

In
Search
of ...

Truth & Right

GENESIS

Tim Henderson, Editor

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"Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things." Phil. 4:8 (NASB-U)

A publication of the
**Wellsburg
church of Christ**
Which meets at:
112 Sunset Ave.
Wellsburg, WV 26070
304-737-1422

We appreciate so much your presence here with us today. We would like to extend an invitation to join us at any of our other times of worship.

TIMES OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Bible Classes* 10:00 AM

AM Worship 10:45 AM

PM Worship 6:30 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Classes* 7:00 PM

(* Bible Classes for All Ages)

Today's Sermon:

*Our
Savior*

*Audio CD's are available
free of charge in the foyer.*

*Please visit our website:
www.truthandright.org*

*If you have any questions regarding
what we teach and practice, please
feel free to ask*

Powerful, Marvelous Grace

Mark W. White

via-The Market Street Messenger—12-19-2010

The most sublime message in all of the world is the theme of the Scriptures. That message conveys the wonderful truth that God will save sinners! Not because He is forced to do so, but because He wants to do so! The great God of Heaven sees sinful men and desires that they come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9).

Simply stated, that is what the Bible calls grace - powerful, marvelous grace! Powerful, because God's grace is "exceedingly abundant" (1 Timothy 1:14). No one has to be concerned that God's grace is limited in quantity. There is enough grace to extend to every man or woman now living, dead, or yet to be born. God's grace is marvelous, because it is beyond comprehension why God would be so concerned for disobedient, sinful rebels. "God so loved the world" is the only reason given for the sending of His Son and the extension of His grace toward man. We marvel at such mercy! A mercy and grace adequate to forgive the sins of the whole

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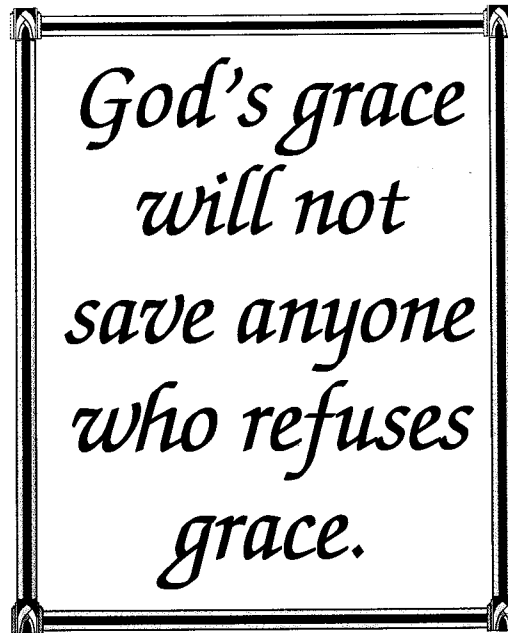
world! It is a thought too high and holy to be fully appreciated this side of eternity.

God's powerful, marvelous grace has been the subject of much discussion over the centuries. Some have mistakenly concluded that God's grace, in the end, will save everyone regardless of how they have lived, because of the depth of God's love. The love of God, however, does not preclude Him from punishing evildoers. Hell will be filled with people whom God loves! His grace is powerful and marvelous, but God has placed certain limits on His grace.

For instance, **God's grace will not save anyone who refuses grace.** The sad fact is, there are unbelievers. The unbelieving will be lost eternally (Revelation 21:8). Grace can be rendered ineffective by man's refusal to believe God can and will save him. Grace can be frustrated when man does not have faith in the Savior, Jesus. Jesus said, *"For if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins."* (John 8:24). It is erroneous to conclude that God will save by grace a man who refuses to be forgiven. Unbelievers cannot be saved because they have not placed themselves in the sphere of God's grace through obedient faith. Ephesians 2:8 says that we are saved by grace **through** faith. One teacher I know said that he tested a man's belief in salvation by grace by how that man quotes Ephesians 2:8. If a man goes further than saying, *"For by grace are ye saved..."*, the preacher concludes that they do not believe in salvation by grace! But Paul didn't stop there, either. He said *"grace...through faith."* Shall we therefore conclude that Paul did not believe in salvation by grace? Of course not.

Furthermore, **God's grace will not save the disobedient.** It seems almost silly to make such a point, doesn't it? Surely every-

one understands that God's grace is limited to the obedient. Yet, some people hold on to the false hope that such is not the case. It is possible to be *"fallen from grace"* (Galatians 5:4). Certainly, one who has fallen from grace is no longer a recipient of the benefits of grace.



Even those who were once saved by grace can be lost through disobedience. God's grace does not ignore disobedience and rebellion. God's grace forgives when we repent of sin. This is why the popular "once saved always saved" theory is so blatantly wrong! God's grace does not give permission to sinners to continue in their sinful ways! Roman 6:1,2 calls upon recipients of the grace of God to forego sin. We must turn sin loose, and stop our pursuit of wickedness if we wish to bask in the grace of God! Paul argues with the Romans that

more sin does not equal more grace. Grace does not give incentive to the disobedient to be more rebellious, rather it encourages sinners to turn away from sin. Saving grace *"teaches us to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present age."* (Titus 2:11,12).

