

Romans 4:24 AMP – Righteousness, standing acceptable to God, will be granted and credited to us also who believe in, trust in, adhere to, and rely on God, Who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.

Our minds have a difficult time accepting God's way of righteousness. The carnal mind has to work, it has to perform, and it has to "do" in order to "be".

As soon as I trust in my own righteousness I nullify grace in my life.

Galatians 2:21 AMP – Therefore, I do not treat God's gracious gift as something of minor importance and defeat its very purpose; I do not set aside and invalidate and frustrate and nullify the grace of God. For if justification, righteousness, acquittal from guilt, comes through observing the ritual of the Law, then Christ died groundlessly and to no purpose, and in vain. His death was then wholly superfluous.

Performance always requires judgment.

As I am persuaded that I am righteous, God's grace will flow out of my heart and it will empower me to live the truth and the quality of life He has for me.

John 10:10 AMP – I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance, to the full, till it overflows.

I John 5:11b-12 AMP – God gave us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. (12) He who possesses the Son has that life.

When we begin to understand and truly believe with all of our hearts that God's gift has made us totally and completely acceptable to Him we will walk in great freedom and victory.

Dare to live as one who is totally and completely loved!

GOD'S GRACE

Part 2: Total Acceptance

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REVIEW

I. THE HUMAN CONDITION

Man may be able to change his behavior (through Law) but he could never change his nature.

II. THE GOSPEL OF GRACE

The power of transformation is available through the Gospel of Grace.

III. WORKS RE-VISITED

We have moved out from **grace** – which has the **power to transform** and moved into works or the **law**, which has the **power to condemn**.

IV. GOD'S THRONE

- A. We Can Approach Confidently Because it is not a Throne of Judgment.
- B. We Can Approach Confidently Because of Christ's Sacrifice.
- C. We Can Approach Confidently Because He Will Provide for our Need.
 - 1. Right before we sin-grace
 - 2. Right after we have sinned-mercy

PART II – GRACE = TOTAL ACCEPTANCE

I. GRACE AND TRUTH

Jesus did not just bring Truth – He also brought grace – God’s power and ability to live out the Truth, from a transformed nature.

John 1:14, 16-17 NIV – (14) The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (16) From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. (17) For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Luke 2:40 AMP – And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace, favor and spiritual blessing of God was upon Him.

Jesus operated as a man full of the Spirit and grace of God, and fulfilled destiny through God’s ability and power.

John 5:19 NLT – I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does.

John 8:28b NLT – I do nothing on my own but say only what the Father taught me.

Philippians 2:7 NAS – He emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, made in the likeness of men.

II. GRACE AND FAITH

Romans 5:1-2 NIV – (1) Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (2) through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.

* Grace can only operate in those areas of our lives where we have faith!

It’s not what we “try” to believe, but what we truly “believe” that will come to the surface.

Faith doesn’t happen because we TRY something; faith happens because we believe something – His Word.

Romans 10:10 NLT – For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved.

III. GRACE AND RIGHTEOUSNESS

Our greatest challenge of faith will be in the area of righteousness.

Romans 1:17 NIV – For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: The righteous will live by faith.

Romans 5:17 NLT – But even greater is God’s wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ.

Romans 3:27-28 NLT – (27) Can we boast, then, that we have done anything to be accepted by God? No, because our acquittal is not based on obeying the law. It is based on faith. (28) So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law.