"GRACE GREATER THAN OUR SIN'

SCRIPTURE READING:

- "Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom 5:20-21).
- "I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ" (1 Cor 1:4).

INTRODUCTION:

The title of the Christian Hymn "<u>Grace Greater Than Our Sin</u>" by Julia Harriette Johnston is used for the writing of this Bible Study. She based this hymn of Romans 5, particularly, Romans 5:20b which states – "**But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:**"

Marvelous Grace of our Living God, Grace that exceeds our sin and our Guilt! Yonder on Calvary's Mount outpoured, There where the Blood of the Lamb was spilled.

I. <u>Definition of Grace</u>

- **A.** Grace is the undeserved, unmerited, and unearned favor and blessings of God.
- **B.** Grace is God's mercy, kindness, and goodness toward us, even though we do not deserve it.
- **C.** Grace is at the foundation of God's character. It is God's favor to the unworthy.
- "Grace is when God gives us what we don't deserve. Mercy is when God doesn't give us what we deserve" (Dan Roberts).
- <u>Grace</u> is when God gives us good things we don't deserve. <u>Mercy</u> is when He spares us from bad things we deserve. <u>Blessings</u> are when He is generous with both (Anonymous).

II. God's Grace is Free (Rom 3:24)

A. Grace Came by Jesus Christ (John 1:17) Grace is Jesus Christ – It is the Person of Christ. Sin cost Jesus His life – He died for our sin. However, His Grace is free to us.

- 1. Before Christ, we were "without strength" (Rom 5:6), "ungodly" (Rom 5:6), "sinners" (Rom 5:8), "enemies" (Rom 5:10), "unrighteous" (Rom 3:10), and deserving of death (Rom 6:23a).
- 2. After Christ, we are "A New Creature" (2 Cor 5:17), "Ambassadors for Christ" (2 Cor 5:20), and "Children of God" (John 1:12; Gal 3:26; 1 John 3:2).

B. Grace is a Gift – Salvation is Free

- "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" (Eph 2:8-9).
- "But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ" (Eph 4:7).
- o "... but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom 6:23b).
- 1. Grace is a free <u>Gift</u> which is different from a loan which requires payment. Grace does not require repayment It is a <u>Gift.</u>
- 2. God's Grace (Salvation) is at no cost to us. This great gift of salvation came at a significant price for Jesus Christ. He died in our place and on our behalf.
 - "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" (2 Cor 5:21).
 - "Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth" (1 Pet 2:22).
 - "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed" (1 Pet 2:24).
- 3. God's Grace Salvation is a Gift that is ours Forever (John 3:16; Jude 24).
 - Eternal Life cannot be earned by sinful people, but it can be received as a free gift.
 - Grace, Grace, God's Grace, Grace that will pardon and cleanse within.
 Grace, Grace, God's Grace, Grace that is greater than all our sin!

III. Benefits of God's Grace

The Grace of God does not stop at the moment of Salvation. It continues for the rest of our lives.

- **A. It Justifies us before the Holy God** (Rom 3:24; Eph 1:6; Titus 3:7)
 - **Justify** to be declared righteous; cleared of any charges (punishment) related to sin.
- **B.** It Sustains Us (Phil 2:13)
 - God gives us the ability and power to do anything that He asks us to do. He helps us to desire to obey Him and then gives us the power to do it.

C. It Heals Us (Ps 147:3)

God heals our broken hearts and binds up our wounds – although we do not deserve it.

D. It Uses Us (Eph 3:7)

God uses us to fulfill His purposes in this world – through His Grace.

E. It Matures Us (2 Pet 3:18)

We grow in grace by reading, meditating, and studying God's Word and letting it "Dwell in Us Richly" (Col 3:16) and by praying.

F. It Gives Us an Intimate Relationship with God (Col 3:1-4)

The more we know about Jesus, the more He will be seen in our life. Allow Jesus to be first in your life (Matt 6:33).

G. It Helps Us in Our Every Need (Heb 4:16)

God's Grace empowers us to do what we should do but do not have the power to do - Grace is available when needed.

• "You are attacked by temptation. At the moment of assault, you look to Him and the Grace is there to help in the nick of time. There is no postponement of your petition until the evening hour of prayer" (Morgan).

CONCLUSION:

A. Grace is getting what we do not deserve and not getting what we do deserve.

- **B.** "The <u>motive</u> of Grace is the infinite, compassionate love of a merciful God, but the <u>work</u> of Grace was the death of Christ on the Cross (Billy Graham).
- C. Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound, That saved a wretch like me.I once was lost, but now I am found, Was blind but now I see.
- D. God's Grace is available to all Accept Jesus as Savior Today!

E. The ABC's Of Salvation

- <u>A</u>dmit That You Are A Sinner. "*All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God*" (Rom 3:23)
- <u>B</u>elieve On Christ. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).
- <u>C</u>onfess Your Faith. "If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made to salvation" (Rom 10:9-10).

<u>MEMORY VERSE:</u> "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures" (1 Cor 15:3-4).

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"... the word of our God shall stand for ever" (Isa 40:8).