email me at bentonfirstserve@gmail.com. **We warmly encourage you to come and hear more about God's Amazing Grace!**