

28 Parables of Jesus
True GRACE to Win the Race
 Bible Sermon Study Notes: Pastor Cary Rodgers, Jr

COL Chapter 28: “The Reward Of Grace”

Are you in the race?

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

- 24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.
 25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.
 26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:
 27 But I keep **under my body [sinful flesh], and bring it into subjection**: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

Are you in it to win it?

Hebrews 12:1-2

- 1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay **aside every weight, and the sin** which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,
 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Mar 13:13 And ye shall be hated of all *men* for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

Hebrews 3:12-14

- 12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.
 13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.
 14 For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;

In order to win the race you must be powered by true GRACE! At the end of the race there is a reward for everyone that finishes it.

What is true grace and how do we apply it?

Ephesians 2:8-9

- 8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:
 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Grace (Hebrew/Greek) = favor or acceptance

Grace = Gift of GOD.

Grace is a gift that cannot be earned, bought, or sold and it ONLY comes from God.

How to you receive this gift? Verse 8... “Through faith”

Let's learn more... powerful stuff about this gift...

Romans 6:23

23 For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sin can be earned..

How do you and I receive this gift of eternal life? Through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Heb 5:9 And being made perfect, he (Jesus) became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

Eternal salvation leads to eternal life!

Salvation (Greek) = deliverance

Deliverance from what? Sin and death!

Don't miss this!

Grace (favor / acceptance) is a "Gift of God" (Ephesians 2:8). Salvation (Deliverance) is a gift of God (Romans 6:23).

Are Grace and Salvation two separate gifts with two separate packages? No!

Grace and salvation are distinctly different but they are given together as a gift in one package.

Let's break this down for clearer understanding so you can understand grace.

Grace is the gift box and salvation is within the gift box. So in other words without grace you would NOT have salvation, but without the gift box of grace you would not have the gift of salvation. Remember they have to come as a package!

2Th 2:16 Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given *us* everlasting consolation (comfort) and good hope **through** grace.

"Through" is the vehicle it is the gift box of grace. Within it is everlasting gospel, the power unto salvation!

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Sanctuary reveals Grace and Salvation

Explain Grace / Salvation through the sanctuary (show picture) Sanctuary (out walls and gate) = the gift box... must enter through the gate... then experience the plan of salvation...

Romans 3:23-25

23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

25 Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

Grace and redemption is a package...

How do you know that you are living within the TRUE grace of God while running the race?
Let's learn little about true grace from the example of Noah

Genesis 6:8-9

8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. [WHY?]

9 These *are* the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man *and* perfect in his generations, *and* Noah walked with God.

Even within a corrupt and sinful world Noah found favor with God because he open up the gift box of grace and abided in the salvation of God by walking with God.

Eph 2:5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

Is having possession of the gift box of grace enough? No.

Possession of the gift box of grace is just profession! It's on the shelf. It is like having a Bible on the table but never reading and applying it.

You must open the box and allow Christ to take off your old garments of self and put on the new robe of righteousness and walk with God!

Php 3:9 And be found **in** him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.

Details in the gift box of Grace – Salvation – Jesus robe of righteousness, Whole Armor of God (Peace, Salvation, Truth, Righteousness, the Word, and Prayer)

For example: The Rich young ruler thought that he earned salvation through keeping the ceremonies and the law.

What was the rich young ruler seeking?

Mar 10:17 And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?

He did not recognize Jesus as divine, the Son of God. Only as a Good Rabbi/ teacher. What was Jesus response?

Mar 10:18 And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God.

Mar 10:19 Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother.

The rich young ruler had head knowledge of the law of God, but had not accepted nor experience the true Grace of God and his righteousness that leads to eternal life

Mar 10:20 And he answered and said unto him, Master, all these have I observed from my youth.

What did Jesus offer the rich young ruler?

Mar 10:21 Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.

The gift package of Grace and salvation. The rich young ruler was still in sin. Jesus revealed that the young man was still under the condemnation of the law. He revealed that it is IMPOSSIBLE to keep the law of God without accepting and putting on the robe of Christ's righteousness.

