

The Law of God - Lesson #1

Define:

as a Noun

1. simple elegance or refinement of movement
2. courteous goodwill
3. a period officially allowed for payment of a sum due or for compliance with a law or condition, especially an extended period granted as a special favor.
4. a period officially allowed for payment of a sum due or for compliance with a law or condition, especially an extended period granted as a special favor

as a Verb

1. do honor or credit to (someone or something) by one's presence.

Define God's Grace:

1. the free and unmerited favor of God, as manifested in the salvation of sinners and the bestowal of blessings.

There MUST be law(s) for there to be transgressions to require Grace

Romans 4:15 – without law there is no transgression: no law = no sin and no sin = no need for forgiveness as grace from God

Romans 3:23-24 – all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (clear back to Adam), justified freely by his Grace through the redemption that is in Christ

I John 3:4 – All that commit sin also transgress the law

So, why should we care? Romans 6:23 & 1:1 – wages of sin is Death – the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men

Ephesians 2:1 & 5 - when you were dead through your trespasses/sins, HE made you alive together with the risen Christ (by Grace have you been saved)

The Laws of Moses & Abraham were fulfilled/abolished by Christ and the “New” laws of Christ were established

I Corinthians 9:21 – Paul was to those without law the same BUT under law to Christ

Matthew 28:18-20 – All authority (law) was given unto Jesus in heaven AND on earth

Romans 7:12-25 – His law is perfect, holy & good and cannot be improved upon by men

As good parents do for their children so too has God done for us, his children

Laws:

1. reveal His nature
2. shows us what is Right
3. shows our imperfections
4. lets us know the result of keeping OR breaking His laws
5. act as a tutor to point/nudge us toward Christ

The Grace of God – Lesson #2

Titus 2:11-13 – the Grace of God that brings Salvation has appeared to ALL men (as Jesus) teaching us that we should deny ungodliness and worldly lusts and thus live soberly, righteously and godly

The concept of Grace is found in both Old AND New Testaments

Genesis 6:8 – Noah found grace (favor) in the eyes of the Lord while remainder of world was under God’s condemnation (Genesis 6:5-7)

Old Testament Hebrew word “CHEN” = translated as “favor” used 26 times and as “grace” 38 times – SO, mercy/forgiveness/grace was shown under old (**Numbers 14:19-20**) & new Covenant based on Christ’s sacrifice (**Romans 3:25-26 & Revelation 13:8**)

New Testament Greek word “CHARIS” = attitude of God toward sinful men used 155 times as “Benefit (1), Favor (6), Grace (129), Thanksgiving (1), Liberality/Gift (1), Thanks (7), Acceptable (1), Gracious (1), Thankworthy (1) God be Thanked (1) and more – Paul used it 101 times and Jesus not at all as recorded in the Gospels

Overwhelming use of the word for Grace is:

1. attitude of God toward sinful men (**Titus 2:11-12**)
2. the state of justification because of God’s Grace (**Ephesians 2:8-9**)
3. to show a system/principle under which one lives (**Romans 6:14**)

God bestows MANY gifts upon mankind (James 1:17 & Matthew 5:45) BUT God’s greatest gift to mankind, Grace, is the salvation of his soul!

Who, then, can receive God’s Grace???

1. Is offered to all (**Titus 2:11**)
2. Will be given ONLY to those who accept it on God’s terms (**Ephesians 2:8-13**)

What then does Grace do for you since you are cursed? (Galatians 3:10)

1. Pronounce you as “Just” (**Romans 3:20-24**)
2. Be made “alive” though we were dead (**Ephesians 2:4-8**)
3. Be freely added to the “Elect” or “Chosen” without works (**Romans 11:5-6**)

Jesus is the Avenue to Grace – Lesson #3

Romans 3:10 – there is NONE righteous, no, not one

Romans 6:23 – wages of sin is DEATH; BUT the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ

Romans 7:24-25 – wretched that we are! Who shall deliver us out of this body of death? Thank God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. We of ourselves, with the mind, indeed, serve the law of God while the flesh serves the law of sin – ONLY God can deliver us from sin's penalty

So, did God infer from the beginning that Grace would be provided for man?

