

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8

Appreciating God's Grace



- Vine, W. E., & Unger, M. (1996). *Vine's complete expository dictionary of Old and New Testament words: with topical index*. Thomas Nelson, page 277.
- Youngblood, R. F. (2014). Nelson's illustrated bible dictionary: New and enhanced edition. Thomas Nelson.

Appreciating God's Grace



Grace defined:

- ***<u>According to Vine</u>*** -
  When applied to God, grace stresses His free and universal favor toward mankind.

- ***<u>According to Nelson</u>*** -
  Favor or kindness shown by God without regard to the worth or merit of the recipient, given freely in spite of human sin or failure.

Appreciating God's Grace



- Summation of Vine and Nelson: **Grace - Universal, unmerited, freely given favor**
- **Set Against Debt:** Grace cannot be earned as something owed; it is an entirely free bestowal.
- **Set Against Works:** It operates independently of human effort or achievement.

Appreciating God's Grace



- Directly put, we do not earn nor deserve the grace that God extends to us -
  John 3:16, Romans 5:8

- Paul makes it clear that man can never put God in debt to us by our works -
  Romans 4:1-8, Ephesians 2:4-10, Titus 3:4-7

Universal, unmerited, freely given favor

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- Faith is essential to salvation - Ephesians 2:8, Hebrews 11:6
- Obedience is required for salvation - Hebrews 5:9, James 2:20-24
- Consider the example of Noah to see God's grace and man's obedience - Genesis 6:8,14-22, Hebrews 11:7

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The question we each need to ask is…

- Will I accept God's grace and learn what He expects me to do? Titus 2:11-14

- We need to get sin out of our life and then strive to keep it out -
  Romans 6:1-6, 17-18, 22

What must I do to be saved? *Acts 16:30*

- **Believe in Jesus –**
  John 8:24/3:16
- **Repent of Sins –**
  Luke 13:3-5; Acts 2:38/7:30-31
- **Confess your Faith in Jesus –**
  Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9
- **Baptism for the Remission Of Sins –**
  Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38/22:16
- **Live Faithfully for the Remainder of Life –**
  Revelation 2:10; James 2:10
- **Remember Matthew 7:21-23** *(not everyone, but…)*