

Grace or Works?

Romans 11:6 And if by **grace**, then *is it* no more of **works**: otherwise **grace** is no more **grace**. But if *it be* of **works**, then is it no more **grace**: otherwise **work** is no more **work**.

- Being chosen to be used of God is not about how good you are but how good His grace is Deuteronomy 7:7 The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, **because** ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people:
- Israel was chosen by God but never based on their goodness I Corinthians 1:27 But **God hath chosen the foolish things** of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the **weak things** of the world to confound the things which are mighty; 28 And **base things** of the world, and things which are **despised**, hath God chosen, yea, and **things which are not**, to bring to nought things that are: 29 **That no flesh should glory in his presence.**
- I was put in the ministry but not because I am any better than anyone else

- Actually God wants to choose people and groups that show how strong and good He is not how strong and good the people or groups He chooses are
- In service it is God that is doing the choosing and the working **Ecclesiastes 9:11** I returned, and saw under the sun, that the **race is not to the swift**, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, **nor yet favour to men of skill**; but time and chance happeneth to them all.
- This lesson of grace and works also applies to our salvation. It takes it out of our hands and puts it into His hands
- Two things must characterize any Christian. One is a profound sense of personal sin and unworthiness. The other is an overwhelming awareness of the grace of God.
- Without a proper sense of sin, we will never appreciate grace.
- Grace and works are two different things. They do not mix. One drop of the other and it completely changes the truth

- Get a bank loan based on my credit, my character, my financial condition
 - The pressure on me to perform
 - The glory goes to me because I deserve the loan
 - The frustration if things beyond my control cause me not to be able to keep my side of the bargain
- Give a gift
 - No conditions except the willingness to believe and accept
 - The glory goes to the giver and the gift
 - No bragging rights for being the receiver of a gift offered to every one
 - No pressure on me to perform because the Giver does it all

1. Grace and works are utterly opposed to each other

- a. If you work then you owe it [Romans 4:4](#) Now to him that **worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.** [5](#) But to him that **worketh not**, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, **his faith is counted for righteousness.** [6](#) Even as

David also describeth the **blessedness** of the man, unto whom God **imputeth righteousness without works,** [7](#) *Saying, **Blessed** are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.*

- i. Christ is of no value to those of you that want to accomplish your own salvation [Galatians 5:4](#) **Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.**
[Galatians 2:21](#) **I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness *come* by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.**
- ii. Saved without the deeds of the law [Romans 3:28](#)
Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.
- iii. If you are going to keep the law, work, or do good, you can't fail at all [Galatians 3:10](#) **For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, *Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.***
[James 2:10](#) **For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one *point*, he is guilty of all.**

b. If it is grace you do not deserve it

- i. Man is condemned already [John 3:18](#) He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that **believeth not is condemned already**, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. [19](#) And **this is the condemnation**, that light is come into the world, and **men loved darkness** rather than light, because **their deeds were evil**. [20](#) For **every one that doeth evil hateth the light**, neither cometh to the light, lest his **deeds should be reproved**.
- ii. Man is dead and a child of wrath [Ephesians 2:1](#) 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.

iii. Man is a wicked sinner **Romans 3:10** As it is written, There is **none righteous**, no, not one: **11** There is **none** that understandeth, there is **none** that seeketh after God. **12** They are **all** gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is **none** that doeth good, no, not one. **18** There is **no fear of God** before their eyes. **19** Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that **every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.** **23** For **all** have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

2. Boasting is removed in grace

a. Being saved by grace means we are saved when we do not deserve it **Ephesians 2:8** 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.**

b. Freely by His grace **Romans 3:24** Being **justified freely** by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

c. All we do is believe **Romans 4:16** Therefore *it is of faith,* that *it might be by grace;* to the end the promise **might be sure to**

all the seed; not to that only

which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,

d. Our attitude is that of David when he couldn't believe how good God had been to him **I Chronicles 17:16** And David the king came and sat before the Lord, and said, **Who am I,** O Lord God, and **what is mine house, that thou** hast brought me hitherto?

3. Eternal security is found in grace, Him giving
- a. In ministry I know that He chose me to use me, not the other way around [John 15:16](#) **Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.**
 - b. He moved us from death to life [John 5:24](#) **Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that **heareth** my word, and **believeth** on him that sent me, **hath everlasting life**, and **shall not** come into condemnation; but **is** passed from death unto life.**
 - c. He gives the eternal life as a gift [John 10:27](#) **My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: 28 And **I give unto them eternal life**; and **they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.** 29**
My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and

no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. 30 I and *my* Father are one.

- d. Believers will never die **John 11:26** And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?
- e. Nothing shall separate us from the love of God

Romans 8:34 Who is he that condemneth? It is

Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also **maketh**

intercession for us. 35 **Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** *shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. 37

Nay, in all these things **we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.**

38 For **I am persuaded**, that **neither** death, **nor** life, **nor** angels, **nor** principalities, **nor** powers, **nor** things present, **nor** things to come, 39 **Nor** height,

nor depth, **nor** any other creature, **shall be able**

**to separate us from the love of God,
which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

- f. He started the work and He will finish it [Philippians 1:6](#)
Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:
- g. We are kept by His power [I Peter 1:5](#) Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.