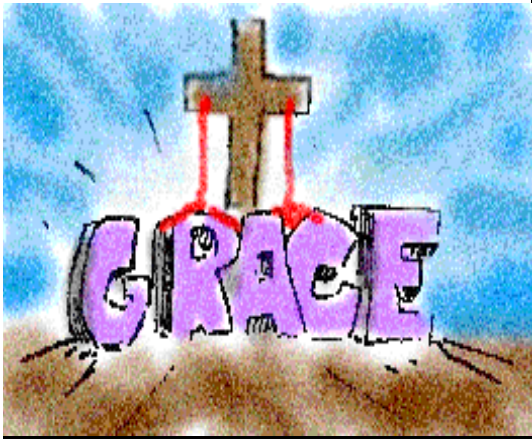


If You Could Just Understand GraceYou're All Set!



"Religion" can get so complicated! Just for a minute, forget about what you were taught at your church. Don't think about your life or achievements or your failures. It's not about you or the people around you--it's about Jesus. See if you can agree with this.....

“THE GRACE OF GOD”

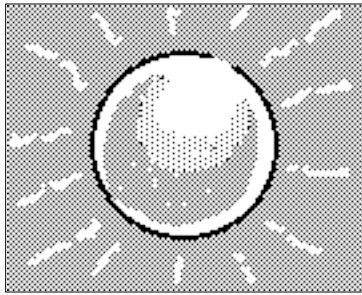
"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:" (Ephesians 2:8, KJV).

Salvation comes by grace. What is grace?
GRACE IS UNMERITED FAVOR--A GIFT ! The Bible says very clearly---we can't work our way to heaven--we are saved BY GRACE!.

The GRACE OF GOD is that He sent His Son Jesus, to die on the cross and be raise from the dead, that we might be saved from death, and receive the FREE GIFT of eternal life.

CUT--HERE

The Pearl



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Matthew 13:45-46

"...the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant, seeking beautiful pearls,

...who, when he had found one pearl of great value...

"...went and sold all that he had and bought it."

Why is this story in the Bible? How is this example like "the kingdom of God?" The secret is knowing the identity of the players in the story!

The merchant, is Jesus Christ! Jesus became a man, gave up everything He had, offered His life as payment! He laid down His life.

But what is it that has such great importance to Him? **What does the pearl represent..?**

CUT--HERE

Do You Belong to Jesus?

"Once you were under Gods curse, doomed forever for your sins. You went along with the crowd and were just like all the others, full of sin, obeying Satan, the mighty prince of the power of the air, who is at work right now in the hearts of those who are against the Lord.

All of us used to be just as they are, our lives expressing the evil within us, doing every wicked thing that our passions or our evil thoughts might lead us into.

We started out bad, being born with evil natures, and were under God's anger like everyone else.

But God is so rich in mercy; he loved us so much that even though we were spiritually dead and doomed by our sins, he gave us back our lives when he raised Christ from the dead,

only by his undeserved favor (grace) have we ever been saved--and lifted us up from the grave into glory along with Christ, where we sit with him in heavenly realms--all because of what Christ Jesus did.

And now God can always point to us as examples of how very, very rich his kindness is, as shown in all he has done for us through Jesus Christ. Because of his kindness you have been saved through trusting Christ.

And even trusting is not of yourselves; it too is a gift from God.

Salvation is not a reward for the good we have done, so none of us can take any credit for it.

HEAVEN IS A FREE GIFT
 "But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification....
 Therefore as by the offence of one (Adam) judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life." (Romans 5:15,16,18)

If something is a free gift--you cannot pay for it--right? The free gift has already been paid for--by Jesus work upon the cross and His resurrection. We don't have to worry about doing the work of salvation--its already been done--it's a FREE GIFT!

So, how do we receive the grace of God? How do we receive the free gift? Simple....Just ask!

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."

(Romans 10:9).

JUST ASK!

The work of salvation is already done! Jesus did it all, 2,000 years ago, at the cross of Calvary! You only need to accept the grace of God, by believing in your heart that Jesus did it all for you! He loves you. Ask Him to come into your heart and be your Savior and your Friend....JUST ASK!
 And after you have asked Jesus in--SERVE HIM! Share the free gift with others! Tell everyone you meet how good God is, and what a wonderful Savior we have in Jesus Christ our Lord!

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CUT--HERE

You are the pearl! Jesus died on the cross, He surrendered Himself---for you! Do you know that your salvation was bought at a great price? This is just how valuable you are to God!

Don't ever let anyone let you feel that you are worthless. Jesus gave up everything **for you**. He sacrificed Himself **for you!** **You** are very important to God--you are needed for His kingdom. **You** have a purpose in God!

This is just how priceless you are to Him! God gave up His only son so that *"whoever believes in Him, shall not perish, but have everlasting life."* [John 3:16] This is how much He loves you! He surrendered everything for the price of your soul. He asks us to surrender ourselves completely to Him. God will heal you--He will deliver you from every problem--He will care for you--as a precious pearl of great value

He has paid the price for your salvation! The work is done! Accept Jesus Christ as your Savior!

Say this simple prayer from your heart Lord Jesus, you are almighty God. I want you to be Lord of my life. I am a sinner. I am not righteous and fall short of your great glory. But I believe that you have paid the price for my sin. Your death on the cross, the shedding of your precious blood **washes away my sin**. I want you to be my savior, my lord, my friend. Come into my heart now, lord Jesus, set me free from the prison of my sin. And because I believe in you Jesus, I "shall not die, but have everlasting life,"

Thank you Jesus!

And now that you have asked Jesus into your heart--go and tell others this Good News--that God loves us and cares for us all!

CUT--HERE

It is God himself who has made us what we are and given us new lives from Christ Jesus....

.....But now you belong to Christ Jesus, and though once you were far away from God, now you have been brought near to him because of what Jesus Christ has done for you with his blood."

(Ephesians 2:1-10, 13)

Do you belong to Jesus? This is the question I would like to ask you. If your answer is no, or perhaps you are not sure, I would like to invite you to say yes to Jesus. The beginning of a lifelong relationship with Jesus begins by saying a simple prayer from your heart. I sincerely invite you to ask Jesus into your heart right now---there is a simple confession of faith at the end of this page. Say it to God from your heart and your life will change!

Jesus died for you. He shed his blood to cleanse you of your sin.

I ask you to read the scripture at the beginning of this booklet and walk through those passages yourself. They are meant for you. Jesus is meant for you. He died for you because He loves you.

Say this simple prayer from your heart Lord Jesus, you are almighty God. I want you to be Lord of my life. I am a sinner. I am not righteous and fall short of your great glory. But I believe that you have paid the price for my sin. Your death on the cross, the shedding of your precious blood **washes away my sin**. I want you to be my savior, my lord, my friend. Come into my heart now, lord Jesus, set me free from the prison of my sin. And because I believe in you Jesus, I "shall not die, but have everlasting life,"

Thank you Jesus!

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