The Solution to Practically Everything | Part 1

Lesson 5

Matthew 9:9-13; Luke 16:16, 23:32-34; John 1:14, 8:2-11 November 5, 2023

Receiving What You Don't Deserve

INTRODUCTION

We live in a world of rules, ordinances, laws, guidelines, proper procedures, and traditions. We are told from an early age if we can just follow them all, life will go well. The nation Israel had the Law of Moses. There are entire books in Scripture that are dedicated to the "dos and don'ts" of life.

There is only one problem; we are a fallen people. As Paul states in Romans 7, "I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do, I do not do, but what I hate I do...For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in me waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. What a wretched man I am!" Paul does not stay in despair; his rescuer is Jesus Christ and His grace.

Christ pours out His grace on us daily, not because of what we have done but because He loves us!!! This grace transforms us and can change the world.

Memory verse: "The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."—John 1:14

Pray, and read the passages listed above. What questions or observations do you have about them?

OBSERVATION: What do the passages say?

| 1. | In the Old Testament, Godly men and women lived their |
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| | lives according to the Law of Moses. When God sent his |
| | Son into this world, what changed? (Luke 16:16; |
| | John 1:14) |

2. In the early church, there was confusion between law and grace. In Matthew 9:9-13, who is showing grace, and who is relying on the law?

3. John 8:2-11 shows a very distinct contrast between law and grace. What, in this passage, is representative of law, and what is representative of grace?

4. What did Jesus say while He was being crucified? (Luke 23:34)

INTERPRETATION: What do the passages mean?

1. What is grace? (Romans 5:8; 1 Corinthians 15:9-10; Ephesians 2:8; Hebrews 4:16)

2. Why did the teachers of the law and the Pharisees leave without throwing a stone at the woman and condemning her to death? How did Jesus show the woman grace? (John 8:7-11)

3. Grace in our lives brought us to salvation through Jesus Christ, and it also empowers us daily to live lives that bring glory to God. From these passages, what do we learn about the power of grace? (Acts 15:10-11; Romans 3:23-24; 2 Corinthians 1:12; Ephesians 2:4-6; 2 Thessalonians 2:16; Titus 2:11-13, 3:5-7)

APPLICATION: How do the passages apply to your life?

1. God pours out His grace on us every minute of every day. It is by this grace that we are able to show others the love, forgiveness, and mercy Christ has shown us. But abuse of grace occurs in the church (Galatians 5:4; Jude 4). In what ways do you see these abuses taking place today?

2. What part(s) of Jesus' response(s) relating to grace in the passages from today's lesson do you find difficult to apply to your life? (Matthew 9:12-13; Luke 23:34; John 8:7-11) Write a prayer asking our Lord to give you the power to overcome these difficulties.