

God's Amazing Grace

Intro: Paul tells us about God's amazing grace in Romans 5:12-21 (¹²Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: ¹³(For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. ¹⁴Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come. ¹⁵But 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. ¹⁶And not as *it was* by one that sinned, *so is* the gift: for the judgment *was* by one to condemnation, but the free gift *is* of many offences unto justification. ¹⁷For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.) ¹⁸Therefore as by the offence of one *judgment came* upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one *the free gift came* upon all men unto justification of life. ¹⁹For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. ²⁰Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: ²¹That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.") and how God's grace abounded to all.

I. GOD'S GRACE ILLUSTRATED IN DAVID

A. The sin of David and Bathsheba.

1. Nathan's parable; 2 Sam. 12:1-4 ¹And the LORD sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor. ²The rich *man* had exceeding many flocks and herds: ³But the poor *man* had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter. ⁴And there came a traveller unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him."
2. David's answer to Nathan; 2 Sam. 12:5-6 ⁵And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, As the LORD liveth, the man that hath done this *thing* shall surely die: ⁶And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity."

B. David was justified by God's grace.

1. David's sins are covered; Rom. 4:6-8 ⁶Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, ⁷Saying, Blessed *are* they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. ⁸Blessed *is* the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin."
2. The giving of Christ covered his sins
 - a. Rom. 3:23-24 ²³For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; ²⁴Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."
 - b. Heb. 2:9 ⁹But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."

II. AMAZING GRACE IS A FREE GIFT.

A. Grace is often defined as unmerited favor.

1. It is a free gift; Eph. 2:8 ⁸For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:"
2. One is justified freely by grace (without a cause); Rom. 3:24 ²⁴Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:"
3. It is a gift of God; Rom. 6:23 ²³For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

B. Grace came by Jesus Christ

1. John 1:16-17 ¹⁶“And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. ¹⁷For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.”
2. John 1:14 ¹⁴“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.”
3. Rom. 5:21 ²¹“That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.”

III. AMAZING GRACE IS AN ADEQUATE GIFT.**A. Paul found it sufficient**

1. 1 Tim. 1:13-14 ¹³“Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did *it* ignorantly in unbelief. ¹⁴And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.”
2. 2 Cor. 12:8-10 ⁸“For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. ⁹And 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. ¹⁰Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.”

B. It is an unspeakable gift; 2 Cor. 9:15 ¹⁵“Thanks *be* unto God for his unspeakable gift.”**C. Paul could do all things through Him; Phi. 4:13** ¹³“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.”**IV. AMAZING GRACE IS AN ANSWERABLE GIFT****A. 1 Cor. 15:10** 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.”

1. In making Paul what he was—an apostle of Christ.
2. Paul gave credit to God for the work he did.
3. Some believe this refers to Paul being the instrument of grace.

B. Tit. 2:11 ¹¹“For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,”

1. God's saving grace appeared to all men.
2. Yet not all will be saved.
3. Mat. 7:13-14 ¹³“Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: ¹⁴Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”

V. HOW DO WE APPROPRIATE GOD'S GRACE?**A. Called into grace.**

1. Gal. 1:6 ⁶“I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:”
2. Called by the Gospel; 2 The. 2:14 ¹⁴“Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

B. Apostles preached the Gospel

1. Mark 16:15-16 ¹⁵“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
2. It is God's power to save; Rom. 1:16 ¹⁶“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”
3. It saved the Corinthians; 1 Cor. 15:1-4 ¹“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; ²By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. ³For I delivered

unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; ⁴ And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.”

4. We obey a form of it when we are baptized into Christ; Rom. 6:17-18, 3-4, 17-18 ¹⁷ But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. ¹⁸ Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. . . . 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.”

C. Examples:

1. Acts 2:36-38 ³⁶ Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ. ³⁷ Now when they heard *this*, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men *and* brethren, what shall we do? ³⁸ Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”
 - a. Believe
 - b. Repent
 - c. Be baptized
2. Acts 8:35-38 ³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. ³⁶ And as they went on *their* way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, *here is* water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? ³⁷ And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. ³⁸ And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.”
 - a. Believe
 - b. Confess
 - c. Baptized
3. Others would give emphasis to this summation: believe, repent, confess, be baptized.

Conclusion: God's amazing grace is: Free, Adequate, Answerable, but it must be appropriated.