

Doctrine of Grace

1. The first mention of grace in the Bible is found in Genesis 6:8 where we read "*Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.*"
2. As used in the Old Testament, grace is often used in the sense of special favor being held based upon a high estimation of someone by another person. Joseph, for example, found grace in the eyes of an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard. Ruth found grace in the presence of Boaz.
 - *Genesis 39:4 And Joseph found grace in his sight, and he served him: and he made him overseer over his house, and all that he had he put into his hand.*
 - *Ruth 2:10 Then she fell on her face, and bowed herself to the ground, and said unto him, Why have I found grace in thine eyes, that thou shouldest take knowledge of me, seeing I am a stranger?*
3. In the divine economy grace is what God is freely able to do, and indeed what He does do for those for whom Christ has died. Mercy, the compassion of God, and love, the motive of God, unite when expressed to manifest grace, which is undeserved favor.
4. The grace of God rules out human merit for salvation.
 - *Romans 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.*
 - *Ephesians 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.*
5. Grace perfects forever the salvation of the elect in the sight of God.
6. Grace bestows the merits of Christ forever.
 - *Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:*
 - *Romans 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*
 - *Colossians 2:9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. 10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:*

7. Grace removes any obligation to gain merit with God by legal duties.
- *Romans 4:14 For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect:*
 - *Romans 6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. 15 What then? Shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.*
8. Once man was in Adam but now he is in a state of saving grace, baptized into Christ, dead unto sin, but alive unto God.
- *Romans 6:1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? 3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. 7 For he that is dead is freed from sin. 8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: 9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. 10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.*
 - *Romans 5:2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*
9. Saving grace is a free gift of God
- *Romans 5:15 But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.*
 - *Titus 3:7 That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*
10. Grace can abound, or be diminished.
- *Romans 5:20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:*
11. There is the reign, or ruling principle of grace under the New Testament economy.
- *Romans 5:20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:*

12. Grace can be abused.

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

13. The election to salvation is based upon the principle of grace.

- *Romans 11:5 Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.*

14. Paul never ceased to marvel that he was the object of God's redeeming grace.

- *Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.*
- *Romans 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;*
- *Romans 15:15 Nevertheless, brethren, I have written the more boldly unto you in some sort, as putting you in mind, because of the grace that is given to me of God,*
- *1 Corinthians 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.*
- *Galatians 1:15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace,*

15. What we have received from God should be desired for.

- *1 Corinthians 1:3 Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.*
- *2 Corinthians 1:2 Grace be to you and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.*

16. In times of personal tribulation God's grace is sufficient.

- *2 Corinthians 12:9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*

17. It is possible to fall from the sphere of grace if dependency is made upon salvation by good works, or if there is excessive sin in the life.

- *Galatians 5:4 Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.*
- *Jude 4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.*

18. Praise should be offered to God for His great grace.

- *Ephesians 1:6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.*
- *Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.*

19. Gracious words should characterize the speech of a Christian.

- *Colossians 4:6 Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.*

20. There is a throne of grace before which the Christian is to pray.

- *Hebrews 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.*

21. More grace is given to the humble.

- *James 4:6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.*

22. Christians are to grow in the sphere of grace.

- *2 Peter 3:18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.*