

**TOUCHED BY A SAVIOR**  
**“THE MORAL POWER OF**  
**THE GRACE OF GOD”**

**Titus 2:11-12a**  
**December 10, 2017**

*Titus 2:11-12a*

*“For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,*

**INTRODUCTION:** No doctrine of Scripture is more precious to human-kind than the doctrine of salvation. That the sovereign God of creation would reach down from heaven and rescue undeserving sinners from the bondage of sin and eternal separation from God can only be described in one word: grace. Paul’s message on grace in **Titus 2:11-15** can be summed up in one word: Christ. Though it is unpopular in our day to say so, the Bible is clear that salvation comes only through a personal faith commitment to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. So, what is it God wants us to know and embrace when it comes to the “glory of the one and only Son...full of grace and truth” **(John 1:14)?**

The “grace of God,” his unmerited favor, “brings salvation” (NKJV), deliverance and rescue from sin and its judgment. The crucial point is clear: no

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grace means no salvation. This salvation has appeared in a way previously unknown through the perfect atonement of Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God. And Paul makes clear that salvation through Jesus is “for or to all people.” There is a universal and unlimited provision. Every sin of every person has its answer in Jesus. No nation, tongue, people, or person is excluded from his saving work (see **Revelation 5:7**).

The grace of God, the goodness of God, the greatness of God, and the glory of God instruct us negatively to say no to “godlessness and worldly lusts” and positively “to live in a sensible [toward ourselves], righteous [toward others], and godly way [toward God]. “We are called to live this way *“in the present age,”* right now, today. God’s grace not only saves; it also transforms and teaches us how to live.

The doctrines that comprise theology basically consist of statements about God’s character and will in human history. The purpose of theological study should be to increase our knowledge of God. **However**, the ultimate goal of increasing our knowledge of God should be Christian lives characterized by growth in **obedience** to God’s revealed will.

The major truth I desire to convey today is the **fact** (absolute fact) that God's Grace Makes a difference, while anything else, as it pertains to my life; morally, spiritually, emotionally, mentally, etc.

It is God's **glorious plan** to demonstrate His saving power through His saved people. The sovereign purpose of all exhortations to holy living in Scripture is to honor and glorify God through the righteous living of His people, leading to the salvation of more sinners.

## I. THE GRACE OF GOD 11

God's grace toward us is based solely on His **love** and our **total inability** to meet God's standards. God's grace is a **gift** we **do not deserve** and **cannot earn**. Without God's grace, there can be no salvation since grace is fundamental to salvation. (**Ephesians 2:4-9**).

God's grace is His **unmerited, unearned, underserved** favor toward wicked, unworthy sinners, by which He delivers them from condemnation and death. The Grace of God is more than a divine attribute; it is a divine person, Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is not only God incarnate but grace incarnate. He Himself personifies and expresses the grace of God.

## Concerning Grace, Note:

### A. It's Appearing

**“has appeared”** – coming to light, especially that of becoming manifest in a way that previously was unseen. Jesus brought God’s saving purpose out of the shadows, as it were, into full light.

#### **2 Timothy 1:8-10**

**“Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,”**

*“Of all times it is the turning point, of all love it is the highest point, of all worship it is the central point, of all salvation it is the starting point.”* Erich Sauer

**Titus 3:4-5**

**“But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, 5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,”**

Paul gave the same testimony to Rome.

**Romans 2:4**

**“Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?”**

**1. The Source of Grace**

**Jesus Christ**

**John 1:14**

**“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”**

## 2. The Subject of Grace

**“bringing salvation”**- refers to deliverance from sin and its consequences (spiritual death and separation from God) and from its penalty (eternal damnation).

### **Romans 6:23**

**“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”**

### **John 8:24**

**“Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.”**

**Salvation** sums up the longing of God that is manifested in His redemptive work, because it denotes deliverance, rescue, and release from sin.

Jesus Christ does not only deliver us from spiritual death but also many times from physical danger.

## **EXAMPLES:**

Daniel in the lion's den.

Disciples on the Sea of Galilea.

**God's Grace is not only powerful, but active.**

- **It sustains in time of need.**

### **2 Corinthians 12:9**

**"And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."**

- **It provides strength**

### **1 Corinthians 15:10**

**"But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me."**

- **It provides thanksgiving and glory to God.**

**2 Corinthians 4:15**

**“For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.”**

- **It affects our conversations.**

**Colossians 4:6**

**“Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.”**

- **It enables believers to live holy and godly lives.**

**2 Corinthians 1:12**

**“For our boasting is this: the testimony of our conscience that we conducted ourselves in the world in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom but by the grace of God, and more abundantly toward you.”**



### 3. The Scope of Grace

#### “all men”

ESV reads, **“For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people.”**

This refers to universal salvation;

#### **1 Timothy 4:10**

**“For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.”**

In His atoning death, Christ did not save all men spiritually but provided the means of salvation **to all men** who would be saved.

In His matchless grace, God **“desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”**  
**(1 Timothy 2:4)**

**2 Peter 3:9**

**“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”**

*“When God calls on all sinners to believe, He does not command them to believe that they are divinely chosen or that Christ died especially for them. He commands them to believe that Jesus Christ died for all sinners in the world. He does not offer salvation to a person either as elect or not elect but simply as a sinner.”*

John MacArthur

- God does not deterministically elect some men to salvation and others to damnation.
- Scripture makes equally clear that those who do not believe are responsible and guilty for their rejection of Christ.
- Men are not condemned because God has not chosen them but because they have not chosen Him.

**John 5:24**

**"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life."**

**John 5:40**

**"But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life."**

It is not the extent of atonement that excludes some people from salvation.

**1 John 2:2**

**"And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world."**

**Hebrews 2:9 teaches that "Jesus tasted death for everyone."**

- The problem, therefore, is not in the sufficiency or the scope of God's grace.

**1 Timothy 2:5-6**

**“For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time,”**

- Without any exception, God calls all men to faith in His Son, Jesus Christ, whose atoning sacrifice was more than sufficient to cover every sin that has been or ever will be committed.

But not all men trust in God’s gracious and sufficient provision of salvation. That is always the reason, and the only reason, that Scripture gives for a person’s not being saved.

It might be said that Christ’s atonement is sufficient for the whole world but is efficient only for those who believe.

God calls His people, those who are already saved, to demonstrate His saving power in their lives and thereby show Him to be a loving God, to glorify Him and to draw others to Him.

## **B. It's Teaching**

**“teaching us that”** – instructing; carries the meaning of teaching, training, discipling, educating, and maturing. The grace of God in Jesus Christ is a teacher, a guide, and a counselor. When we are saved, we immediately come under the tutelage of God through the Holy Spirit and His word.

### **1 Corinthians 2:12-13**

**“Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”**