

## Check It Out Tracts

# GRACE

## CHECK IT OUT

By John W. White

The purpose of this tract is to show the significance of the grace of God after salvation. **Acts 20:32** “And now, **brethren**, I commend you to God, and to **the word of his grace**, which is **able to build you up**, and **to give you an inheritance** among all them which are sanctified.” The grace of God is commended to the **brethren** that need to be built up and who without the grace of God would not have an inheritance.

### GRACE IN SALVATION

From the following passage we see that the Grace of God brought salvation to all men **Titus 2:11** “For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,…” This salvation through grace is for the whole human race and this is the reason that Jesus “...**by the grace** of God should taste death for **every man**.” **Hebrews 2:9** Because the grace of God has brought salvation to all man then every man can receive light. **John 1:9** “*That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.*”

### GRACE, THE POWER OF CHRIST

**2 Corinthians 12:9** “And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that **the power of Christ** may rest upon me.” This verse defines grace as the power of Christ and that it is available to those who know that they are weak. **1 Corinthians 1:27,29** “...God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; ...29. That no flesh should glory in his presence.” **John 15:5** “...without me ye can do nothing.” **2 Corinthians 3:5** “Not that we are sufficient of ourselves ... but our sufficiency *is* of God;” **Philippians 4:13** “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.”

### BE STRONG IN GRACE

**2 Timothy 2:1** “Thou therefore, my son, **be strong in the grace** that is in Christ Jesus.” One of the reasons to be strong in His grace is found in **2 Timothy 2:3-4** “Thou therefore **endure hardness**, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.” Without the grace of God we can not endure hardness and we can not be a good soldier. The Greek word translated “endure hardness” means to “suffer hardship with.” The thought of 2 Timothy 2:1 is repeated in a different way in **Ephesians 6:10** “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.” The power of His grace is required if we ever expect to use the armour of God to withstand in the evil day. **Ephesians 6:11** “Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” Why put on the whole armour of God if you do not have the strength to use that armour.

### GRACE FOR SERVICE

**Hebrews 12:28-29** “Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: 29. For our God *is* a consuming fire.” Entrance into the kingdom of the heaven will provide us treasures in heaven as promised to the rich young ruler. According to **Colossians 3:23-24** “And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; 24. Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the

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reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.” we will receive the reward of the inheritance based upon our service. Service done in the power of the flesh is not acceptable service. In Hebrews 12:28 we see that service done in the power of Christ, His grace, will be acceptable and well pleasing to Him. The verb “let us have” in Hebrews 12:28 is a present active subjunctive. The grammar of this verb is telling us to have grace all the time. The active voice is telling us that we are to take the initiative in having this grace. The subjunctive mode is telling us that we may fail to obtain this grace.

### HOW TO HAVE GRACE

**2 Peter 3:18** “But grow in grace, and *in* the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ....” Having grace is a growing process and not something gained instantly. We see the growing process in **2 Peter 1:2** “Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge [e]p[ist]em[ology], knowledge upon knowledge] of God, and of Jesus our Lord,” This process is explained in **Isaiah 28:9-10** “Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? *them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.* 10. For precept *must be* upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, *and* there a little:” It takes time to wean a child of God from the milk of the word. It takes faithfulness on our part to follow one precept with another. We are to associate one line of scripture with another line of scripture. We need to be patient with only getting a little here and a little there from the Word. By our persistent pursuit of the knowledge of God we are made to understand doctrine and we grow in faith. **Colossians 3:16** “Let the **word** of Christ **dwell in you richly** in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another ... singing with **grace** in your hearts to the Lord.” **Romans 10:17** “So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” It is by faith that we have access to the grace of God as found in **Romans 5:2** “By whom also **we have access by faith into this grace** wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”

### THRONE OF GRACE

**Hebrews 11:1** “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” Faith gives substance to grace and the throne of grace so that we can be confident that we can obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. **Hebrews 4:16** “Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we **may obtain mercy**, and find grace to help in time of need.” Before we can find grace we must obtain mercy. We obtain mercy by confession of sin and being released from the bondage of sin. As long as we have unconfessed sin in our lives, sin reigns; and that is the reason that we **may** not obtain mercy. As long as sin reigns in our lives God is not going to give us His grace, the power of Christ, to serve sin. We obtain mercy when we appropriate the shed blood of Jesus Christ on the mercy seat in the heavens. **Hebrews 9:22** “And without shedding of blood is no remission.” The word **remission** is also translated **deliverance**, and **liberty**. **Luke 4:18** “...to preach **deliverance** to the captives, ...to set at **liberty** them that are bruised,” Remission is a releasing from bondage of those who are in captivity.

