

God's Grace: Knowing our Need, Embracing the Gift
Genesis 25:19-34
June 28, 2020

Are you oppressed? Or are you blessed?

Grace, what is it?

God's Grace to Abraham 25:1-11

God Fulfilled his promises to Abraham in spite of his failures.

Abraham needed grace.

God's Grace to Hagar 25:12-17 (Genesis 17:20)

Ishmael lived long, his sons were rulers of 12 nations.

God carries out his purpose in us, through us, and in spite of our failures.

God's faithfulness to his promises amounts to grace for us, the people who trust him. This is a recurring lesson in the Bible.

Confidence in God's Grace

Abraham, he acted on the promise.

Isaac, prayed for the promised child.

Notice the logic of faith here.

God used the means of Isaac's faith, and prayer, to fulfill his promise.

The Foundation of God's Grace

The foundation of grace is God's free choice, election.

God works through rivalry and opposition, and still his promise is sure and his secret will happens.

Even our sinful tendencies and failures cannot thwart the purposes of God, rather, they fulfill them.

The older will serve the younger.

Why? Electing love – God chose. (Romans 9:10-12)

Grace is free and unconditional.

God chooses for reasons *in Him*, not for reasons *in us*.

Election leads to God being gracious to us.

Benefits of election

Eliminates boasting (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Encourages love (1 John 4:19)

Encourages evangelism (1 Cor 1:21; Rom 1:17)

Detriments of choice

1) You can lose what you can choose.

2) Salvation becomes uncertain.

3) Faith becomes uncertain.

Rejection of God's Grace

Why did Esau reject God?

1. Because of election? Double predestination, reprobation.

2. **Or** Because he rejected both God and grace?

God really is sovereign, he does rule over all of life.

Man really is responsible for his actions. All of them.

There is a warning for us regarding Esau.

Do not reject your spiritual birthright. (Hebrews 12:15-17)

Needing Grace

God unrelenting purpose is to bring a savior into the world.

Embrace grace. Trust and act on the promises of God.