

Brand New – 5

Romans 6:4 (NLT)

⁴ For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may **live new lives**.

God's Grace is so much more than forgiveness.

God has given us all the power we need to live a “Brand New” Life in this world. And eternal life beyond that.

Colossians 3:3 (NLT)

³ For you died to this life, and your **real life** is hidden with Christ in God.

Luke 9:23 (NLT)

²³ Then he said to the crowd, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross daily, and follow me.

In **Romans 10:9** it states that we should confess Jesus as Lord Lord – *kurios* – *master, owner, supreme in authority*

No Slide: Exodus 33:11 (NLT)

¹¹ Inside the Tent of Meeting, the LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend.

- I no longer call you slaves but friends – **John 15:15**

The Bottom Line – only those who walk in holiness can see God or enter His presence

John 14:19, 21 (NKJV)

¹⁹ “A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also.

²¹ He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”

The word *manifest* is defined as “to make clear or evident to the eye or the understanding; show plainly.”

The Complete Word Study Dictionary – “to make apparent, cause to be seen, to show” “Of a person...meaning to let oneself be intimately known and understood.”

Jesus was saying that only those who keep His commandments are the ones He will make Himself (His ways) known to

No Slide: Psalm 103:7 (ESV)

⁷ He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

2 Corinthians 7:1 (NLT)

Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God.

“To pursue holiness is not an end in itself; it’s the gateway into the presence of Jesus” – John Bevere – Good or God?

John 14:21 Amplified Bible (AMP)

²¹ The person who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who[really] loves Me; and whoever [really] loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and reveal Myself to him [I will make Myself **real** to him].”

- We come to know Jesus intimately when we keep His words
- Without holiness no one will see the Lord – **Hebrews 12:14**

Holiness is about being exclusively His as well as to be upright, pure or sinless

If we belong to Him we live to please Him

Colossians 1:10 Amplified Bible (AMP)

¹⁰ so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord [displaying admirable character, moral courage, and personal integrity], to [fully] please *Him* in all things, bearing fruit in every good work and steadily growing in the knowledge of God [with deeper faith, clearer insight and fervent love for His precepts];

Jesus expects to return to a glorious Church without spot or wrinkle; and without blemish – **Ephesians 5:27**

I think it's interesting the Bible doesn't say that Jesus is returning for a Church that is powerful, relevant, organized, raising up leaders, well connected, worshipful or joyful

He wants us to be holy!

Holiness is the predominant quality that describes God

Isaiah 6:3 (NLT)

³ They were calling out to each other, "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of Heaven's Armies! The whole earth is filled with his glory!"

Revelation 4:8 (NLT)

⁸ Each of these living beings had six wings, and their wings were covered all over with eyes, inside and out. Day after day and night after night they keep on saying, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God, the Almighty—the one who always was, who is, and who is still to come."

- God is preparing us for Him!
- It's easy for us to accept grace for forgiveness of our sins, past, present and future.
- Harder to apply to sanctification
 - If I'm born again, why do I still fail?
 - We may reason that we will never succeed in being holy
 - If we believe that we silence our consciences
- If we accept this, we will never live a transformed life

God expects us to live a life free of shame and the burden of sin
– he forgets, why don't you?

1 John 2:1; 3-6 (NLT)

My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous.

³ And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments. ⁴ If someone claims, “I know God,” but doesn’t obey God’s commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. ⁵ But those who obey God’s word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. ⁶ Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.

- These things are written so “that you will not sin”
- If we miss the mark we have forgiveness
- According to scripture it is not an impossible goal
- Repeated sin because of “human nature” doesn’t line up with this scripture
- Grace is the power that allows us to live a life free of sin

Titus 2:11–12 (NKJV)

¹¹ For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹² teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age

- Most of us would acknowledge that grace is salvation, unmerited favor, or forgiveness of sins
- Yet we see here that grace is the tutor that teaches us how to live free of sin

Grace is empowerment!