What did the rich young ruler do to the offer of the gift package of Grace and Salvation? Why?

Mar 10:22 And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.

It is impossible to keep God's law in your sinful flesh. It is like trying to lift a 10,000 pound bolder in your own strength. Impossible!

Why?

Romans 8:1-2

- 1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
- 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Only those who have received the gift box of Grace and put on the gift of Jesus righteousness can keep a spiritual law, the ten commandments in it true spirit of love toward God and others.

Sinful flesh cannot keep the Law of GOD

Romans 8:6-7

- 6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.
- 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

Living within the true Grace of Jesus Christ you are free from SIN!

Romans 6:1-2, 6,7, 11-18

- 1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?
- 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?
- 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.
- 7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.

- 11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.
- 13 Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God.
- 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.
- 15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.
- 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?
- 17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.
- 18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

GRACE

G – Gift of R – Righteousness by A-Abiding in C-Christ – E-Everyday

Remember Grace and Salvation is a gift package that cannot be bought or sold. During the time of Christ and

even today many think that it can be earned based on a merit system of points in heaven. Remember the only thing that can be “earned” is death, not grace.

Where in the Bible is an example of a rich man that accepted and opened the gift box of grace to win the race?

Luke 19:1-7

- 1 And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho.
- 2 And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich.
- 3 And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature.
- 4 And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way.
- 5 And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house.
- 6 And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.
- 7 And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner.

What was proof that this man was changed and that he was living within grace of Jesus Christ?

Luke 19:8-10

- 8 And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.
- 9 And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham.
- 10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Zacchaeus accepted the gift whereas the rich young ruler rejected the gift.

What is the reward of grace at the end of the race? Can this reward be “earned”?

The reward of grace is eternal life through Jesus! Think about it if the gift cannot be earned, it is clear that the reward that is accepted the gift cannot be earned also.

Jesus explained this concept in a parable

Matthew 20:1-16

- 1 For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard.
- 2 And when he had agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard.
- 3 And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace,
- 4 And said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way.
- 5 Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise.
- 6 And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle?
- 7 They say unto him, Because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive.
- 8 So when even was come, the lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, Call the labourers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first.
- 9 And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny.
- 10 But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny.
- 11 And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house,
- 12 Saying, These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne

the burden and heat of the day.

13 But he answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny?

14 Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee.

15 Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?

16 So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

“The householder's dealing with the workers in his vineyard represents God's dealing with the human family. It is contrary to the customs that prevail among men. In worldly business, compensation is given according to the work accomplished. The laborer expects to be paid only that which he earns. But in the parable, Christ was illustrating the principles of His kingdom--a kingdom not of this world. He is not controlled by any human standard.” COL 396

“In the parable the first laborers agreed to work for a stipulated sum, and they received the amount specified, nothing more. Those later hired believed the master's promise, "Whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive." They showed their confidence in him by asking no question in regard to wages. They trusted to his justice and equity. They were rewarded, not according to the amount of their labor, but according to the generosity of his purpose.” COL 397

Sums of the parable and the reward of grace

“The Lord desires us to rest in Him without a question as to our measure of reward. When Christ abides in the soul, the thought of reward is not uppermost. This is not the motive that actuates our service. It is true that in a subordinate sense we should have respect to the recompense of reward. God desires us to appreciate His promised blessings. But He would not have us eager for rewards nor feel that for every duty we must receive compensation. We should not be so anxious to gain the reward as to do what is right, irrespective of all gain. Love to God and to our fellow men should be our motive.” COL 398

“The reward is not of works, lest any man should boast; but it is all of grace. "What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness." Romans 4:1-5. Therefore there is no occasion for one to glory over another or to grudge against another. No one is privileged above another, nor can anyone claim the reward as a right.” {COL 401.2}

“Not in our learning, not in our position, not in our numbers or entrusted talents, not in the will of man, is to be found the secret of success. Feeling our inefficiency we are to contemplate Christ, and through Him who is the strength of all strength, the thought of all thought, the willing and obedient will gain victory after victory.” {COL 404.1}

Prophetic Updates:

Jeff Session was confirmed this week as the US Government's head lawyer, attorney general

Jeff Sessions - U.S. attorney general

has called church/state separation an "extra-constitutional doctrine,"

Extraconstitutional definition, not authorized by or based on a constitution; beyond the provisions of a constitution.

