

SINGLE ALLIANCE
The Gospel of Grace
SAM 061508

I. Introduction

- A. Thank you Paula for helping out last week. We enjoyed our trip!
- B. This week I want to talk about the gospel of Grace
- C. Luke 5
- D. Luke was the only Gentile God used to write the Word of God.
- E. He revealed glimmers of grace throughout his gospel.
- F. In Luke 5 we have 4 examples of the grace of God, 3 cases of legalism, and 2 metaphores of the gospel of grace.
- G. Grace in the unmerited resources of God given freely to restore and empower you to fulfill His will for His glory.

II. 4 Examples of Grace in Luke 5

- A. Luke 5:1-8- Peter's catch
 1. Jesus showed Peter grace in the catch of fish
 2. Peter's reaction was "depart from me I am a sinful man"
 3. Peter had a legalistic mind set- He felt the blessings of God were deserved and he was undeserving. He was thinking Jesus did not really know him or he would have not blessed him like that! He was overcome with his unworthiness and wanted to get away from Jesus because of fear. However, he could not go anywhere being in the boat, (He could not walk on water yet!) so I asked for Jesus to leave.
 4. Legalism always brings distance with God **while promising closeness!**
 5. Jesus said "do not fear!". He did not bring up Peter's sins. He spoke of his calling in Him- to be a fisherman of men.

6. Many say, "This grace stuff will lead to a sinful life!" Here we see God's grace led Peter to repentance!

Romans 2:4

B. Luke 5:12-14- The cleansing of the leper

1. This leper had heard of Jesus

2. He did not know if Jesus would want anything to do with him- He said, "If you are willing" That means if you want to.

3. The days of Jesus leprosy was directly linked to sin in the minds of the people and especially the religious leaders. They believed it was a curse because of someone's sins.

4. This leper with that legalistic mindset did not know if Jesus would bless him because he did not deserve it.

5. Jesus gave him grace and immediately reached out his hand and cleansed him. When leprosy was removed it always says it is cleansed not healed. This was to show that Jesus forgave this mans sin while restoring him to wholeness. This man not only received health but knew his sins were forgiven as well.

6. Many say this grace stuff will drive people away from God and church! It goes on to say that this leper was to show himself at church and show the priest what God had done and worship with an offering. When the grace of God comes into your life it will give you a desire for God and show up at church with the people of God and worship!

C. Luke 5:17-25- The healing of the man let down through the roof

1. Jesus did not commend this man's faith. He saw the faith of those who brought him. Jesus does not even mention the faith of the man let down

2. The man crippled who was let down had his faith crippled because of sins. They weighed upon him. He did not think he was worthy of being healed because of

his sins. He thought the blessings of God were earned by a certain level of life. He had a legalistic mindset that blocked receiving from God.

3. Jesus knew he had to deal with the guilt and ministered grace to him by forgiving his sins and then healing him.

4. Many say this grace stuff will cause people to be lazy, lay down and do nothing. Jesus told this man to arise and pick up his bed and walk. The grace of God will cause you to rise up and walk in the power of his might!

D. Luke 5:27-29

1. Jesus showed grace to Levi (Matthew) by calling him at his tax booth. Those of Jesus day could not find a bigger sinner than a tax collector and also one that was a Jew. This meant he was a traitor and was serving Rome. Jesus showed him grace by calling him while he was at work! There was no doubt he was a sinner because he was in the midst of doing it at the time. Matthew heard about Jesus and was so moved by God's grace that he would call him right while he was doing his "dirty work"!

2. Jesus ate with these sinners. This showed grace because in his day to eat with someone meant communion with them. Many think they must earn by their performance to commune with the Lord. They think that only the holy can commune with the Lord. No, God wants us to commune with Him which leads and empowers us to holy living and a God honoring life!

2. Many say this grace stuff will cause people to become self centered and selfish. It says that Matthew threw a big party and invited all to come. He spent a lavish amount of money on food and drink for this party so that he could introduce them to His Jesus. Know that he was forgiven he cared much for the souls of his friends.

III. 3 Cases of legalism that shuts off God's blessings

A. Luke 5:17- Pharisees and doctors of the Law- The healing power of God was present to heal them. However none was healed because they felt they were deserving of God's blessings and they were above this man from Galilee teaching them anything. They left sick and lost out on healing.

B. Luke 5:30- Scribes and Pharisees complained that Jesus ate with sinners. They thought they were better than some and refused to eat with them. They thought Jesus was a sinner and refused to join the feast. They lost out on communion with the Lord. Eating with someone meant communion with them. Legalism makes communion with the Lord impossible!

C. Luke 5:33- The Scribes and Pharisees complained that Jesus did not fast and pray enough. They thought the more you fasted and prayed the more God would move for you. Jesus said that the New Covenant was a marriage where the bride freely shared all with her spouse!

IV. Two Metaphores of Grace

A. Jesus gave two metaphores of the coming age of grace

B. Sewing a new patch on old clothing. The new patch is grace and the old clothing is law. They do not mix and will not hold together.

C. Pouring new wine into old wineskins- The new wine is grace and the old wineskins is the Law. The Law cannot hold grace. It will cause the new wine to be lost.

D. Those who have lived in the Law are slow to understand and embrace grace. They say the old is better and reject the new wine. Many become addicted to their performance and it permeates their entire life. Their whole paradigm is upon performance in order to receive blessings from God.

E. Law is what we do for God. Grace is what God does for us. Religion says to advance in God is to do more and more for God. Advancing in grace is allowing God to do more and more in you and through you.

F. The terms of receiving blessing from God in the OT was to deserve it. The terms of receiving blessing from God in the NT is to not be deserving of it but receive it as a GIFT by faith.

G. Prayer line for those who accept the terms of the New Covenant....