

The Nature of God's Grace

Rom. 5:20-6:2

Introduction:

- A. Today's world needs the grace of God introduced into world nearly 2,000 years ago.
 - 1. It was introduced into a terrible world.
 - a. Pagan world. (Rom. 1:20-32).
 - b. Jewish world. (Rom. 2:1-3).
 - 2. It was equal to the challenge of that age. So, it is today.
- B. Today's world needs to know two great facts about the nature of the grace of God.

Discussion:

I. Grace Is God's Answer For Our Sins. (Rom 5:20-21).

- A. Grace is cure for condemnation, sin the cause of it. (cf. John 3:16-18).
 - 1. "Will God condemn one for rejecting gospel plan of salvation?" —He is condemned already.
 - 2. "Will God punish heathen who never heard of Christ?" — He is condemned already.
 - a. Has not lived up to own sense of right and wrong. (cf. Rom. 1:20; 2:14; 5:13).
 - b. No one has lived perfectly according to what he believed to be right.
 - 3. "Will sick man die because he does not receive proper treatment?" —What kills him?
- B. Grace is God's conditional answer to sin.
 - 1. Not grace without responsibility. (Tit. 2:11,12)
 - 2. Not grace without law. (Rom. 3:27; 8:2; Jas. 1:25; 2:12).
 - 3. Not grace without obedience.
 - a. Noah found grace (Gen. 6:8), but had to obey. (Gen. 6:22; Heb. 11:7).
 - b. Ephesians saved by grace (Eph. 2:8) but had to obey (Eph 2:10; Acts 19:1-3).
 - c. Romans had received grace, but had obeyed. (Rom 6:4,17).
- C. Grace excludes boasting, since it is from God rather than ourselves.
 - 1. We do not merit salvation because of sin. (Rom. 3:23; 6:23)—No room for boasting.
 - 2. We do not earn salvation by good works. (Rom. 4:4,5)—No room for boasting.
 - 3. We do not pay for sin, Christ paid it all. (Rom. 5:6-11)—No room for boasting.

II. Grace Is Not God's License To Sin. (Rom. 6:1,2).

- A. Christians cannot willfully go on sinning without insulting Spirit of grace. (Heb. 10:26-29 NASV).
- B. Christians can fall from grace. (Gal. 5:4; Heb. 12:15).
- C. Christians cannot use grace as excuse for not keeping God's commandments (law). (Lk. 17:10; 1 John 5:2-3).
- D. Christians cannot remain in sin and be covered by grace.
 - 1. We do sin. (1 John 1:8,10).
 - 2. We must confess (involving repentance) sin. (1 John 1:9).

Conclusion:

- 1. To reject gospel is to reject grace of God. (Gal. 1:6).
- 2. To reject gospel is to remain lost in sin. (2 Thess. 1:7-9; Mk. 16:15-16).