

the Grace Of God

the **Grace** of God

John 1:14-18

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, **full of grace and truth**. 15 (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") 16 **And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace**. 17 For the law was given through Moses; **grace and truth came through Jesus Christ**. 18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

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Truth

"truth," signifying "the reality lying at the basis of an appearance; the manifested, veritable essence of a matter"

(from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words.)

Thayer says: 'what is true in any matter under consideration' (opposed to what is feigned, fictitious, false)

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Truth involves

Loyalty, honesty, fidelity, justice, uprightness, faith, righteousness, reality.

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My feelings are not God
God is God.

My feelings do not define truth,
God's word defines truth.

My feelings are echoes and responses to what my mind perceives, and sometimes – many times – my feelings are out of sync with the truth.

When that happens – and it happens every day in some measure – I try not to bend the truth to justify my imperfect feelings, but rather, I plead with God:

Purify my perceptions of your truth and transform my feelings, so that they are in sync with the truth.

John Piper

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Rom 3:19-20

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. 20 For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin...v23...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

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Matt 5:17-19

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.
18 For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

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God cannot overthrow truth because it is the very essence of his being and therefore he cannot do anything but uphold his truth.

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Grace and truth

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Grace

1. properly, that which affords joy, pleasure, delight, sweetness, charm, loveliness: grace of speech
2. good-will, loving-kindness, favour: (from Thayer's Greek Lexicon.)

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Grace - unmerited favour

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Grace - unmerited favour

...the word has abundant use in secular Greek in the sense of unmerited favour, and Paul seized on this meaning of the word to express the fundamental characteristic of Christianity. (from International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia.)

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Grace - unmerited favour

Ephesians 2:4-10

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ— **by grace you have been saved**— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the **immeasurable riches of his grace** in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 **For by grace you have been saved through faith**. And this is not your own doing; *it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*

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Grace - but was it unmerited favour



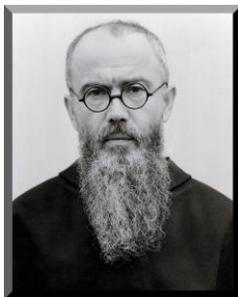
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Grace - but was it unmerited favour

Maximilian Kolbe



Gajowniczek



the **Grace** of God

Grace - unmerited favour

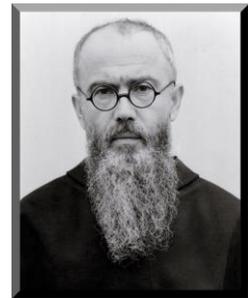
Romans 11:6

But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.

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Grace - but was it unmerited favour

Maximilian Kolbe



the **Grace** of God

Grace - unmerited favour

To understand God's grace fully we need to have grasped that there is absolutely nothing about us that in any way recommends us to God.

Rom 3:23-26

...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

the Grace of God**Grace - found a way****1 Peter 2:24-25**

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. 25 For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Galations 1:3-5

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, 5 to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

the Grace of God**Grace - found a way****Romans 10:9-13**

....if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. 11 For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. 13 For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." You cannot present yourself to God based on your performance, your goodness, or your obedience to the law, you are presented by Jesus to God as one of his redeemed through grace alone.

the Grace of God**Result - we are set free from the law****the Grace of God****Grace - found a way****Ephesians 1:7-10**

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us,

the Grace of God

Jesus was full of **grace and truth**.

Law was given,

grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

the Grace of God**Result - we are set free from the law**

Why? Because the law only serves to show up our sin and condemns us, it does not help us. Law only brought condemnation.

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Hendriksen tells us; Two things that the law did not supply: grace so that sinners could be pardoned and helped in time of need, and truth i.e., the reality to which all types pointed.

the **Grace** of God

Result - we are set free from the law

John tells us that
from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. (v16)

Constantly receiving grace in the place of grace (Hendriksen)

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Result - we are set free from the law

The result of receiving this grace is a deep love for God that creates a deep desire within us to please him. His 'truth' lives within us through scripture and the indwelling Holy Spirit and has become a part of us.

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Result - we are set free from the law

Romans 7:1-6

Or do you not know, brothers —for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? 2 Thus a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. 3 Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress. 4 Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. 5 For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. 6 But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, **so that we serve not under the old written code but in the new life of the Spirit.**

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Result - we are set free from the law

Romans 6:1-4

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? 3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

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Is Gods grace visible in us?

Acts 11:21-24 (Antioch)

...the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number who believed turned to the Lord. 22 The report of this came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. 23 **When he came and saw the grace of God,** he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose,

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Grace is the outward appearance of love and becomes visible in any church which truly grasps the magnitude of the grace of God.

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grace

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Colossians 1:3-8

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, 5 because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, 6 which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and growing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, 7 just as you learned it from Epaphras and (he) has made known to us your love in the Spirit.