



Part 1 (Lesson 4)

An Understanding of Salvation: Part 2

I. Grace Vs. Works

As we saw in our last lesson all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. This sin causes a gap between a person and God as illustrated below.



Religion is often man's efforts to bridge this gap and to be able to get to God. Many different formulas and ways are tried.

A. What way does the Bible specifically express as a way that will not work for anyone to come to God? (Romans 3:20) **(Through the works of the law) (Through doing good things)**

B. What “works” can you think of that people try to use to come to God and be justified?

Notice that the scribes and Pharisees were very religious, very moral, etc., yet Jesus condemned them many times. Good works didn't make it. Their hearts were still unclean.

C. Read Galatians 3:18-19. Is our inheritance (which is salvation) based on the law?

(No) Why was the law given? **(It was given because of sin to provide temporary covering for sin until Christ would come to Whom the promise was made)**

D. What do we learn about salvation in Ephesians 2:8-9? **(Salvation comes to us by "Grace" (which means "unmerited favor") and does not come by "Works" so that no one can boast before God or others about their salvation.)**

Grace means "unmerited favor" or "undeserved blessings" and goes hand in hand with mercy which speaks of God not giving us the judgment and condemnation we deserve.

E. He saved on what basis? (Titus 3:5) **(His Mercy) (By the washing of regeneration and by the renewing of the Holy Spirit)**

F. How is grace seen in Romans 5:8? **(God demonstrated His love for us by giving His Son Jesus to die for us while we still sinners.)**

G. Eternal life is a **(Free Gift from God)** (Romans 6:23)

If you would like to do an interesting study on your own, look through the New Testament and see how many things God gives us by His grace. (See supplement at end of this lesson)

Since God's way of salvation is grace, which means He gives us salvation without us deserving it or earning it. We may ask what our part is. What do we need to do?

II. Faith is the Key

A. Acts 16:31 What was the man told to do to be saved? **(He was told to believe in the Lord Jesus)**

B. John 3:16 What must we do to have everlasting life? **(Believe in Jesus Christ)**

- C. John 1:12 How is accepting Christ by faith referred to here? **(Receiving Him)**
What is the result? **(They are given the right (authority) to become children of God)**
- D. Ephesians 2:8-9 What is said to be our part of salvation? **(Faith)**
- E. Is “believing in Jesus” more than just believing some historical facts about who He is and what He did? (See James 2:19) **(Yes, it involves trusting in Christ for forgiveness of sins and for salvation. Even demons believe the historical facts about Who Jesus is.)**

To believe on the Lord Jesus Christ is to put our faith and trust in Him and Him alone for our cleansing from sin, for our justification before God the Father, for salvation, etc. We don't trust our own goodness, we trust Jesus and His death and resurrection which came about because God loves us and by His grace wants to give us salvation. We receive Jesus into our lives as our Savior and Lord and His Spirit comes to live within us.

- F. What does Jesus say to us in Revelation 3:20? **(He is knocking at our heart's door and if we open the door He will come into our heart and life and have relationship with us.)**

III. Repentance

In putting our faith in Christ we are turning our lives over to Him. We repent which means to turn around from the life we did live and now live for Jesus. What do the following verses say about this matter?

- A. Acts 2:38 (Repent and be baptized – Notice that repentance (turning to Christ) comes first and then water baptism.)
- B. Galatians 2:20 **(As Christians we have died to self and the life we now live here in the body is actually a life where we allow Jesus Christ to live in us and through us)**
- C. Acts 3:19 **(We are to repent so that our sins can then be washed away and times of refreshing can come to us from God.)**
- D. Romans 2:4 **(The kindness of God leads us to repentance so that we can be saved)**

(Supplement for Part 1 - Lesson 4) – “God’s Gifts Given To Us By Grace”

1. John 1:16 - One blessing after another
2. Acts 11:23 - Salvation (see also Acts 11:21)
3. Acts 14:3 - Enabling us to do miraculous signs and wonders
4. Acts 18:27 - Enabling us to believe
5. Acts 20:32 - The word of His grace can build us up and give us an inheritance
6. Romans 1:5 – The ability to call people to obedience through faith
7. Romans 3:24 - Justification
8. Romans 4:16 - The guarantee of the promise to all of Abraham's offspring (by faith)
9. Romans 5:15 - The gift of life through Christ
10. Romans 5:17 - Reigning in life through Christ (Also the gift of righteousness)
11. Romans 11:6 - Freedom from salvation by works
12. Romans 12:6 - Different gifts to each of us in our lives
13. 1 Corinthians 3:10 – The ability to lead others to Christ
14. 1 Corinthians 15:10 – The ability to work hard and to become a better person
15. 2 Corinthians 1:12 – The ability to conduct ourselves in integrity and godly sincerity
16. 2 Corinthians 4:15 - Causes thanksgiving to overflow to God's glory
17. 2 Corinthians 8:1-2 – The ability to have rich generosity, even in the midst of severe trial
18. 2 Corinthians 8:9 – The lifting up from spiritual poverty to spiritual riches in Christ
19. 2 Corinthians 9:8 - All that you need, you will abound in every good work
20. 2 Corinthians 12:9 - His power is made perfect in our weakness
21. Galatians 1:6 – A calling to live in His grace
22. Galatians 1:15-16 – Calling to preach the gospel
23. Ephesians 1:7 – Redemption and Forgiveness
24. Ephesians 2:6-7 - Kindness to us, seating us with Christ in the Heavenly Realms
25. Ephesians 2:8-9 - Salvation
26. Ephesians 3: 7-8 – The privilege of being a servant of the gospel
27. Ephesians 4:7-12 - Grace in general and gifts for the body of Christ
28. Colossians 4:6 - The knowledge of how to answer everyone
29. 2 Thessalonians 1:12 - Jesus' name is glorified in us and we are glorified in Him
30. 2 Thessalonians 2:16 - Eternal encouragement and good hope
31. Hebrews 2:9 - Jesus tasting death for everyone
32. Hebrews 4:16 - Mercy and help in time of need
33. 1 Peter 5:10 - Restoration after suffering - make you strong, firm, and steadfast

All of God's gifts are given by His grace and mercy. These are just a few of them!