Personally, I resent the efforts of some present-day brethren who say that historically, preachers and teachers among churches of Christ have never really preached nor understood the grace of God! These critics demonstrate both their arrogance and ignorance in making such charges. Somehow, these brethren have suddenly "discovered" grace for the rest of us poor, unenlightened souls! Yet, their "discovery" is not Biblical grace at all. Their brand of "grace" allows them to take liberties where God has not granted license. They use "grace" as a cover for sin and disobedience. Their "discovery" of grace is really a self-authorized liberty to ignore God's plan of salvation and the scriptural patterns God outlines for His church. We would all do well to be wary of any teacher who is so arrogant as to think he has discovered for the rest of us

such a profound Biblical truth!

Grace. No, this is not the name of an old, unmarried Aunt or of some young school girl with skinny legs. It is the basis of our eternal salvation in Jesus Christ.

Jesus: The Way Out of Confusion

David Hartsell

via-The Auburn Beacon—10-31-2010

The religious world is filled with ideas and faiths. Different “holy books” offer differing standards by which people should live. Some worship one god; others worship many deities. Some emphasize the deity “inside of each of us.” Multiplicities of religious beliefs are extremely confusing. Even in the “Christian faith” there are conflicting denominational ideas that often leave our heads spinning. How do we find our way out of this malaise and back on the path toward God?

The answer is found in Jesus’ life and teachings. In the first century, great religious divisions existed among God’s people. Greek and Roman influences lay behind many of these differences. Alexander The Great had spread Hellenistic customs, practices, and religions over the world. Later, reaction to Rome’s rule and its religions caused the Jews to splinter further in their unity of faith. Many Jewish sects developed. Sadducees were willing to compromise some of God’s teachings to save the temple and keep their position. They claimed to

believe the scriptures but denied that a spiritual realm existed and, therefore, discounted the resurrection of the dead. The Pharisees were opposed to spiritual compromise. Originally, they were determined to carefully keep God’s Word. This effort eventually turned into the exaltation of human ideas and traditions – exalting them even above God’s revealed Will. Jesus was hounded by Pharisees His entire life. Other groups such as the Zealots, the Publicans, and the Herodians had political agendas as well as religious disagreements. The Essenes avoided it all by withdrawing from society and formed smaller religious communities. Confusion reigned!

How did Jesus deal with all these differences? First, there are several things that He did not do. He did not throw up His hands and say, “I give up! There are so many contradictory concepts. Why should I try?” Secondly, He never implied that truth was not essential. He did not suggest that one idea is as good as another. Finally, though Jesus believed truths found in each of the groups we have mentioned, He refused to join any of them.

Jesus continuously meditated on God’s Word. A twelve year old Jesus discussed scripture with Jewish religious scholars. (Luke 2:45-47) Years later, He astounded formally trained Jews with His knowledge of God’s Law and His ability to properly use it. Jesus told them plainly, “*My doctrine is not Mine, but*

His who sent Me.” (John 7:15-16) While denouncing the hypocrisy of the scribes and the Pharisees, our Lord emphasized the necessity of listening to and obeying the Word of God that they taught. (Matthew 23:2-3) Like Jesus, we can make our way through the numerous false and confusing ideas by holding to God’s Word, the Bible. We can help our family and friends by teaching them to do the same.

*While denouncing the
hypocrisy of the
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Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer	Chuck Isinghood
Announcements	Earl Miller
Song Leader	Ken Prager
Scripture	Mark 6:1-30
Reader	Wayne Campbell
Prayer	Don Coen, Jr.
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Lord's Supper	
Bread	Nathan Marshall
Fruit of the Vine	Ed Roberts
Serve	Terry Smith
Serve	Dan Marton
Closing Prayer	Matt Ferrell

Please inform the one in charge of announcements if you are unable to fulfill your responsibilities.

Sunday PM

Announcements	Earl Miller
Song Leader	Wayne Campbell
Scripture	Mark 6:32-56
Reader	Chuck Isinghood
1st Prayer	Ken Prager
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Communion	Harold Marshall
Closing Prayer	Nathan Marshall

Wednesday

Class Prayer	Don Coen, Sr.
Announcements	Earl Miller
Song Leader	Singing/Praying
Invitation	Dave Harless
Closing Prayer	Ken Prager

News N Notes

Please continue to remember these in your prayers:

Sick/ Poor Health:

- Phyllis Coen
- Zeda Goddard
- **Blake Headen**, Alberta's husband, recovering from surgery.
- **Robert Schwerferger**, Alberta Headen's brother-in-law diagnosed with brain cancer.
- **Ronald Lancaster**
- **Virginia Malick**, Peggy Miller's mother
- **Harold Marshall**, as he continues recuperating from his surgery.
- **Kitty Morgan**, is at Carriage Inn in Steubenville.
- **Alfred and Mary Jane Myers**
- **Jimmy Roberts**, Ed & Marie's son
- **Jim Roberts**, Ed Roberts' father
- **Marie Roberts**
- **Gabriel Taylor**, 5 year old great grandson of Don & Phyllis, dealing with cancer.
- **Trudell Tennant**

Don't forget our Shut-ins

Ann's Retreat:

- Josephine Clow

Brightwood Center:

- Shirley Campbell

Valley Haven:

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers

At Home:

- Mabel Fleming
- Zeda Goddard
- Betty Hunter
- Pauline Midcap
- Ann Rudolph

Send them a card—give them a call—let them know we are thinking about them.

If someone needs to be added to this list, please contact Tim Henderson