Ephesians 1:4-8 – He chose us, in him, before the foundation of the world. Foreordained to adopt us through Jesus Christ according to his will, to the praise of the glory of his Grace, which he freely bestowed on us. In whom we have redemption through his blood, forgiveness of trespasses, according to the riches of His Grace

I Peter 1:10 – the prophets sought & searched for salvation, diligently and prophesied of the Grace that should come unto you when you were dead through your trespasses/sins, HE made you alive together with the risen Christ (by Grace have you been saved)

God's Grace then:

Extends:

1. Mercy (**Titus 3:5**)
2. Forgiveness (**Romans 4:6 & Ephesians 4:32**)
3. Remission of sins (**Matt 26:28 & Hebrews 9:22**)
4. Covering of sins (**Romans 4:6**)

Offers:

1. Salvation (**Titus 2:11**)
2. Justification (**Romans 3:24**)
3. Redemption (**Revelation 5:9**)
4. Righteousness (**Romans 4:6**)
5. Reconciliation (**2 Corinthians 2:18**)
6. Sanctification (**1 Corinthians 1:30**)
7. Life (**Hebrews 9:12**)

HOW did Jesus provide the Grace to man?

1. Became poor so we could be rich (**2 Corinthians 8:9**)
2. Lived a perfect life (**Hebrews 5:8-9 & I Peter 2:21-25**)
3. Was slain for our justification (**2 Corinthians 5:21 & John 1:29**)

WHY is Grace seen as a gift?

1. **Ephesians 2:8-9 & Romans 6:23** – salvation/redemption = gift
2. **2 Corinthians 9:15** – indescribable gift
3. **John 14:6** – Jesus is “The Way, “The Truth” and “The Life” and NO one comes to the Father but THROUGH him – He is our Gift from God the Father

A Law System versus A Grace System – Lesson #4

Romans 6:14-15 – sin shall NOT have dominion over you: for you are not under law but under Grace. What then?! Shall we sin because we are not under law, but under Grace?! Certainly NOT! (God forbid!)

God’s laws and God’s Grace mix like oil and water (they don’t) – They are tied together BUT MUST be kept apart (**Romans 11:6**) - Grace isn’t Grace IF works are necessary

Law shows man:

1. How he ought to live (**Deuteronomy 4:2**)
2. Pronounce righteous (**Galatians 3:21**)
3. Those that keep the law (**Romans 3:19**)
4. What is right and how you have broken the law (**Romans 7:7 & I John 3:4**)
5. Clearly what is wrong or sinful (**Romans 3:20**)

What if man could keep God’s law?

1. Then they would be sinless and equal to Jesus
2. They would be “justified” by the law
3. They would have “worked” their way to heaven by merit
4. They could boast/glory in their accomplishment (**Ephesians 2:8-9**)
5. They would show Jesus’s death on the cross as being in vain (**Galatians 2:21**)

What is the Weakness of law?

1. (**Romans 8:3**) weak through flesh & (**Hebrews 8:7-8**) first covenant had faults (flesh)
2. God’s law is perfect (**Psalms 19:7 & Romans 7:12**) but has no provisions for man’s weakness or sinfulness
3. the law has no provision for forgiving the law breaker (**Isaiah 64:6**)

4. law only pronounces death to the law breaker (**Romans 6:23 & Galatians 3:10**)

What is the outcome of being under Law?

1. makes us realize what great sinners we are (**Romans 3:19**)
2. makes us realize that law is not enough (**Romans 3:20 & Galatians 2:16 3:11**)
3. makes us realize we are condemned by law (**Romans 6:23**)
4. makes me realize the need for God's help (**Romans 11:6**)

What is the purpose of Grace?

1. to show God's love and mercy (**John 3:16**)
2. to make a sinful person righteous (**Romans 4:11 & Romans 5:21**)
3. to make me dead to law as justification (**Galatians 2:19 & Romans 7:4**)
4. to deliver me from the curse of law breaking (**Galatians 3:13**)
5. to recognize that God produced our justification (**Titus 3:3-8 & Romans 3:20-25**)
6. to realize that boasting is only about Christ's sacrifice (**I Corinthians 1:31**)
7. to provide forgiveness & eternal life (**Romans 6:17-18 & 5:1**)

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Justified by Faith AND our Works – Lesson #5

Romans 3:27-28 – We are justified by faith apart from the works of law!

