Restoring Grace

Jared Bollman · Ephesians 2:1–10

INTRODUCTION

- If we were to offer him our own being and everything that we are, it would still be insufficient for the grace that he has given to us.
- Can we get a better handle on what grace is so that we can talk about it comfortably?
- What he is saying is that the emphasis of my salvation is not upon what I am doing, but what God has done.

1 Why Paul Proclaims We're Saved by Grace

Ephesians 2:8–9; Romans 6

- He says, look, this is not what saves you. What saves you is what God did over here through Jesus.
- We can only be baptized into his death when we understand that it's his death that matters.
- Before he begins to address all the workings that the new covenant requires in chapter 4, beginning with the idea of walking in a manner worthy of our calling, he wants us to understand what God has done.
- We are not going to bring anyone to the Lord unless we first help them understand what God has done.
- Just because someone is so absolutely wrong in something that they are nowhere near the truth, does not give us the license to be absolutely just as wrong on the opposite end of the spectrum.

2 Get Comfortable With What the Grace of God Looks Like

Philippians 3:12–16; 1 Peter 3:18–22; Colossians 2

- I press on to the goal of the prize of the upward calling of God.
- It sounds like the Apostle Paul expects us to live according to some effort, to put forth some effort in the kingdom.
- Did you know baptism is a picture of God's grace?
- Baptism now saves you. But it's not the removal of the dirt of the flesh. But an appeal to God for a good conscience through the resurrection of Christ.
- You see, baptism only works if God's grace is there.

3 Resist What Is Against God and Move Godward

Titus 2:11–12; James 4; Matthew 16

- For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously, and godly in the present age.

- People need to know this is something God is doing freely. But they also need to understand that free does not mean that it does not come with condition.
- By God offering salvation, it should become evident to us that he wants us to resist those things that are not like him.
- You can't be of two minds and find the grace of God. You've got to be of one mind.
- Grace teaches a pattern of disciplined self-denial.
- The question that I should be asking, because of God's grace is am I living Godwardly?

4 A Wonderful Sacrifice That Became My Savior

Titus 2:13–15; Romans 6:1–7; 1 Peter 1

- The second lesson from grace is that I have a wonderful sacrifice from my God that became my Savior from my sins.
- Who gave himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for himself a people for his own possession, zealous for good deeds.
- Shall we continue in sin that grace may increase? May it never be.
- We need to appreciate what was done in the intercession of Christ.
- Where those things are absent, the grace of God is not in effect in the life of that person because they are not living in a Godward direction.
- Jesus is the confirmation of our hope.

THE CHALLENGE

Am I committing my all to the one who gave his all for me? Am I living toward God? Am I living in that Godward direction? And thirdly, do I truly appreciate God's grace made manifest in his son Jesus?

MY NOTES