

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).
 - 3. Became condemned rather than justified (v. 18).
- 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).
 - a. Not self-justified, peer-justified, preacher-justified, church-justified.
 - 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 one must show mercy (Jas. 2:13; cf. Matt. 18:23-35).