

Mt. Lebanon Church

Sermon

8.13.2023

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Below please find my sharable thoughts, so please allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word to share.

Undeserved Favor

Psalm 90: 17

Everyone has what they refer to as good days and bad days in their life. Every circumstance and situation, we tend to label as good or bad according to our emotional state of mind at any given time. As believers, who are living in our new nature in Christ, we no longer need to see our daily lives in terms of good or bad, we should only see days of God's unending grace. Everything in our lives is filled with the grace of God because we are living in Christ Jesus, and neither our circumstances nor our actions determine the amount of grace which we receive from God. Because God's grace is constant, and consistent, which comes by the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit. As Christians we have the ability to experience a relationship with God that is new and fresh every day.

Ephesians 4: 7,....but unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ....

Salvation has come to every believer, by the same savior, who is Christ, who is both Lord and God of all, which means that every believer is saved by grace, through the same faith in Christ. God's grace brings to each one who freely receives, exactly what they need, and is given through our personal relationship with him. Therefore, we are saved by God's grace, we live by God's grace, and we serve him and others according to his grace. This means that in order to live our life in Christ, according to the will and purpose of God the Father, we must focus on getting the most out of the grace that has been given unto us by God. So today, let us take a few moments to look into Gods word, and experience God's grace.

Psalm 90: 17,....and let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish thou the work of our hands upon us, yea, the work of our hands establish thou it....

As we study, and pray, and meditate upon the word of God, we will soon learn that we do not deserve God's grace. But we also learn, that because of God's love, and compassion for mankind, whom he created for his purpose, that God does not give unto man what he deserves, but he gives unto us what we need. Disobedience, which brought about sin and the fallen state of man, condemns us and separates us from God, but because of his grace, God did not leave us alone to deal with the consequences of our disobedience on our own, he gave unto us his Son, who on the cross, displayed the love and compassion of the Father toward us by taking upon himself what we deserved and gave unto all who will believe his own righteousness. Christ willingly gave unto us his eternal righteousness in exchange for the debt of sin, which he paid for, in full. This means that all of humanity has the offer of God's grace extended unto them, all that mankind needs to do is to accept it.

Romans 3: 24 – 26,....being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God has set forth to be a propitiation (reconciliation, or sacrifice of atonement) through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God, to declare I say, at this time his righteousness, that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus....

The only way that man can be saved is, when he, by faith, believes upon the Lord Jesus Christ and the work of the cross and the resurrection. This means that our unrighteousness, is replaced with the righteousness of Christ, when we are justified by the redeeming blood of Jesus Christ. Salvation is a free gift of God's grace, which came unto all mankind, but it came at a great price to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We will never comprehend the cost of our salvation while living here in this mortal body, all that we can do is accept this free gift of grace, and glorify God with it, by sharing it with others in the world.

Romans 5: 15,....for if through the offense of one many are dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man Jesus Christ, hath abounded to many....

Mankind does not become sinners by sinning, all are born into sin, and the wages of sin is death.

Romans 6: 23,....for the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord....

We live in a fallen state of man because of one man's transgression and disobedience. Therefore, we are born into this life as sinners because we are all born with a sin nature that we inherited from Adam. Because of disobedience we remain sinners until at which time, by faith, we believe in the redemptive work of Christ on the cross, and it is by his sacrifice that we can be saved and brought into the obedience of God's word. By Gods amazing grace we have the opportunity to identify with his word, which is the perfection of Christ. Christ came to fulfill Gods perfect word, by taking upon himself the punishment of our disobedience, disobedience which brings about sin, a punishment that we rightfully deserve. But by faith in Christ, we have been made a new creation, we have been given the indwelling Holy Spirit, and we now have access to the throne of God's grace.

1 Corinthians 15: 10 – 11,....by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace which was bestowed upon us was not in vain....but the grace of God which was with me....therefore whether it were I or they, so we preach. And so ye believed....

As Christians, we are not only chosen by God, but by God's grace we have become disciples of Christ, and disciples of the gospel of the mystery of the truth of God's word. We are now empowered to work the works of God, not of our own strength, but God working within us, and through us. Therefore, we must be willing to work tirelessly, and endlessly, with the willingness to suffer for the grace that God has granted unto us, and for the greater glory of God.

2 Corinthians 9: 8,....and God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work....

As believers, we trust in the God who loves us, the God who has given unto us his grace, through our faith in his Son, Christ, and that which he has given unto us is eternal. This knowledge alone, which we receive through the promises of his word, insures unto us that his grace will continue to abound toward us, so that we may continue to accomplish the good works that he wants to see within us. Therefore, we are to give of ourselves generously in service unto God, knowing that we are secured in the promise that the source of our grace will never run out, because that source is God.

John 1: 16 – 17,....and of his fullness have all we received, and grace for grace....for the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ....

The ultimate declaration of God's love for mankind is his grace, for grace is that which is given, that which we do not deserve. As believers, we are always surrounded with the grace of God, which comes on behalf of Christ, who gave himself as a sacrifice, so that we might escape an eternity of condemnation in hell and live eternally with God. God's grace focuses on who he is and what he is doing which takes the focus off of ourselves. Grace requires only that we have faith in Christ, and our continual growing faith brings more of God's grace. Let us remember that grace is never an occasion to sin, but sin is always an occasion for God's grace. Therefore, not only do we accept this undeserved favor into our life through the salvation of Jesus Christ, but we live our life in Christ, by sharing this undeserved favor with others.

Ephesians 2: 8,....for by grace are we saved through faith, and not of ourselves, it is the gift of God....

Let us Pray.

Tim Hughes

304.376.3342 – Text or talk.

Tim.hughes1962@gmail.com

<https://hollowolfarm.com/>