### DOES GRACE REIGN?

A throne suggests power and sovereignty over its subjects. Subjects must be submissive to the throne of grace. We see how grace reigns in Romans 5:21 “That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign **through righteousness** unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our

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Lord.” Grace does not reign if we are serving sin. Many associate the righteousness with that of salvation and that is error. **Romans 6:16** “Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to **obey**, his servants ye are to whom ye **obey**; whether of sin unto death, or of **obedience** unto righteousness?” In the NKJV the word **leading** is added for clarification. “obedience **leads** to righteousness.” The NASB translates the phrase “obedience resulting in righteousness” The Greek word translated **resulting** is *ειν*. Without obedience to the moral law of God, grace cannot reign. Without being obedient you can not be just. If you are not just, you cannot live by faith. If you can't live by faith then grace is not available for acceptable service.

### NOT UNDER LAW BUT GRACE

Many will quote **Romans 6:14** “For sin shall not have dominion over you: for **ye are not under the law, but under grace.**” The phrase “shall have dominion over” is from the Greek verb *ku>riov* that could be translated “to be lord over.” This verb is in the future tense and means when grace reigns you are not under the law.

When are we under the law? When we become lawless and disobedient. **1 Timothy 1:8-9** “...the law *is* good, if a man use it lawfully; 9. Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, ...” The law is not made for a righteous man who is obedient but for the disobedient. A good example of law and grace might be seen with the speed limit on the interstate. In some states the speed limit is between 40 and 65 miles per hour. If you drive between 40 and 65 you are being obedient to the law and are under grace and protection of the state in which you are driving. If you drive less than 40 or over 65 you have become a disobedient motorist and have moved from being under grace and protection of the state to being under the law and the consequences of breaking the law. If you drive 67 miles per hour, in some states, you are within the **spirit** of the law and not under the **letter** of the law. If you are disobedient you are not under grace but under the law.

### EVIDENCE OF GRACE: PEACE

In **2 Peter 1:2** “Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,” and in many other passages we find the word *peace* included with the word **grace**. If the grace reigns then peace will also be present. **Colossians 3:15** “And let the **peace of God** RULE in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.” As grace reigns so will peace. The word **rule** carries the meaning of that of being an umpire. When peace is present then we are having grace. If there is no peace then there is no grace. When there is no peace, the next step is to go to the throne of grace for grace.

### EVIDENCE OF GRACE: CONTENTMENT

**2 Corinthians 9:8** “And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may abound to every good work.” The word **sufficiency** is used and better translated in **1 Timothy 6:6** “But godliness with contentment is great gain.” Grace is working when you have contentment. Contentment effects your giving as found in the context of 2 Corinthians 9:8. Acts 4:33-34 “And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all. 34. Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold,...” When there is contentment, then generosity will abound. When grace reigns then good works also abound and these good works are well pleasing to the Lord. **1 Corinthians 15:10** “But **by the grace of God I am what I am:**

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and his grace which *was bestowed* upon me was **not in vain**; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.”

### EVIDENCE OF GRACE: COMMITMENT

**2 Corinthians 6:1** “We then, as workers together *with him*, beseech *you* also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.” In 1 Corinthians 15:10 makes the statement grace was not bestowed upon him in vain because he “Laboured more abundantly ... yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.” He approved himself a minister of by his commitment to the Lord in times adversity **2 Corinthians 6:4-5** “But in all *things* approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, 5. In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings..” The word **patience** is also translated **endurance**, and **patient continuance**. Without the grace of God it would be impossible to go through what Paul had to endure.

### EVIDENCE OF GRACE: ENDURANCE

**1 Peter 2:19-20** “For this *is* thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. 20. For what glory *is it*, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer *for it*, ye take it patiently, this *is* acceptable with God.” The words **thankworthy** and **acceptable** in these two verses is the word *charis* which is the Greek word for Grace. It takes the grace of God to suffer wrongfully. When you do well you please God. When **you do well, and suffer for it**, ...[AND] **take it patiently**, this pleases Him even more. When we have grace, then it is His power that is at work. He will get the glory for what he accomplished in you.

### GRACE ON DISPLAY

**Ephesians 2:7** “That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.” This is not just the work that was done on the cross for us by his grace, but the grace that worked in your life and mine. What he was able to accomplish through us because we let His grace, the power of Christ, work effectively in us. “For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.” **Philippians 2:13**

### EPHESIANS 2:8

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:” The word *saved* is in the perfect passive participle and could be translated **ye having been saved**. This verse is talking about the grace of God that is working in those who have already been saved. The verb *are* is the Greek word *ejmi* and is second person plural present indicative active. The third person plural present indicative active is translated **endure** in Mark 4:17 and the third person singular present indicative active is translated **dureth** in Matthew 13:21. Grace is a gift given to those who are saved and on the bases of faith. It is by that grace of God that the child of God will endure in well doing and not faint.

### PERSUADED THEM

**Acts 13:43** “..many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded [convince] them to continue [abide] in the grace of God.” I hope this tract has given you a new appreciation of the Grace of God and what it means to the believer. It is the grace of God that gives you strength to endure and the peace and contentment

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to serve Him as Paul did, more abundantly than ever before. It will be the grace of God that will provide you with an inheritance in the coming Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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