

Title: An outline of 'true grace'
Pastor: Hennie Swart
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Introduction

I Peter 5:12 NIV

¹² With the help of Silas, whom I regard as a faithful brother, I have written to you briefly, encouraging you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand fast in it.

Romans 6:1-2 NIV

¹ What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ² By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

Jude 4

⁴ For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.

Romans 11:5-6

⁵ So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace. ⁶ And if by grace, then it is no longer by works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.

The Source of Grace

I Peter 5:10 NIV

¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

- Grace is only from God.

Romans 5:15 NIV

¹⁵ But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!

The Nature of Grace

Romans 11:5-6 NIV

⁵ So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace. ⁶ And if by grace, then it is no longer by works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.

- Grace is a free gift.

Acts 18:27

²⁷ When he arrived, he greatly helped those who through grace had believed...

- Grace precedes our faith!
- Grace is God's initiative.

The Recipients of Grace

Romans 4:4-5 NKJV

⁴ Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. ⁵But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness.

- Grace is for the guilty.

James 4:6 NIV

⁶ But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

"Grace is free sovereign favour to the ill-deserving." – Benjamin Warfield

The Purpose of Grace

Ephesians 1:4-6 NIV

⁴ ...In love ⁵ he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will-- ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

II Corinthians 4:15 NIV

¹⁵ All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

- Grace is for God's glory.

The Effects of Grace

II Peter 3:17-18 NIV

¹⁷ Therefore, dear friends, since you already know this, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of lawless men and fall from your secure position. ¹⁸ But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

- Grace causes us to grow.

I Corinthians 15:10 NIV

¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

- Grace changes our standing, being, doing.

"Grace is opposed to earning, not to effort." – Dallas Willard; in fact, true grace produces effort.

Acts 11:21-23

²¹ The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. ²² News of this reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. ²³ When he arrived and saw the evidence of the grace of God, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts.

The Responsibility of Grace

Ephesians 4:29

²⁹ Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. (Compare Colossians 4:6.)

- Grace should be given.

I Peter 4:10-11 ESV

¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God

supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Summary

- Grace is only from God
- Grace is for the guilty
- Grace is a free gift
- Grace is for God's glory
- Grace can be grown in
- Grace should be given

Ours is the grace; God's is the glory.