Paul said that Abraham was NOT justified by his “WORKS” (**Romans 4:1-5**) while James wrote that Abraham WAS saved by his “WORKING FAITH” (**James 2:20-24**) They DO NOT contradict one another BUT do complement one another in the Works of Faith

Cain & Abel were another example (**I John 3:12 & Hebrews 11:4**) Abel still spoke through his sacrifice/works

Those of the Old Covenant were justified by Faith (**Galatians 3:11 is FROM Habakkuk 2:4**) and Paul points out (**Romans 3:25**) God forgave those in earlier times due to obedient Faith

SO, we MUST “DO” as well as “HEAR” (**James 1:22-25**)

HOW are we Justified by “Works of Faith”?:

1. We recognize our sinfulness (**Romans 3:9**)
2. We recognize that God saves us (**Romans 6:23**)
3. We recognize that we should “boast” about God (**I Corinthians 1:29-31**)

Bear in mind: In all these things, we can still fall from Grace (Galatians 5:4)

Can Grace Do Away with Law? - Lesson #6

Romans 6:13-14 – sin shall not have dominion over you: for you are NOT under Law but ARE under Grace!

Supporting Scriptures:

Galatians 4:4-5 & 7 – Jesus, born under the Law that he might redeem us FROM the Law

Galatians 3:10-14 – Christ redeemed us from the curse of Law – he became our curse

Galatians 2:19-21 – if righteousness comes through Law THEN Christ died in vain

Galatians 5:18 – If you're led by the Spirit, you are NOT under Law

Romans 10:4 – Christ is the END of Law for righteousness to believers

What does it mean: NOT under Law?

1. IF under law then MUST keep perfectly (**James 2:10**)
2. We are cursed if we don't keep whole law (**Galatians 3:10**)
3. Having been set free from sin (disobedience to God's Law), you became servants of righteousness (obedience to God's Law) (**Romans 6:17-18**)

ANY Law system CANNOT bring justification (Salvation) whether as Law of God for Gentiles or Law of Moses for Jews or Law of Christ for us

ONLY Jesus kept the Law perfectly (Hebrews 5:8-9 & 4:15)

Psalms 19:7 – Law of Moses was PERFECT – BUT **Acts 15:10-11** – it was a yoke which our fathers or we have been able to bear – thus the need for the Grace of Jesus

SO, how is the Christian under any Law?

Romans 6:23 – Wages of sin (lawlessness) is DEATH while the FREE gift of God, through Christ, is eternal life

Romans 8:1-2 – Law of the Spirit, through Christ, made me free from the law of sin and from DEATH

The Law of God is a perfect guide (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**) and in living by it you will be blessed (**James 1:25**) but doing so with a Savior has no merit

God's Grace does NOT relieve us from wanting to abide by God's Law (**2 John 1:9**)

How Grace Deals with Guilt? - Lesson #7

Romans 3:19 – We know that the Law says to those under the Law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God

Guilt followed by Grace are inseparably bound:

The conscience is the internal thought process that lets us recognize & feel our own guilt – Guilt originates out of one's value system and is directed by the precepts and directives of God (**James 4:17**)

What is Guilt?

Guilt can cause us to experience:

1. Anxiety
2. Pain
3. Displeasure
4. Depression
5. Remorse

ALL serve of warning signals to cause a change, bringing about a positive counter-reaction

Proper values should begin as children (**Ephesians 6:4**)

Avoid that which can corrupt our values and conscience (**I Corinthians 15:33**)

Man's laws, as sanctioned by God, can even guide our values (**Romans 13:1-7**)

The Word (Bible) as delivered by spirit guides us (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**)

What are the "kinds" of Guilt?

1. Too little (**Acts 2:23-37 & I Corinthians 5:1-13**)
2. Normal (**I Timothy 4:2 & II Corinthians 2:5-10**)
3. Too much – over-reaction stifles corrective action

The role of Grace:

1. To remove the penalty of sin (**Romans 5:6-21**)
2. To restore the "lost" relationship (**I John 3:1-3**)

How Does one Receive the Grace of God? - Lesson #8

Romans 3:21-25 – Apart from Law, God's righteousness is manifested, witnessed by the Law AND the Prophets, even the righteousness of God through faith in Christ, upon ALL that believe because there is no longer any difference between Jew & Gentile, ALL have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, justified freely by Grace through redemption in Christ.

IS Grace Conditional or Unconditional?

