

I write to you, not because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and because no lie is of the truth.

1John 2:21

Store In My Heart Colossians 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

We often hear this verse quoted in lessons about our worship in song, but we need to also give close attention to the first phrase. Paul calls for us to have a wealth of understanding in the Word of Christ. For the word of Christ to dwell richly within you, there must be much time spent reading and applying that word. The more time we spend with Christ in His word, the richer our lives will truly be.

We need to study and meditate on the message that has been preserved. Skimming the word in a quick daily reading will not make it a part of your life each day! Meditate on the Word. Let it fill your mind and heart.



Salvation By Grace

David A. Cox

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast”
(Ephesians 2:8-9)

The scriptures teach that man is saved by grace. Those who regard the Bible as God’s word could not dispute grace in connection to salvation. The question is not, “Is man saved by grace?” But, “How is man saved by grace?” Let us consider what the scriptures teach us about salvation by grace.

What Is Grace?

Grace is defined as unmerited favor. It is a benefit bestowed upon one who does not deserve it. Those who need it can do nothing to merit it. If grace was given as a payment of a debt or something one had earned, it would not be grace.

We Are Saved By Grace Through Faith.

Many believe that to be saved means to be saved “wholly of grace,” that it is God who saves us, and that there is really nothing for us to do. However, we must notice that in **Ephesians 2**, Paul writes that we are “*saved by grace through faith.*” What part does faith have to do with our being saved by grace? If salvation is “wholly of grace,” faith is unnecessary. However, we must remember the **Hebrews 11:6**, “*But without faith it is impossible to please God.*” Consider some examples where the Bible shows us what grace through faith means.

The Case of Noah. In **Genesis 6**, we read about the wickedness of man during the life of Noah. Men were so wicked that God determined that He was going to destroy the earth. However, **verse 8** says, “*But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.*” Here, God’s grace was extended to Noah to save him from the destruction of the earth. Was it automatic? No. Was there nothing Noah was expected to do? No. In **Genesis 6:13-22** we see a list of explicit instructions that God gave Noah to be saved from destruction. The Hebrew writer says, “*By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen yet, moved with fear prepared an ark to the*

saving of his house” (Hebrews 11:7). Did Noah in obeying God’s command negate God’s grace? No! Without the grace of God, Noah would have perished in the flood.

The Children of Israel. In **Numbers 21:4-9**, we have the children of Israel after they are out of Egyptian bondage. They are murmuring and complaining. God sent fiery serpents that bit the people, and they began to die. God then told Moses to make a serpent of brass and put it on a pole, and if the people looked upon that serpent of brass, they would live. Was God’s grace extended to the children of Israel who were sure to die as a result of being bitten by the fiery serpents? Yes, most certainly. God did not owe them anything, but His grace allowed them an opportunity to be saved. Did they have to do something? Yes. What if they had not looked upon the serpent of brass on the pole? Would they have lived? No. Was the power in the serpent of brass on the pole to cure them, or was it the power of God? The power to heal them was in God. Indeed, we see again that God is extending His grace, but something was required to access that grace.

How This Applies To Us.

In looking at two examples of God’s grace working through faith. They were saved by grace through faith. Many more examples of God’s grace through faith are found in God’s Word. Now, what about our being saved from sins today? Should we presume that since salvation is by grace, there is nothing we can or should do? Absolutely not! If we are saved by grace through faith today, we must do what God has told us to do in His Word. We will:

Believe (**Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24**)

Repent (**Acts 2:38**)

Confess (**Acts 8:37; Romans 10:10**)

Be Baptized (**Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38**)

Live faithful to Him (**Revelation 2:10**)

Doing the things God commands us does not earn or merit our salvation any more than Moses and the children of Israel earned their salvation. But in our obedience, we access the grace of God through faith, by which we are saved. To God, be the glory.

Contact Us

We like opportunities to speak with others about the Lord.

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For Our Information

Paula Laubach is doing well with her recovery.

Merrill Berryhill is sick.

Vickie McNeas received new medications for her migraines from her neurologist visit.

Jordan Wright will have her surgery this Friday.

The **Simpson** family is in Star City this weekend.

A big outside workday is planned at the building on Saturday March 30th. A list of what we will be doing is on the board.

Sunday Evening - **Ezra 6:16** Wednesday - **John 1:14**

Meeting – Reuben Prevost – April 21 -25

The
CHURCH OF CHRIST

MEETS HERE



10:20 AM • Sunday Worship Service
5:00 PM • Sunday Night Bible Study
7:00 PM • Wednesday Bible Study