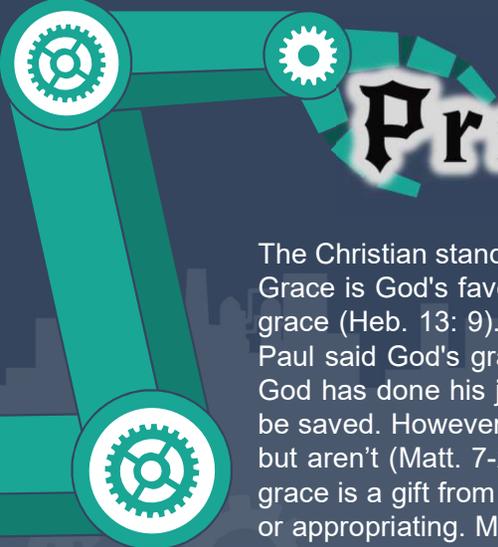


Anthology of Grace

Is the Word "ALONE" Applicable to God's Grace?

Why is Overcoming Even Necessary?



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The Christian stands in grace (1 Pet. 5: 12), grows in grace (2 Pet. 3: 18), and is to be strong in grace (2 Tim. 2: 1). Grace is God's favor. We are called by grace (Gal. 1: 15), justified by grace (Tit. 3: 7), and we are established by grace (Heb. 13: 9). The Bible also says we are saved by grace (Eph. 2: 5, 8). But are we saved by grace alone? Paul said God's grace "brings salvation", but he also affirmed God's grace "has appeared to all men" (Tit. 2: 11). God has done his job in universally extending grace. If it were just a matter of salvation by grace alone, all would be saved. However, only a few shall be saved (Matt. 7: 13-14) and others will claim they thought they were saved, but aren't (Matt. 7:21-23). There is more involved than grace alone! Man must appropriate God's grace. It is true grace is a gift from God, and man cannot earn it (Rom. 11: 6, Eph. 2: 8-10). Some confuse earning and accepting; or appropriating. Man can (and does sometimes) receive God's grace in vain (2 Cor. 6: 1). Christians can also "fall from grace" (Gal. 5:4). In Ephesians 2, we have two elements, grace and faith, and two players: God and man. Paul wrote, "For by grace are you saved through faith...it is a gift" (vs. 8). Grace is emanated from God, but faith is man's responsibility to exercise. Man seems determined to attach "alone or only" to grace. Yet Man has participation in his salvation, from the beginning (accepting grace) and through the process (continuing in grace, Acts 13: 43), and overcoming (Rom 6:12-14, 1 John 5, Rev 2). Grace alone is a false, because continued faith in obedience is essential (2 Co 10:5-6). Grace reigns through to righteousness, man's faith is in righteousness (Rom. 5:1-2, 21) and follows the righteousness of Jesus Christ (1 John 2:1). It might be a good idea to understand "What is an Overcomer" and in direct relationship to the meaning of the Name Israel (the Upright of God). If all you have to do is say a simple little prayer and you are done, then what's with the overcoming? What is sanctification?

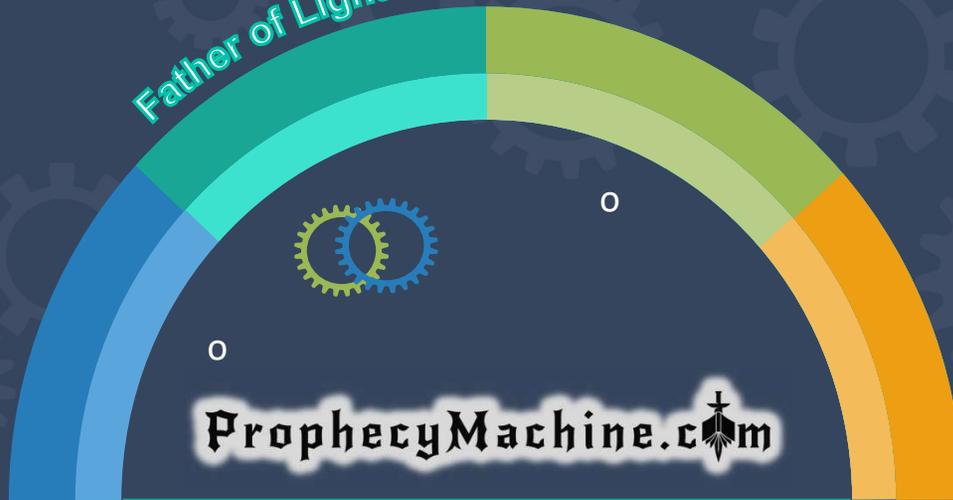
Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Matthew 7:21

And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever. 1 John 2:17

There are many opinions relative to the role of God and man in man's salvation. It seems man is determined to pervert God's simple plan for man's salvation in either falsely teaching man earns his salvation (God's grace not needed; Jesus righteousness is not supreme in pointing to The Father's holiness) or in falsely teaching salvation is all of God (that man's faith and/or obedience is not involved). Since man is not sinless, God provides the necessary grace, whereby an man can be saved unto obedience. However, God's grace is not "grace alone", for the word "alone" is never attributed as it is often preached. Sometimes when you have two opposing doctrines where one argues this and another argues that, the truth may be found in Both. Let ALL of Scripture be the test.



Father of Lights



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Temple Yahh

All Temples Made with Man's Hands
Were Built in the Flesh