



What God Has (And Has Not) Joined Together (11)

Grace and Law (1)

Our 2026
Theme

Introduction

- Today we continue our theme for 2026, “What God has (and has not) joined together”. This theme is based on **Matthew 19:6**.
- Our last lesson addressed: Attitude and Actions Joined together
- Today, we begin to examine Grace and Law -1 - (Grace & the Gospel)

The problem stated

- If you do an online search about how God's grace and law complement each other, most "conservative" religious websites will emphasize the importance of keeping the law.
- However, a distinction is made in reference to salvation. The premise is "grace alone" by "faith alone" (doing nothing except believing), thus while one "truly converted" ought to keep God's law, it is not essential to one's salvation.
- NOTE: This is part 1 of 2. Our emphasis in this lesson will be God's grace and the gospel. Next week we will focus more on "law" and grace

God's Grace and our Salvation

- Grace is “unmerited favor”.
Someone does something for you that is undeserved (not earned).
- We are saved by grace and therein is our hope
- **Ephesians 2:4-9** – God's mercy & love sent Jesus (by grace you have been saved)...
- **Ephesians 1:7** – redemption in Jesus through the riches of His grace

God's Grace and our Salvation

- We are saved by grace and therein is our hope
- **Titus 2:11** – his grace bring salvation and has appeared to all men
- **Romans 5:1-2** – through faith we have access to the grace of God
- **Hebrews 2:9** – by the grace of God Jesus tasted death for everyone

How do we learn about the grace of God?

- It is through what He has told us in His word
- **1 Corinthians 2:8-11** – we know God because Holy Spirit has revealed Him to us
- **Ephesians 3:1-7** – they had heard of the dispensation of the grace of God by revelation. Consider the Ephesians:
 - **Ephesians 1:13** – they heard the word of truth
 - **Acts 20:24** – the gospel of the grace of God
 - **Acts 20:27** – He had declared the “whole counsel of God”

How do we learn about the grace of God?

- It is through what He has told us in His word
- **Galatians 1:6** – from the grace of Christ to a different gospel. Grace came through the TRUE gospel.
- **Titus 2:11-12** – the grace of God has appeared to all men teaching us...
- **Colossians 1:5-6** – the grace of God in truth
- **2 Peter 1:2** – grace and peace multiplied in the knowledge of God...

How do we learn about the grace of God?

- God's grace and the gospel accomplish same purpose in many ways
- We are called – **2 Timothy 1:9** – a holy calling according to His grace;
2 Thessalonians 2:14 – by the gospel
- We are taught – **Titus 2:11-12** – the grace of God has appeared... teaching us
2 Timothy 3:16-17 – all scripture profitable for teaching...

How do we learn about the grace of God?

- God's grace and the gospel accomplish same purpose in many ways
- Faith, the product of –
Acts 18:27 – believed through grace;
Romans 10:17 – comes by hearing
- Saves us –
Ephesians 2:5, 8 – by grace you are saved
Romans 1:16 – gospel, the power of God unto salvation (**cf. Ephesians 1:13**)

How do we learn about the grace of God?

- God's grace and the gospel accomplish same purpose in many ways
- Grants eternal life –
Titus 3:7 – hears by His grace;
Colossians 1:5 (1 John 5:13) – hope in heaven, of which you heard... In the word of truth of the gospel
- The point: The grace of God leading to salvation is NOT independent of obeying the gospel.

Does God's grace mean we do nothing?

- Absolutely not. There is no contradiction.
- One might quote **Romans 11:6**, if by grace it is no longer works. Note: DIRECTLY what Paul has in mind is the works of the LOM. We will develop this more in our next lesson.
- But, consider Noah
Genesis 6:8 – He found grace...
Hebrews 11:7 – by faith he moved with Godly fear. God's grace prompted his obedience.

Does God's grace mean we do nothing?

- Consider the bronze serpent
Numbers 21:4-9 – after rebellion in the wilderness, fiery serpents were sent. People were dying, but God provided healing by His grace. **Cf. John 3:14-15** – Jesus associated this event with His own salvation.

Does God's grace mean we do nothing?

- Consider Jericho

Joshua 6:2ff – I have given Jericho into your hand. THEN they were given instructions they had to follow. But it was still God's grace

Does God's grace mean we do nothing?

- Consider Paul

1 Timothy 1:12-16 – Paul was thankful because of his Lord's exceedingly abundant grace.

He knew he was unworthy, but God's grace is greater than our sins.

Still, consider how Paul obeyed God – **cf.**


Acts 9:18, 22:16 – he was baptized.

Concluding thoughts

- Why do we know about God's grace? Because He has told us in His word!
- AND while salvation is ultimately the result of His grace, scripture is clear that we must accept His grace in obedience.

Ephesians 2:8 – our faith

Titus 2:11 – we must deny ungodliness and live soberly, righteously and godly.



**What have you done to
receive His grace?**