

GRACE AND FAITH

Not Of Works

I. You don't receive from God through works, you receive from Him through faith-Ephesians 2:8-9

A. Salvation or anything else you receive from God doesn't come by working, it come by believing

II. Grace and free gifts has been God's plan from the beginning

A. Genesis 1,2-In the beginning Adam earned nothing from God; everything was free

1. 1:28-He created man in His image and gave man his faith, love, joy, etc
2. 1:28-He gave man the blessing that makes rich
3. 1:28-He gave man dominion over all the Earth
4. 1:29-He gave man every seed and ever tree
5. 2:8-He gave man the Garden
6. 2:16-He gave man every tree of the garden (Freely)
7. 2:22-He gave man a wife

B. When Adam sinned he was forced to work for what you used to be free

1. He's sweating because He's working
2. Sweat, working, and earning came after Adam sinned; it was part of the curse
3. After Adam sinned he had to earn provision; before he sinned he received provision

C. Jesus came to remove the work and sweat from life

1. Everything that you'd ever need Jesus paid for through the shedding of his blood-Ephesians 1:7
 - a. Jesus literally bought you out of the curse with his blood-Galatians 3:13
2. Jesus worked for it, earned it, paid for it so you wouldn't have to
 - a. When you come into the Kingdom of God everything is free once again-Romans 8:32, 1 Corinthians 2:12
 - b. You don't have to work for it because your brother already worked for it
 - 1) Luke 12:32-It's your Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom
 - 2) Romans 8:17, 1 John 4:17-You're a joint-heir with Jesus
3. Jesus came teaching a toil-free system-Matthew 6:28

D. When you come into the Kingdom of God everything is free

1. The world's system is a labor-based system, while the Kingdom of God is a grace-based system; In the world's system everything is earned, in the Kingdom of God everything is received
 - a. If everything is free in the Kingdom, then we need to become proficient at receiving it, not working for it
2. Luke 15:12-32
 - a. 25-Notice the older brother is working

- b. 29-He starts listing His works
 - c. 31-Son everything I have is yours, just take what you need
- 3. Romans 3:24-You didn't work for your salvation, the Holy Spirit, or your healing, so what makes you think you have to earn your money, your house or your food?
- E. Exodus 16:11-The children of Israel were receiving toil-free provision; they aren't working for it or earning it
 - 1. They are simply just gathering in what God provided

III. No works just believing; To receive from God we have to only believe (We got to get this revelation)

- A. Jairus-Luke 8:50-Only believe
 - 1. Jairus didn't pay for this or earn it, He just received it with His faith
- B. Woman with the issue of blood-Mark 5:34
 - 1. She didn't pay for this or earn it, she just gathered it in with her faith
- C. Peter-Luke 5:1-10
 - 1. Peter was working and his work got him nothing
 - 2. 5-When Peter started believing, he received abundance and there was no toil with it

IV. Works vs. Faith

- A. Faith is not works-When you are in faith you are not working to earn something you are believing to receive something
 - 1. Works is not faith-When you are in works you are not believing to receive something, you're relying on your works
- B. Faith is work
 - 1. Faith is doing and faith without doing is dead-James 2:17
 - a. If you have to do something to receive it, is it still grace? (EX: Free Car)
 - b. Did you do something to get saved, to get filled with Holy Spirit, to get healed? Does that mean it wasn't grace?
 - c. Works that flow out of faith in God implement faith and bring it to it's full expression; Works apart from faith do nothing (John 15:5)
 - 2. We have to labor (exert oneself, endeavor, & give diligence) to enter rest-Heb 4:3,11
 - a. 1 Timothy 6:12-It's the fight of faith and the fight is to get to the place of rest with an adversary out there who is using everything he can to get you to not believe
 - b. You have to meditate the Word, cast down thoughts, speak the Word, encourage yourself in the Lord, be thankful, & act like u have it not to earn something from God, but to stay in faith
 - c. People get the idea that if I did these things then somehow I've earned it, but that's turning faith into works and what you work for God can't give you by grace

3. I do the things necessary to stay in faith understanding that if I do God will be gracious to me, but my motive for staying is faith is because faith is right
 - a. The just/right live by faith-Galatians 3:11
 - 1) It's right to ignore your body and believe your healed; It's right to ignore your finances and believe your rich; It's right to believe you're strong when you feel weak; It's right that when I desire something to believe I receive it
 - b. Faith is not "works of the law" that you do to earn the promise; faith is the labor & fight you engage b/c it's right to believe God & it's necessary to receive grace
 - 1) I'm not working I'm believing because it's right
 4. Psalm 84:11-God will not withhold grace from those who walk by faith
 - a. God's will is that the upright have grace the upright walk by faith
 - b. When you'll swear 2 your own hurt & change not there's grace for you (Ps 15:4)
 - c. You stand your ground & stay in faith b/c it's right; the Lord will not withhold grace from you
- C. We got to be very cautious to not rely on what we are doing, but we need to be relying on the One who said to do it
1. I have faith in what I do because I have faith in one who told me to do what I'm doing
 - a. Mark 11:23-I believe doing this will move the mountain because of the who told me it would
 - b. It's not working is to call the one who told me to do it a liar
 2. One of the main deception of the enemy is that he wants you to work for things that are free
 - a. What you begin to work for cannot be given to you by grace-Romans 4:4,11:6
 - b. You got to be cautious in your walk of faith, to not veer over to the place where you're into works