

## AMAZING GRACE

*Grace is love, but love of a special sort. It is love which stoops and sacrifices and serves, love which is kind to the unkind and generous to the ungrateful and undeserving. Grace is God's free and unmerited favor, loving the unlovable, seeking the fugitive, rescuing the hopeless, and lifting the beggar from the dunghill to make him sit among princes.*

— *John R.W. Stott*, Understanding the Bible

"But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

### AMAZING GRACE!

Why is grace amazing? 4 points.

[1] Grace is not cheap! It cost Jesus His life for our sins on the cross!

“(21) But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it -- (22) the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: (23) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (24) and are JUSTIFIED BY HIS GRACE AS A GIFT, THROUGH THE REDEMPTION THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS, (25) whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. (26) It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.” (Romans 3:21-26)

[2] Grace is not something we can buy or earn! If it was it would not be grace.

“(5) So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace. (6) But if it is by grace, it is NO LONGER ON THE BASIS OF WORKS; OTHERWISE GRACE WOULD NO LONGER BE GRACE.” (Romans 11:5-6 ESV)

[3] Grace does not take away our need for activity! God has prepared stuff for us to do!

“(8) For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, (9) not a result of works, so that no one may boast. (10) For we are his workmanship, CREATED in Christ Jesus FOR GOOD WORKS, WHICH GOD PREPARED BEFOREHAND, THAT WE SHOULD WALK IN THEM.” (Ephesians 2:8-10 ESV)

[4] Grace is not insignificant! It is powerful enough to do what God intended it to do!

“(8) Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. (9) But he said to me, “MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR YOU, FOR MY POWER IS MADE PERFECT IN WEAKNESS.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.” (2 Corinthians 12:8-9 ESV)

But He gives us more and more grace. That is why He says, God sets Himself against the proud and haughty, but gives grace to the lowly  
James 4: 6

For while the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. John 1: 17

Grace be to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 1: 3

All are justified and made upright and in right standing with God, freely and gratuitously by His grace. Through the redemption which is provided in Christ Jesus.  
Romans 3: 24

But then Law came in, to expand and increase the trespass. But where sin increased and abounded, grace has surpassed it and increased the more and superabounded. Romans 5: 20

So that, as sin has reigned in death, grace might reign also through righteousness which issues in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Romans 5: 21

For all things are for your sake, so that the more grace extends to more and more people and multiplies through the many, the more thanksgiving may increase to the glory of God.  
2 Corinthians 4: 15

For you are becoming progressively acquainted with and recognizing more strongly and clearly the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, in order that by His poverty you might become enriched. 2 Corinthians 8: 9

Even when we were dead by shortcomings and trespasses, He made us alive together in fellowship and in union with Christ; it is by grace that you are saved. Ephesians 2: 5

For the grace of God has come forward for the deliverance from sin and the eternal salvation for all mankind. Titus 2: 11

Let us then fearlessly and confidently and boldly draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in good time for every need. Hebrews 4: 16

So you, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.  
2 Timothy 2: 1

For sin shall not exert dominion over you, since now you are not under Law, but under grace. Romans 6: 14

So too at the present time there is a remnant, selected by grace. But if it is by grace, it is no longer conditioned on works or anything men have done. Otherwise, grace would no longer be grace.  
Romans 11: 5-6

But He said to me, My grace is enough for you; for My strength and power are made perfect and show themselves most effective in weakness. Therefore, I will all the more gladly glory in my weaknesses and infirmities, that the strength and power of Christ may rest upon me! 2 Corinthians 12: 9

Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with undying and incorruptible. Amen. Ephesians 6: 24

But grow in grace and recognition and knowledge and understanding of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen! 2 Peter 3: 18