God's Grace is unconditional to those who follow the "Plan of Salvation":

1. So, salvation is conditional upon following a "PLAN"
2. **Choice #1:** All can be saved by God's Grace which is unconditional justification
3. **Choice #2:** Only some can be saved by God's Grace because He required certain things of us which is conditional justification
4. Disobedience makes us all sinners by rejecting God's Laws (**I John 3:4**)

The "GOOD NEWS" shows God's concern for ALL:

1. Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation (**Mark 16:15**) (or to all the nations) (**Matthew 28:19**)
2. The Grace of God THAT brings salvation has appeared to all (**Titus 2:11**)

Even Old Testament characters had to put their Faith into action:

1. **Hebrews 11:4** – by faith Adam offered unto God
2. **Hebrews 11:5** – by faith Enoch was not to see death
3. **Hebrews 11:7** – by faith Noah prepared an ark
4. **Hebrews 11:8** – by faith Abraham went unto an unknown place (also Isaac & Jacob)
5. **Hebrews 11:11** – by faith Sarah received power to conceive when past age
6. **Hebrews 11:17** – by faith Abraham offered-up his son Isaac
7. **Hebrews 11:20** – by faith Isaac blessed Jacob
8. **Hebrews 11:21** – by faith Jacob blesses each of the sons of Joseph
9. **Hebrews 11:22** – by faith Joseph mentioned his children's departure and to take his bones also
10. **Hebrews 11:23** – by faith Moses's parents hid him
11. **Hebrews 11:24** – by faith Moses refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter and chose to follow God's commands and the future, unseen Christ over riches
12. **Hebrews 11:30** – by faith the walls of Jericho fell
13. **Hebrews 11:31** – by faith Rahab the harlot saved her family

2 Chronicles 7:14 – If My people, called by My name, will humble themselves, and pray, seeking My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, forgive their sin and heal their land

1. Jesus replaces animal blood sacrifices (**Hebrews 10:4-10 & John 1:29**)
2. With the coming of the Christ comes a change of what God requires of us (**Hebrews 8:6-10 & 9:15-18**)
3. Faith by itself, if it does not have works, is DEAD (**James 2:14-26**) = works supplements our Faith which justifies the Grace we are about to receive as unmerited gift from God
4. We can “show” our love (**Romans 13:8 & 10**) & so too can reveal our Faith’s works by doing the will of God (**Romans 7:21**)
5. Remainder of our works tying Jesus’s directive together (**Galatians 3:26-27**) they who BELIEVE (have Faith) and are baptized will be saved while they who do NOT believe WILL be CONDEMNED (**Mark 16:16**)

Who does NOT receive the Grace of God?:

1. Believes & Baptized = saved – doesn’t believe = condemned (**Mark 16:16**)
2. Vengeance to those that know NOT God & obey not the Gospel (**2 Thes 1:8**)
3. Those who walk in darkness and do not the truth (**I John 1:5-7**)
4. Those who reject Jesus and his words (**John 12:48**)
5. Those who think they can be justified by keeping the Law keeping or works (**Galatians 2:16 & 3:11**)

MUST have Law to be able to identify and confess our sins (1 John 1:9)

Must understand the “Perfect Law of Liberty” as under Grace (James 1:25)

How Do We Keep Access to God's Grace - Lesson #9?

Acts 11:22-23 – Church of Jerusalem sent Barnabas to Antioch: where he saw the Grace of God in action and was glad and exhorted them all with purpose in their heart to cleave unto the Lord (continue as they were)

It is NOT “Once Saved – Always Saved” – we MUST always strive to sustain our relationship with God – Grace was set forward for the sinner and the Saint

Acts 13:43 – Paul and Barnabas exhort those who at Antioch who believed the message of Grace through Jesus that they should continue in the Grace of God

How secure are we in the Grace of God?

1. **I John 1:10 thru 2:1** - If we say we haven't sinned then we make God a liar – I write these things so that you may not sin – IF you do sin WE have an Advocate, Jesus Christ the Righteous, with the Father
2. **Jude 4** – exhorts them to strive for Faith and avoid the condemnation of ungodly men, thus turning the Grace of God into lasciviousness and denying our ONLY Master and Lord, Jesus Christ
3. **Galatians 1:6** – Paul marveled that they so quickly turned away from Him that called them in the Grace of Christ, to a different Gospel – SO it is easy to fall away and follow a false message
4. **John 10:27-29** – no one can snatch the saved out of Jesus's or the Father's hand
5. **Romans 8:38-39** – NOTHING can separate us from the love of God and Lord, Jesus Christ
6. **I Peter 1:3-5** – Father of Christ with GREAT Mercy begat us, through the resurrection, to a perfect inheritance that does NOT fade away, reserved in heaven

Keeping access to God's Grace through Obedient Faith:

1. **Titus 2:11-12** – Grace brings salvation instructing us to deny ungodliness and lusts and to live soberly, righteously and godly
2. **James 2:17-26** – Faith without works is dead
3. **Hebrews 5:8-9** – Obey the Father even as Jesus the Son did
4. **I John 1:7-9** – continue walking in the Light and confessing our sins
5. **Revelations 2:10** – be faithful until death

Can one lose access to God's Grace?

