

# The Two Sides of Grace

## RRBS 02/09/14

### I. Introduction

- A. We are now midway in the letter of Colossians
- B. I want to stop here and teach a lesson about the two sides of grace.
- C. Grace has been the hot topic recently. However, one side has been emphasized more than the other. We need to have both sides of grace in balance!
- D. There is a cross side of grace and a resurrection side of grace.

### II. The cross side of grace

- A. The cross was the biggest eliminator of all time!
- B. On the cross Jesus bore **ALL** your sins past, present, and future. [\[Col\\_2:13\]](#) He paid for them all by his shed blood.
- C. We have been justified by His blood- We are legally acquitted of all guilt and are innocent.
- D. Cross grace is forgiveness, reconciliation, and legal righteousness. We do not earn or deserve this. It was by grace through faith.
- E. It takes faith to believe we are forgiven!
- F. The cross side of grace is the main focus of the first half of Paul's letters and deals with our vertical relationship with God.

### III. The resurrection side of grace

- A. The resurrection was the biggest positive of all time!
- B. By the resurrection the very life and nature of Jesus is imparted to those who believe. When we are born again we are partakers of the divine nature! [\[2Pe\\_1:4\]](#) We have the same nature and life that Jesus has! [\[Rom\\_1:4\]](#)
- C. Resurrection grace is the new birth, union with Christ by His indwelling Spirit, and the resulting fruit of the Spirit. [\[Gal\\_5:22-23\]](#) We did nothing to earn or deserve this. It was by grace through faith.
- D. It takes faith to believe we have the same holy nature as Jesus in the presence of trying people and circumstances!
- E. The resurrection side of grace is the main focus of the second half of Paul's letters and deals with expressing the life, nature, and character in the horizontal relationships we have in the world. Paul wanted to reach the out-resurrection! [\[Php\\_3:10\]](#) This means he wanted the resurrection life of God on the inside of him to be fully expressed on the outside of him! We don't have to pray for resurrection grace, we HAVE resurrection grace! Paul prayed against his problem but God revealed to Him that HE ALREADY HAD RESURRECTION GRACE. My grace IS sufficient for you.

[2 Cor. 12:9]

F. If all we had was cross grace then all of our negatives would be gone but that would leave us at a zero. If we only renew our mind to cross grace we will end up living like a zero in the world. We need to renew our mind also to resurrection grace and live positively like Jesus in this world.

G. If we do not renew our minds to resurrection grace then most likely we will walk in the flesh and not be troubled by condemnation or guilt.

However, that still leaves our mission in this world unfulfilled. Ex. CBC mission trip

H. A renewed mind on who we are in the spirit will lead to renewed behavior. **Walking in Resurrection grace is not about behavior modification! It is about renewing you mind to who you are in the spirit and your vital union and oneness with Jesus in your spirit. This will lead to behavior change!**

#### IV. Understanding the commands of the NT

- A. The first half of each epistle gives us pictures of who we are.
- B. The second half of each epistle gives us in action snap shots of the new creation in marriage, at home with the family, at work, and before the world. These are pictures of Jesus' life and character at work!
- C. The first half of each epistle gives revelation of who we are. The second half of each epistle gives clear directives on expressing who we are in the world. Both are received and lived out by faith.
- D. We can check up in the last section of each epistle to see if we are expressing in our lives who Christ is! If we are not, then we need to tap into both cross grace AND resurrection grace!
- E. The commands of the OT and the NT are not the same. However, both sets of commands are impossible for our flesh to live out! OT commands were to be done completely with your own resources. NT commands are to be fulfilled by tapping into resurrection grace! NT commands are harder to live than the OT commands naturally! NT commands put a demand upon your heart not just outward actions. God will never ask from you what He has not already placed within you! Really the NT commands put a demand on the life of Christ within us!
  - 1. Illustration of putting together a Ferrari which is broke down in 613 parts with no tools under OT commands. Even if you could no gas is provided!
  - 2. Illustration of receiving a complete Ferrari with gas under NT commands. NT commands are directions on how to operate in our new creation.

#### V. Tapping into resurrection grace

- A. We need to renew our mind to cross grace. Our standing before God.
- B. We also need to renew our mind to resurrection grace. Our new nature and ability in Christ.
- C. We renew our mind by meditation and by confession of the Word.
- D. Confess regularly who you are and what you have in the Spirit!
  - 1. I am filled with love. I am a loving person in Christ.
  - 2. I am filled with joy. I am a joyful person in Christ.
  - 3. I am filled with peace. I am a peaceful person in Christ.
  - 4. I am filled with patience. I am a patient person in Christ.
  - 5. I am filled with kindness. I am a kind person in Christ.
  - 6. I am filled with goodness. I am a good person in Christ.
  - 7. I am filled with faithfulness. I am a faithful person in Christ.
  - 8. I am filled with gentleness. I am a gentle person in Christ.
  - 9. I am filled with self-control. I am self-controlled in Christ.
- E. Don't try to be these things by your own efforts! You **are** these things in Christ. Christ **is** these things in you! The Christian life is not really living for Jesus, but **living from Jesus**. You walk in these by faith not by feelings.

#### IV. What is the Purpose for our Performance?

- A. Our performance is important to our spouse, family, work place, and unbelievers. Thus it is important to God!
- B. [Eph\\_2:8-10](#)
- C. Good works are to profit others!
  - 1. [Tit\\_3:8](#) This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain **good works**. These things are **good** and **profitable to men**.
  - 2. [Tit\\_3:14](#) And let our *people* also learn to maintain **good works, to meet urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful**.
  - 3. [1Pe\\_2:12](#) having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by *your* **good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation**.
  - 4. [Tit\\_2:7](#) in all things **showing yourself to be a pattern** of **good works**; in doctrine *showing* integrity, reverence, incorruptibility,
- D. General ref. to good works for Christians
  - 1. [1Ti\\_6:18](#) Let them **do good**, that they be rich in **good works**, ready to give, willing to share,

2. [Tit\\_2:14](#) who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for **good works**.
3. [Heb\\_10:24](#) And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and **good works**,
4. [2Ti\\_3:16](#) All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, [2Ti\\_3:17](#) that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for **every good work**.