



John T. Polk II, Editor



All Scripture quotations from the Editor are from the New King James Version
(Bible Resources may be found on: www.johntpolkll.com)
Email responses may be sent to: TychicusTruths@johntpolkll.com

Free Sermon Slides : "I Have A Dream"

<https://johntpolkll.com/files/documents/3d81c19b-ba2b-462e-ac10-311f93917648.pdf>

Salted Speech Colossians 4:6

- ~ *Feeling down today, try looking up.*
- ~ *A danger exists when we whole-heartedly believe what we half-heartedly heard.*
- ~ *A famous agriculturist has figured out that man does only about 5% of the work on an ear of corn and that God does 95%.*
- ~ *Never part without loving words—they might be your last.*
- ~ *"Give a man fish and feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and feed him for a lifetime." — Chinese Proverb*

THEOPHILUS



Where Your Treasure Is...



More Than a Slave



By Dan Jenkins

As I study the Bible, I am amazed at what great truths can be found in what might be first viewed as "insignificant" verses. In giving us everything that we could possibly need for life, God chose every word of every verse for the express purpose of giving us all that we need (2 Pet. 1:3). We see this as we study "deep" passages like those found in Romans or Hebrews, but we can so easily overlook this kind of study elsewhere. Look at how this principle applies to how Paul described a slave who was "more than a slave."

It is found in the only one chapter book the apostle penned, and it concerned a slave who Paul taught while in prison in Rome. His name was Onesimus, who had run away from his master, Philemon. Paul had converted Philemon and now writes every word of this letter to him with his own chained hands. Paul expected that he would soon be released and asked Philemon to prepare a room for him when he arrived after his release.

Can you imagine the joy there would have been in that reunion? What a great reception there would have been! However, before Paul came, there was to be another person coming to Philemon's house. Paul asked him to receive this guest like he would hopefully be able to receive Paul. We know some of the names of some of those brethren who were with

Paul—Mark, Luke, and Demas—but none of them were mentioned as coming. Who was this important person that Paul asked Philemon to welcome? It was a slave who had served Philemon before he had run away.

That slave may have even stolen things to take with him as he fled, and Paul offered to pay any amount owed. Paul writes this letter to ensure that when Onesimus arrived he would be looked at in a far different way. It is true that he was a slave, but Paul tells Philemon to treat this slave who returned to serve his master in a different way.

**We are all
different in many
ways, but we
now are brothers
in Christ**

Read every word of this letter carefully and think of how it applies to people who are in your life. He had been a slave, but Paul says that now he returns "more than a slave." He is a brother. He is a beloved brother. He is a brother in whose life God possibly had brought circumstances that lead to his conversion. He is a brother who had served Paul while the apostle was in prison. Read every word of this short letter and one great lesson is found. It all had changed. He was still a slave, but he was more than a slave.

Look at your brothers in Christ. We are all different in our in many ways. Never look at any fellow Christian with any view that is greater than we are now brothers. This alone changes it all. We are all different but all that truly matters is that we are all brothers. We are beloved brothers in Christ!

Hubble Telescope Picture - God's Design First Hebrews 11:3



Saved By Grace, What Else? by John T Polk II
**QUESTION: "If I am saved by grace,
what else need I do?"**

ANSWER: Grace simply describes favor, desire to help!

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, 'This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.'" And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, *but* grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." (**John 1:14-17**)
Grace through Moses' Law now is through Jesus Christ.

1. "Grace and Truth" must stand together. Grace does not save without truth!

Since Jesus was "full of grace and truth," the first time He taught in His home synagogue, "all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth" (**Luke 4:22**). His "gracious words" involved His reading Scripture (from **Isaiah 6:1-2**), and showing its application (**Luke 4:16-21**)! ***His words of grace were not offered apart from God's Word of truth.***

2. Paul preached the gospel established upon truth!

a. The "grace of God" has appeared to all men: "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age" (**Titus 2:11-12**).

The "grace of God" shows us that:

(1) God's grace does not save apart from "teaching;"

(2) It "has" appeared, past tense, which puts it in the same category with **Jude 3**, "the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints" or a completed revelation of God's Word on the subject;

(3) And shows that "grace" is not a means of salvation without obeying the revealed method of obedience. *In other words,*

praying for God's "grace" to be applied to a sinner without obedience is useless, for Jesus has told disciples to "Preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned." (**Mark 16:15-16**). ***The "grace of God" will save no one who does not obey the gospel of Jesus Christ!***

b. Paul's desire was to finish... "the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God" (**Acts 20:24**). He was surprised that the Galatians were "turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel" (**Galatians 1:6**). ***One separates from "the grace of God" who stands apart from the revealed Word of God!***

c. Every time he addressed brethren with "grace to you" (**Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:3; 2 Corinthians 1:2; Galatians 1:3; Ephesians 1:2; Philippians 1:2; Colossians 1:2; 1 Thessalonians 1:1; 2 Thessalonians 1:2; Philemon 3**), it was a reminder that the grace of God has taught us how to be saved.

3. In a world of wickedness, God's grace showed Noah the way out.

So the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." But Noah found grace in the eyes of *the LORD*." (**Genesis 6:7-8**). ***God's "grace" provided instructions for salvation, Noah's "faith" believed them and obeyed them:*** "By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith" (**Hebrews 11:7**). "Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did" (**Genesis 6:22**). ***And he was saved by grace through faith! He had to build an ark—you have to be baptized! He was saved by grace—have you been? — jtpll***