1. **Hebrews 3:12** – Take heed of an evil heart of unbelief, falling away from God
2. **Hebrews 3:16-19** – Jews could not enter promised land due to unbelief
3. **Hebrews 6:4-6** – Once partakers take heed NOT to fall away
4. **Revelations 3:5 & 20:15** - your name blotted from book of life & cast into lake of fire
5. **I Timothy 4:1** - some SHALL fall away from the faith in the later times

6. **2 Peter 2:20-22** – AGAIN entangled: which is worse than the first time

Again, it takes Christ, NOT Law, to set us free from the yoke of bondage (**Galatians 5:1-4**) even King David recognized this of Christ under the old covenant (**Romans 4:6-8**)

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ONLY YOU can turn away from God's Grace!!! – I John 2:23-24

As long as one trusts in Christ, we are assured of the wonderful blessings of God

1. **I John 5:11-13** – we KNOW that we have eternal life in the Son of God
2. **2 Peter 3:10-14** – looking earnestly toward the end – to be found blameless
3. **2 Timothy 4:8** – a crown of righteousness for all who loved his appearing
4. **I John 5:1-5** - victory that overcomes the world is faith in Jesus Christ

Growing in Grace - Lesson #10?

2 Peter 3:18 – Grow in the Grace and knowledge of our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ – Our access to Grace ,by faith (**Romans 5:1-2**) – Barnabas at Antioch, wanted them with purpose of heart, to cleave unto the Lord because he had seen the Grace of God working there (**Acts 11-22-23**)

Illustrations of “Growing in Grace”:

1. **Acts 4:32-33** - at Jerusalem the new Christians lived with one heart & soul and GREAT Grace was upon them and none lacked for anything
2. **Romans 5:20** – when sin abounded then Grace abounded more exceedingly
3. **Romans 5:17** – Death reigned through Adam BUT much more shall Grace reign through Jesus Christ
4. **2 Corinthians 8:1-9** – spread the message of Grace even as Jesus became poor to be made richer due to the Grace of our Lord
5. **2 Timothy 2:1** – be strengthened in the Grace in Christ Jesus
6. **Hebrews 13:9** – it is GOOD that your hearts be established by Grace rather than meats

How does one show this growth in Grace?

1. **2 Peter 1:2-7** – Grace to you through diligence so in your Faith comes virtue & in virtue...knowledge & in knowledge...self-control & in self-control...patience & in patience...godliness & in godliness...brotherly kindness & in brotherly kindness... brotherly love
2. **Colossians 3:16** – sing with Grace in your hearts unto God
3. **Colossians 4:6** – let your speech always be seasoned with Grace
4. **Romans 6:1-2** – Abound in Grace rather than in sin
5. **Titus 2:11-13** – deny ungodliness and worldly lusts – live soberly, righteously and godly (define godly) **Matthew 5:48** = strive to live more like Him in attitude/actions

Why does God admonish us to “grow in Grace”?

1. **2 Peter 2:1** – Grace to you through diligence so in your Faith comes virtue & in virtue...knowledge & in knowledge...self-control & in self-control...patience & in patience...godliness & in godliness...brotherly kindness & in brotherly kindness... brotherly love
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The Motivation of Grace - Lesson #11?

2 Corinthians 8:1-5 – made known the Grace of God on the churches of Macedonia that in great trial abounded in the riches of their great liberality. According to and BEYOND their ability that Paul and Timothy would receive the gift & fellowship for ministering to the saints there. First, they gave themselves to the Lord and then to the Paul and Timothy by the will of God

To Die to Sin and Live in Faith:

1. **Romans 6:16-18** – made free from sin, you became servants of righteousness
2. **Acts 2:38** – Peter told the devout Jews at Pentecost as Jesus's crucifiers to repent and be baptized for the remission of their sins and to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit
3. **Acts 22:16** – Saul, who persecuted Christians, now a believer in The Way, was told to be baptized so that his sins could be washed away

Repentance and Grace through Baptism:

Acts 17:30-31 – God commands all to repent, because He has appointed a day of judgement by the righteous Man, he ordained by raising Him from the dead