“Religious law may be coming to America. But it’s not sharia; it’s Christian.”

By [Catherine Rampell](#) Opinion writer February 2

Much-dreaded “sharia law,” or something resembling it, may well be coming to the United States. Just not in the form many Americans expected.

That is, the religiously motivated laws creeping into public policymaking aren’t based on the Koran, and they aren’t coming from [mythical hard-line Islamists](#) in, say, Dearborn, Mich. They’re coming from the White House, which wants to make it easier for hard-line Christians to impose their beliefs and practices on the rest of us.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/sharia-law-may-be-coming-to-america-but-its-christians-who-are-bringing-it/2017/02/02/aa44fbe8-e98c-11e6-bf6f-301b6b443624_story.html?utm_term=.991eba327df3

“Undoubtedly it is the intention of the Pope to possess this country [U.S.A.]. In this intention, he is aided by the Jesuits and all the Catholic prelates and priests,” says Catholic writer, Dr. O. A. Bronson – Grant, M.R. Americanism vs. Roman Catholicism. Gulfport, MA: Truth Publishing, 1921 p. 29

The Missionary, an old Catholic publication, in June 1909 says, “Many non-Catholics fear us as a political organization and are afraid that the Catholic Church will dominate and rule; we are working quietly, seriously and I may say effectively, to that end.” - M.R. Grant, Americanism vs. Roman Catholicism. Gulfport, MA: Truth Publishing, 1921, p. 29

The Shepherd of the Valley, the official journal of the Bishop of St. Louis, November 23, 1851 edition reports, “If Catholics ever gain a sufficient numerical majority in this country, religious freedom is at an end-so our enemies say - so we believe.” - Thompson, Slason and Hobart C. Taylor, America: Journal For Americans, Volume 2, Chicago: Slason Thompson and Co Publishers, 1889, p. 82

President Donald Trump’s Inner Circle, key advisers, and cabinet picks are full of Jesuits, Catholics, and evangelicals who want to merge church and state.

President Donald Trump also Jesuit trained..

Trump attended [Fordham University](#) in [the Bronx](#) for two years, beginning in August 1964.

Vice President Mike Pence – Evangelical Catholic

Steve Bannon, [chief strategist and Senior Counselor for the Presidency of Donald Trump, former executive chair of Breitbart News, Jesuit-trained from Georgetown](#)

Stephen Kevin "Steve" Bannon (born November 27, 1953) is an American political activist, businessman and filmmaker who is currently serving as the Assistant to the President and [Chief Strategist](#) in the [Donald Trump](#) administration. In this capacity, since January 28, 2017, he has been a regular attendee to the Principals Committee of the [National Security Council](#).

Master's degree in national security studies from [Georgetown University School of Foreign Service](#)

Kellyanne Conway – Counselor to President is Roman Catholic

Andrew P. Bremberg currently serves as [Assistant to the President](#) and the Director of the [Domestic Policy Council](#) for President Donald Trump. - Roman Catholic

Eric Trump, Jesuit-trained from Georgetown and serves as board member of Georgetown's Business, Society, and Public Policy Initiative

David Malpass, Jesuit-trained from Georgetown, Vice President of the Council for National Policy, leading appointment selections for positions involving economic issues

John Michael "Mick" Mulvaney , Jesuit trained at Georgetown, Nominee for Director Office of Management and Budget

A SUNDAY LAW is soon coming. Which side are you going to be on in the Mark of the Beast Crisis? Have you opened up the gift of God's true grace to win the race?

Appeal