2 Corinthians 12:9 (NLT)

“My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.”

Grace – Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance:

“gift, benefit, favor, gracious, and liberality”

“the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life”

Grace is something that changes us – its affects can be seen!

Acts 11:23 (NIV)

²³ When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts.

James 2:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith (*grace*), and I have works.” Show me your faith (*grace*) without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

- It’s by faith in God’s word that we access grace

Romans 5:2 (NKJV)

² through whom also (*we have access by faith into this grace*) in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Without faith – without believing – there is no empowerment

Grace is a gift...

- Salvation is a gift of grace
- Forgiveness is a gift of grace
- Healing is a gift of grace
- Provision is a gift of grace
- Empowerment (to do the works of God) is a gift of grace
- Holiness (the nature of God) is a gift of grace

Grace gives us the ability to go beyond our ability

We can't achieve any of the things in the list without grace

Grace allows us to receive the fullness of God

John 1:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace.

It's like Jesus is living on the inside!

Here we see that the first place Grace is mentioned in the NT
God introduces it as possessing His fullness – His power, virtue,
nature and empowerment!

1 John 4:17 (NLT)

¹⁷ And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world.

- We are more than sinners
- We are more than conquerors
- We are born again with the nature of God on the inside!

2 Peter 1:2–3 (NLT)

² May God give you more and more grace and peace as you grow in your knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord.

³ By his **divine power**, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. **We have received all of this by coming to know him**, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence.

- Grace is not a onetime occurrence at the moment of salvation
- It is something we need continually
- Grace is like fuel for our faith tank!

Hebrews 4:16 (NLT)

¹⁶ So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

James 4:4, 6 (NKJV)

⁴ Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁶ **But He gives more grace**. Therefore, He says: “*God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.*”

- God gives us “more grace” to stand against and overcome evil desires

The proud person focuses on their ability to *Perform*, the humble focus on God's ability to *Trans-form* them

David trusted in the power of God, not his own ability to defeat Goliath

1 Samuel 17:45 (NKJV)

⁴⁵ Then David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But **I come to you in the name of the LORD** of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

- Remember God didn't choose the older more experienced brothers
- God looks on the heart – the one that's humble

Jesus trusted Father God in the garden of Gethsemane

Matthew 26:41 (NLT)

⁴¹ Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak!”

- Grace gives us God's nature when we are saved, but we need more and more grace to live like Jesus did
- There should be a distinct difference between the way a non-believer lives and the way a believer lives

Ephesians 4:17, 19, 24 (NLT)

¹⁷ With the Lord's authority I say this: **Live no longer** as the Gentiles do, for they are **hopelessly confused**.

¹⁹ They have no sense of shame. They live for lustful pleasure and eagerly practice every kind of impurity.

²⁴ Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.

It's amazing to me that more and more we see people saying the old testament is filled with "dos and don'ts" but the NT is all about grace

Ephesians 4:25–29 (NLT)

²⁵ So stop telling lies. Let us tell our neighbors the truth, for we are all parts of the same body. ²⁶ And "don't sin by letting anger control you." * Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, ²⁷ for **anger gives a foothold to the devil**.

²⁸ If you are a thief, quit stealing. Instead, use your hands for good hard work, and then give generously to others in need.

²⁹ Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.

Some even teach that grace frees us from God's commandments

People think that brings freedom but in fact they are steering people away from what brings us into the presence of Jesus

Jesus gave us commandments when we were commissioned to preach the Gospel

Matthew 28:19–20 (NLT)

¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

- He said to obey His commandments
- He didn't say consider my suggestions
- God calls us to live an obedient life

1 John 2:3 (NLT)

³ And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments.

1 Thessalonians 4:2–3 (NLT)

² For you remember what we taught you by the authority of the Lord Jesus. ³ God's will is for you to be holy, so stay away from all sexual sin.

2 Peter 2:21 (NLT)

²¹ It would be better if they had never known the way to righteousness than to know it and then reject the command they were given to live a holy life.