

## QA: Grace Cancels Out All Sin, Right? by John T Polk II

All Scriptures and comments are based on the New King James Version, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: "Grace cancels out all sin, including my wilful sin, right?"

ANSWER: WRONG! God's "grace" does NOT cancel a person's sins NOR will it save on the Day of Judgment. Here's why:

1. Look at the example of Noah:

But **Noah found grace** in the eyes of the LORD. (**Genesis 6:8**)

**Thus Noah did**; according to all that God commanded him, so he did. (**Genesis 6:22**)

Between those verses, God instructed Noah how to build an ark of salvation. **The** "grace of God" provided instructions for salvation, but Noah had to obey those instructions to be saved.

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)

Noah was saved by "grace through faith" because he obeyed what he was told to do. "Grace" provided the teaching, "faith" responded with obedience.

## 2. John wrote:

For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. (John 1:17)

Paul described it thus:

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" teaches us what to do to be saved. Jesus Christ was the embodiment of "grace and truth," because He, and His chosen Apostles, taught everything we must do to be saved. Peter (and the Apostles) commanded:

"Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins." (Acts 2:38)

The "grace of God" gave them the "truth" to follow, but it was their "faith" that obeyed, for "those that gladly received his word were baptized" (Acts 2:41). Later, Peter wrote:

I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand. (1 Peter 5:12)

## 3. Paul taught:

For **by grace you have been saved through faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. (**Ephesians 2:8-9**)

God's "grace" came as "the gift of God," not because of anything they had devised to effect their own salvation. God's "gift" of "grace" had taught them:

"John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus." When they heard this, **they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus**. (Acts 19:4-5)

The Ephesians' "faith" obeyed what God's "grace" taught them to do. Since the "grace of God" had obligated them to be "baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus," then baptism for the remission of sins is NOT a "work" condemned in Ephesians 2:9!

4. Paul wrote that there would be "the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel" (Romans 2:16). God's "grace" has appeared to all men in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Day of Judgment will NOT provide more "grace" to teach, but will be the Standard of Judgment! God's "grace" is given for people to now be saved by obedient faith, but will be the rule to Judge everyone's works then (2 Corinthians 5:10).

—— jtpll, October 11, 2020