

“The Concept of Grace”

2 Peter 3:18

Introduction

If we are open to grace, it can dominate our lives. By its definition, grace is the free, unmerited favor of God. Grace does not cost anything. It is a gift. We cannot buy it. We cannot earn it. We cannot pay it back. Grace is essential to who God is. It is in His grace that we can thoroughly enjoy our relationship with God.

In speaking about grace, Peter reminds us “But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him *be* the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen. (2 Peter 3:18) Grace is the never-ending goodness of God that we could not provide ourselves.

If we grow in our understanding and in our experience with grace, it can literally blow our minds. Because grace is not natural for us as humans, our past may hinder us from truly experiencing God’s grace. In Romans 11:6, it is written, “But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace.” What we need to understand is that grace is freely given and cannot be earned by works or through effort.

Getting Started

The Old Testament operated by law and the New Testament operates by grace. When Jesus died on the cross for us, He fulfilled the law of the Old Testament. Since the law was completely fulfilled, the New Testament now carries the law, and gives us the opportunity to experience and grow in a new and better way. It’s time for us to release the old law and accept the provisions of the new law!

What does the following scripture mean to you?

***For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.
Romans 6:14***

Let’s Get Personal

Have you ever wondered what makes Christianity so special? The answer to that question can be answered with one word: *Grace*. Remember a time when you witnessed God’s grace in your life. When you reflect on the amazing power of God’s grace, can you think of a time when you have extended grace to another person?

Take the Next Step

The danger of grace is that because it is free, there is a risk that it will be taken advantage of. Once we start to grow in grace, we begin to understand it is not something to take for granted. If we continuously study the concept of grace in the Bible, we can remain aware of the goodness it provides us.

Renew Your Mind

For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.

John 1:16-17