1. **I John 2:1-2** – John wrote so that you choose not to sin BUT if you do sin, you have an Advocate with God, Jesus Christ, the righteous as your propitiation for the world's sins
2. **I John 3:8** – those who sin are of the devil and so God sent the Son of Man to destroy the works of the Devil
3. **Luke 13:3 & 5** – unless you repent you shall all likewise perish
4. **Romans 6:3-4** – we rise from baptism to walk in the newness of life
5. **Romans 6:6** – old person is crucified so the body of sin is done away with so that we are no longer slaves to sin

6. **Romans 6:14-18** – sin no longer has dominion over us, BUT Grace does, and we are servants to who we obey whether of sin unto death or obedience unto righteousness
7. **Colossians 2:12** – buried with him in baptism and raised with him through Faith
8. **Romans 12:1** – per God’s mercy, present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God as your spiritual service
9. **Ephesians 4:21-24** – put away your former corrupt lives and put on the new that God has created in righteousness and holiness of Truth
10. **Matthew 16:24** – Jesus directed: Deny yourselves and take up our cross and follow him

Grace Motivates Us to Live Righteously:

1. **Romans 6:23** – wages of sin are Death BUT the Free Gift of God is eternal life
2. **Ephesians 2:5-9** – we were saved from death, made alive with Christ’s Grace and raised up with Him to sit in the heavenly places
3. **Acts 2:38** – repent and be baptized, into Jesus Christ, for the remission of your sins and receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit
4. **I John 1:7** – walk in the light and fellowship with Jesus in light and His blood will cleanse us from all sin

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I Corinthians 15:9-10 – Paul considered himself the least of the apostles, not even worthy to be called one, because he was chief in persecuting the Church, BUT God used what Paul was, devoted, and used him to labor more abundantly than all the others, BUT it wasn’t him BUT was the Grace of God working through him.

Psalms 51 – as the prophet Nathan pointed out to King David, David had done great wrongs (sins) to Bathsheba and her husband – he acknowledged his sins, asked for God’s mercy and forgiveness, and wanted to be purged, washed, cleansed and restored to fellowship with God – he also wanted to teach other sinners about a merciful, forgiving God.

Most of us would give up, without salvation, if forced to earn our way to heaven through Law – it is too difficult and God already knew that from the beginning of creation and made plans, with his Son, for our salvation, through His Grace, bestowed upon us through Jesus

Teaching Grace to Others - Lesson #12?

I Timothy 1:1-2 & 2 Timothy 1:2 – from Paul to Timothy, a true son in faith: Grace, mercy and peace to you from God our Father and Jesus Christ or Lord – (An appropriate greeting from one devout Christian to another)

God extends His Grace to us and desires that we extend it to the saints:

- 1. Ephesians 6:24** – Grace to those that love our Lord Jesus Christ
- 2. Hebrews 12:15** – look carefully lest any fall short of the Grace of God

Use your Words to Show Grace:

- 1. Proverbs 10:11 & 31-32** – the righteous mouth is a fountain of life and brings forth wisdom
- 2. Colossians 4:6** – let your speech be always seasoned with Grace (Grace is the salt)
- 3. Colossians 3:8** – put away anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy and filthy language
- 4. Ephesians 4:31-32 & 25 & 15 & 29** – put away bitterness, wrath, anger, clamorous, blasphemous words with all malice toward those attitudes – stop lying and speak the truth in love – SO put away corrupt words and instead speak words that edify and impart Grace to the hearers

Our unbridled tongue can cause more harm than we will ever realize, because most people are more sensitive than we are willing to acknowledge

Our most important personal challenge then is to:

1. **James 1:26** – bridle our tongue to edify others and NOT to deceive our heart in vain
2. **James 3:5-10** – the tongue has great power which no man can tame – it is a restless evil, full of deadly poison – that same mouth ought NOT to both bless and curse

Use your Actions to Show Grace:

1. **I Peter 2:11-12** – behave seemly among the Gentiles so they may glorify God by your good works
2. **Philippians 2:14-16** – be blameless children of God amid sinners to be seen as lights to the world
3. **Ephesians 4:32** – be kind, tenderhearted, forgiving even as God forgave you through Christ
4. **Colossians 3:12-13** – be compassionate, kind, lowly, meek, long suffering, forbearing and forgiving of each other
5. **Matthew 5:39-44** – don't resist evil people, if they strike you then turn the other cheek to them – go the extra mile - love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you

Romans 12:20-21 – Showing Grace is our way of overcoming evil actions with good – feed your hungry enemy and provide water for their thirst – in doing so you heap coals of fire upon their head – don't be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good actions