

GRACE IS TRULY AMAZING

Ephesians 2:1-9

Being saved by grace is a wonderful and amazing thing, isn't it? Grace is a gift from God to a lost, hell bound sinner who is spiritually dead in trespasses and sin just like *Ephesians 2:1-9* says.

How thankful we should be that God, who is rich in mercy, sent someone with the glorious gospel that Jesus Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again the third day - I Corinthians 15:1-4.

If we were to look up the word grace in the dictionary, we would find many definitions. One definition that I especially like is, "the freely given, unmerited favor of God from God to man." Grace is something we cannot earn, it is a free gift. Thanks be unto God for that! That is why it says in *verse 9* that we would boast if we could work our way to heaven, "*Not of works, lest any man should boast.*"

The Bible makes it plain and simple that good works will not save anyone.

Titus 3:5 - "*Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;*" Galatians 2:16 - "*Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified*". The road to hell is paved with good intentions! The plain teaching of the Inspired Word of God is that salvation is not by works, but by the amazing grace of God.

Repeatedly, the Bible proclaims that good works CANNOT merit us salvation. No matter how sincere a person may be in their belief on obtaining salvation, if that belief is not based on the truths of God's Word, it is wrong.

Romans 11:6 - "*And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. **But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work***". If salvation comes by works, then it is NOT by God's grace anymore. The whole reason that Jesus died on the cross is because we could not perform enough good works to get saved. There is no amount of good deeds that can reconcile us to God. Only through Jesus Christ can anyone be saved. If it were possible for us to get to Heaven by living a good and upright life, then Jesus died for nothing, - Galatians 2:21 - "*I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain*".

Yes, Grace is truly amazing! Not only did grace save a sinner like me, but also, saved a dying thief while hanging on a cross next to Jesus - *Luke 23:43*.