

# **GRACE!**

## **\* Love Undeserved**

### **A journey through the first 6 chapters of the Book of Romans**

#### **\*Love Unknown** 515 – “O love that will not let me go”

**1 v 32** “Although mankind was fully aware of God’s righteous decree, that those who do such detestable things deserve to die, they not only continue to do them, but approve of others who practice them.”

**3 v 10** “For there is no-one to be found righteous, no, not even one.”

**3 v 23 – 24** “For all have sinned and have fallen short of the glory of God, but have been justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Jesus Christ.”

#### **\*Love Unfettered** 522 – “O the deep, deep love of Jesus”

**4 v 16** “Our inheritance of God’s promise is the outcome of faith. It depends entirely on faith, in order that it might be given to us as an act of God’s grace.”

**4 v 25** “He, Jesus our Lord, was delivered over to death for our sins, and was raised to life for our justification.”

**5 v 2** “Through Him we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.”

**5 v 8** “God demonstrated His own love for us in this way: even while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

#### **\*Love Unmerited** 31 – “Amazing grace, how sweet the sound”

**5 v 17 & 21** “Surely, they who receive God’s unmerited grace and the free gift of righteousness, will reign with Him, Jesus Christ...so also grace may reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

**6 v 1 – 4** “Should we carry on sinning, so that grace may abound? No! For we have died to sin...we are buried with Him, through baptism, into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we also, may live a new life, in Him.”

#### **\*Love Unfathomable** 33 – “And can it be, that I should gain”

**6 v 22 – 23** “Now that you have been set free from sin, and have become God’s own, you will reap His benefits which lead to eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

## **Gods Redemption At Christ's Expense**

**Psalms – Hebrews 8 v 8 – 13** "I will remember their sins – no more!"

**1 Timothy 1 v 14 – 17 (paraphrase v 16)** "For this very reason of my inadequacy, Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners as bad as me. The fact that He showed His mercy to me, displays his unlimited patience to those who will believe, and receive Eternal Life."

**Grace** – An unrequited expression of undeserved love.

**Romans 5 v 8** "God demonstrated His love for us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Why do we say Grace? – of God's goodness and our undeservedness .

Most of Paul's Letters end with a mention of God's Grace:

**2 Corinthians 13 v 12 – 14** "Embrace one another...and may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all."

**Galatians 6 v 18 & Philippians 4 v 23 & 1 Thessalonians 5 v 28 & 2 Thessalonians 3 v 18** "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit / with you all."

**Ephesians 6 v 24** "Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an unending love."

**Colossians 4 v 6** "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to respond to everyone."

**2 Timothy 2 v 22** "The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you."

Grace (the undeserved love of God) appears to be an integral part of our greetings between one another. It's as though we need to remind one another that we have only received God's salvation because:

**1 John 4 v 19** "...He first loved us."

Do we need to keep being reminded?

**2 Peter 3 v 8 – 9** "Do not forget this one important fact: With God a day is as 1,000 years, and vice versa. The Lord is not slow to keep His promises, however we might see it. On the contrary, He is *extra* patient, not wanting anyone to perish, but, rather, to come to repentance." Then he closes his letter with **v 18** "So, grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and forever! Amen."

**Ephesians 2 v 8 & v 19** "For, by grace you are saved, not by any works that you may have done...and through Christ you are no longer foreigners...but citizens of God's household".

# God's Deal With Us

## **Isaiah 1 v 18 - 20**

**"Come now, let us reason together says the Lord".**

Grace: God's Redemption At Christ's Expense

God's people were in a bit of a pickle.

- i) They were making pacts and alliances with ungodly nations
- ii) They were taking their liberty for granted
- iii) They were allowing sin to creep back into their daily lives

**v 15** God says, "I am growing weary of all your disobediences".

*i.e. offerings, services, prayers, special festivals, etc.*

"I take no pleasure in anything you do" **v 11**

"I will hide my eyes from you" **v 15**

"I will not listen to your prayers" **v 15**

**Isaiah 1 v 18** *In plain English* "Ok, so you're in a bit of a fix, so let's come to an agreement', says the Lord".

"This is how your sinful hearts are looking right now...but this is how I can wash them clean!"

And the deal is..... **v 19** "Be willing to be obedient".

Yes! **GRACE** is the wonderful truth that God's love for us is totally sufficient to redeem us. **Romans 5 v 8** "God demonstrated His love for us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

## **Our Deal with God:**

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# Grace

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