Standing in the Grace of God
Romans 5:1-2

Introduction:
A. The Christian stands in the grace of God (cf. 1 Cor. 15:10).
   1. It is accessible rather than irresistible (“we have access”)
   2. It is conditional rather than arbitrary (“by faith”).
   3. It is universal rather than limited (Tit. 2:11).
B. Romans 5 and 6 teaches to great principles about standing in the grace of God.

Discussion:
I. The Grace of God Buys Us a New Lease on Life.
   A. By sinning we forfeited our “right to life” (v. 12)
      1. Became ungodly rather than good or righteous (vv. 6-7).
      2. Became enemies rather than friends of God (v. 10).
   B. By grace we have a new lease on life — opportunity to start over.
      1. To be at peace with God rather than enemies (vv. 1, 10).
      2. To be righteous rather than sinners (vv. 8, 19).
      3. To be justified rather than condemned (v. 9).
         b. But, justified by the Lord and His blood (cf. 1 Cor. 4:1-4).
      4. To be able to rejoice in hope (v. 2).
         a. Allows us to glory in tribulations (vv. 3-5).
         b. Allows us to not fear the wrath of God (v. 9).
         c. Allows us to expect eternal life (vv. 5, 21)
   C. By grace we have help to sustain our new life (v. 10; cf. Heb. 7:25; 1 John 2:1-2).

II. The Grace of God Does Not Write a Blank Check for Careless Living.
   A. Does not cover wilfully continuing in sin (Rom. 6:1-4; Heb. 10:26-29).
   B. Does not guarantee “once saved, always saved” (cf. Gal. 5:4-6).
   C. Does not cover half-hearted commitments (Rev. 3:16).
      1. Want new of life without newness of life (6:4)
      2. Want repentance without reformation.
      3. Want freedom without responsibility.

Conclusion:
A. To receive grace one must obey the Lord (Heb. 5:8,9).
B. To receive mercy ne must show mercy (Jas. 2:13; cf. Matt. 18:23-35).