

The Togetherness of Grace, Faith and Works

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Should we believe in grace, faith or works?

Men have taken sides & argued about these three for centuries.
It is as if you must choose one and reject the other two.
Yet the Bible recognizes all three as important truths.

But how can all three be true?

It is impossible for all three to be the cause of eternal life.
It is quite possible that faith in grace leads to works.

I. The relation of God to grace

A. The coming of Jesus brought grace

Joh 1:17 For the law was given by Moses, *but* **grace** and truth came by Jesus Christ.

B. The coming of Jesus is grace

2Co 8:9 For ye know the **grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

C. God's eternal salvation is by grace and by and through Jesus Christ

Act 15:11 ...we believe that through the **grace** of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved...

Rom 3:24 Being justified freely by his **grace** through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Rom 5:17 ...they which receive abundance of **grace** and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

Rom 5:21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might **grace** reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

D. God's whole scheme of eternal salvation is grace

Eph 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world...

Eph 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

Eph 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his **grace**, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

Eph 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his **grace**;

Eph 2:5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by **grace** ye are saved;)

Gal 1:15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called *me* by his **grace**,

2Ti 1:8 ...the gospel according to the power of God;

2Ti 1:9 Who hath saved us, and called *us* with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and **grace**, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

II. The relation of the preacher of the gospel to grace

A. A preacher should feel an urgency to preach grace that comes above life itself

Act 20:24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the **grace** of God.

B. A preacher should have a sense of urgency to hold to it in spite of all

Gal 1:6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the **grace** of Christ unto another gospel:

Gal 1:7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

Gal 1:8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

Gal 1:9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any *man* preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

III. The ultimate preeminent position of grace

A. In time and order—Grace was before creation

Eph 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his **grace**...

B. In priority and status—The coming of Jesus is grace

Joh 1:17 ...**grace** and truth came by Jesus Christ.

C. In importance and rank—Salvation is through and by grace

Act 15:11 ...we believe that through the **grace** of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved...

D. In consequence and accomplishment—The work of Jesus is grace

Rom 3:24 Being justified freely by his **grace** through the redemption that is in Christ...

E. In power and significance—The giving of eternal life is grace

Eph 2:5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by **grace** ye are saved;)

IV. The relation of grace to faith—It is by God's grace that God's child has faith

A. It is through grace that God gives faith

Act 18:27 And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through **grace**:

B. God gives belief to His child

Php 1:29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

C. Those who are not God's people do not believe

Joh 10:26 But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep...

D. Those whom God has ordained to eternal life believe

Act 13:48 ...as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

E. A mighty work of God is required for God's child to believe

Eph 1:19 And what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

Eph 1:20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead...

F. The Holy Spirit produces faith in His child

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering... goodness, faith,

G. Faith is a gift of God to His child

Eph 2:8 For by **grace** are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

V. The grace of God-given faith lets God's child believe in God-given grace

Eph 2:8 For by **grace** are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2Th 2:16 Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given *us* everlasting consolation and good hope through **grace**,

Rom 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Heb 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of **grace**, that we may obtain mercy, and find **grace** to help in time of need.

VI. The relation of faith to works—Faith in grace demands works

Rom 6:1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that **grace** may abound?

Rom 6:2 God forbid...

Rom 6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under **grace**.

Rom 6:15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under **grace**? God forbid.

Heb 10:29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of **grace**?

Col 1:5 For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel;

Col 1:6 Which is come unto you, as *it is* in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit, as *it doth* also in you, since the day ye heard *of it*, and knew the **grace** of God in truth:

VII. The relation of grace to works—God's grace precedes and produces good works

A. Salvation is by God's grace and not men's works

Rom 11:6 And if by **grace**, then *is it* no more of works: otherwise **grace** is no more **grace**. But if *it be* of works, then is it no more **grace**: otherwise work is no more work.

Rom 5:20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, **grace** did much more abound:

Gal 2:21 I do not frustrate the **grace** of God: for if righteousness *come* by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

B. God's salvation does not come from good works—It is unto good works

Eph 2:9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Eph 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

C. God's grace equips God's child to good works

1Co 15:10 But by the **grace** of God I am what I am: and his **grace** which *was bestowed* upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the **grace** of God which was with me.

Rom 12:6 Having then gifts differing according to the **grace** that is given to us, whether prophecy, *let us prophesy* according to the proportion of faith;

Rom 12:7 Or ministry, *let us wait on our* ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

Rom 12:8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, *let him do it* with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

2Co 9:8 And God *is* able to make all **grace** abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may abound to every good work:

**The Togetherness of Grace, Faith and Works
Can be expressed in the words:**

Faith in Grace leads to Works