

**TEXT- Eph. 2:1-10**

**INTRO-** The concept of grace—unmerited favor—is woven throughout the entirety of Scripture.

**I. The Evidence of Grace**

- **Human beings are born spiritually dead, and so cannot choose God**  
**Ps 51:5** *Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.*
- **Human beings are under the slavery of the World, the Flesh, and the Devil**

**Eph 2:1-3** *And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; 2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: 3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.*

- **God's wrath is upon all human beings**  
**Joh 3:36** *He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.*

• **But God in Christ has offered his grace and to us.**  
**Tit 2:11** *For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,*

- **The ground of grace is the work of Christ**  
**Eph 1:6-7** *To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. 7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;*

• **The instrument of grace is faith, which is a gift**  
**Eph 2:8-9** *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.*

**II. Examples of Grace**

- **Mephibosheth**  
**2 Sam. 4:4** *And Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son that was lame of his feet. He was five years old when the tidings came of Saul and Jonathan out of Jezreel, and his nurse took him up, and fled: and it came to pass, as she made haste to flee, that he fell, and became lame. And his name was Mephibosheth.*  
**2 Sam. 9:11** *Then said Ziba unto the king, According to all that my lord the king hath commanded his servant, so shall thy servant do. As for Mephibosheth, said the king, he shall eat at my table, as one of the king's sons.*  
**2 Sam 9:13** *So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem: for he did eat continually at the king's table; and was lame on both his feet.*

**2 Sam. 16:4** *Then said the king to Ziba, Behold, thine are all that pertained unto Mephibosheth. And Ziba said, I humbly beseech thee that I may find grace in thy sight, my lord, O king.*

- **Noah**  
**Gen. 6:8** *But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.*
- **The mercy seat upon the Ark of the Covenant**  
**Lev 16:14** *And he shall take of the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle it with his finger upon the mercy seat eastward; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times.*
- **The Passover Lamb**  
**1 Pe 1:18-19** *Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:*  
**John 1:29** *The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.*

• **John Newton**  
**"By the grace of God I am what I am." This is my testimony. This is my confession of faith. This is my hope – "It is certain I am not what I ought to be. But blessed be God, I am not what I once was. God has mercifully brought me out of the deep miry clay and set my feet upon the rock, Christ Jesus."**

- **Martin Luther**  
**Rom. 1:17** *For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.*  
**Rom. 3:5** *But if our unrighteousness commend the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unrighteous who taketh vengeance?*  
**Rom. 3:21** *But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;*  
**Rom. 3:22** *Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:*  
**Rom. 3:25** *Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;*

**III. The Effect Of Grace**

- A. Grace heals our soul.** "Grace is a glow of soul,
- B. Grace gives us the desire to do good.**  
**2 Co 5:17** *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

**Eph 4:24** *And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.*

**C. Grace works effectively through us to carry out good.**

When we live a life of grace we live for God as we fulfill our unique purpose. We eagerly receive what we can never deserve but what he graciously allows us to take part in.

**D. Grace gives us staying power.** With grace comes courage, resilience, and resoluteness despite our fragility, weakness, and sin.

**2 Co 12:9** *And he said unto me, **My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.** Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*

**E. Grace enables us to break through to glory.**

**Heb 4:16** *Let us therefore come boldly unto **the throne of grace**, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*

**CONCL –**

John Newton's hymn "Amazing Grace" is closely modeled after 1 Chronicles 17, a chapter that speaks of King David's past, present, and future. Newton does the same, reflecting on past grace, present grace, and the hope of future grace.

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares,  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.**