

Grace Works Through Faith

- I. Ephesians 2:8-9 - ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast.
 - A. The phrase “you have been saved” is a combination of two verb tenses - present & perfect.
 - B. The perfect tense refers to an action that is initiated in the past and the effects of that action continue into the present and beyond.
 - C. The English word “save” is the Greek word SOZO and has the following meanings:
 1. To save from sin & its consequences
 2. To heal or to cure or to restore to health
 3. To deliver and protect - rescue from danger
 4. To make whole
 5. To do well or to prosper
 - D. Grace is the basis for our salvation (healing, deliverance, prosperity) and faith is the means that we appropriate what has been done for us.
- II. What is grace?
 - A. Normal response - God’s unmerited favor
 - B. Grace is what God HAS DONE for each of us
 - C. God has provided everything that we need for this life - II Peter 1:2-4; Ephesians 1:3
- III. What is faith?
 - A. It is not something that we do or believe to make God respond to us
 - B. Faith is my response to what God has already provided or accomplished by His grace.
 - C. Faith requires a response on what we know (Ginosko) and the type of knowledge that is required is intimate, experiential and first-hand with God
- IV. Why is this important?
 - A. We are seeking and asking for things that we already have
 - B. We are trained from childhood to view the world with rational eyes. Only what can be measured by our five senses should be considered.
 - C. Anything supernatural cannot be considered because it cannot be measured empirically

- D. God has given us common sense but unless we have the Holy Spirit we will not receive revelation knowledge and thus our faith will not be true Biblical faith
- E. True Biblical faith isn't believing that God can do something or even that He will do something - true Biblical faith is believing that God has done something and it is available for me now

V. Our fight with Satan

- A. When we recognize what Jesus has done for us, we will view everything from a place of victory - John 16:33
- B. I am not trying to get healed - I am healed and the devil is trying to take my healing away from me
- C. I am not fighting to obtain my healing rather I am fighting to defend my healing
- D. Satan tries to put his symptoms on me and either I accept them or I resist them and command him to remove them from my body

VI. How then should I pray?

- A. I don't need to ask God to do what He has already done
- B. I can thank Him and praise Him for what He has provided
- C. I continue to confess what His word says about my situation and command things to change

VII. Story about Annet Oomen & her son Desmond

- A. Desmond was diagnosed with incurable autism
- B. After going to a church that believed in healing, Annet began to change how she prayed and what she prayed
- C. Annet said - "It doesn't matter what I see with my eyes, hear with my ears or feel with my emotions. I will never stop believing that God healed Desmond 2,000 years ago on Calvary
- D. Annet didn't deny the facts of Desmond's autism, she simply believed that the truth of God's Word was greater than what she saw and experienced

VIII. How to receive revelation from God

1. Become childlike - Matthew 11:25
2. Obey what you already know - John 7:17
3. Learn how to meditate on the Word of God - Psalms 77:6
4. Live by faith in what God has done - II Corinthians 4:4
5. Be teachable and acquire understanding - Proverbs 14:6
6. Ask God to minister to you while you sleep - Job 33:15-16
7. Give away what you have already received—Proverbs 20:5
8. Become a friend of God by having an intimate relationship with Him - John 15:15