



Electing Grace

14 November 2021

GOLDEN CHAIN of GRACE (PART 1)

Acts 13:44-48; Romans 8:28-30

2 Thessalonians 2:13-17; 2 Peter 1:1-15

Do You Know God?

Are You a Full Time Student of God?

Where Is God's Glory in Your Thinking?

- Does God do whatever man decides? Or whatever He desires?
- Does God do what He does primarily for the benefit of man?
- Does God exist for you? For man?
- Must God do what man says or wants or desires?

Do You Fear God?

Do You Know Yourself?

- You were born a sinner. (Ephesians 2:1-3; Romans 3:23)
- You were born with absolutely no way of doing *anything* to save yourself from your sins. (Matthew 19:25-26; Romans 5:6)
- You were born in **bondage** to Satan, the world, and your own lusts and desires. (Ephesians 2:1-3)
- You were born free of righteousness and a slave of sin. (Rom 6:1-22)

What Happens When You Die? (Hebrews 9:27)

Do You Have the Holy Spirit in You? (Romans 8:9)

Is Your Grace Amazing?

What Is Your Definition of "Grace"?

What Is Your Definition of "Amazing"?

When Did God "Grace" You?

Does the grace you received from God . . .

- . . . motivate you to study His Word with others so that you can know Him more? (2 Peter 3:17-18; 2 Timothy 2:15)
- . . . cause you to be an active serving member in a local Body of Christ where you are committed to the spiritual growth of each and every member of the Body and the Body as a whole? (Eph 4:1-16)
- . . . cause you to love your brothers and sisters with an exceedingly great love that is willing to lay down everything for them? (1 John 3:16)
- . . . move you deny yourself for the sake of others? (Luke 9:23)
- . . . move you to fervent prayer with the Body for the Body, and for those things that God commands? (1 John 5:14-15; Colossians 4:2; Luke 10:2; 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18; Romans 12:12; Philippians 4:6)
- . . . humble you to the ground? (Psalm 2:10-12; 18:27; Isa 57:15; 66:2)
- . . . **move you to repentance of YOUR sins?** (Roman 2:4; 2 Cor 7:9-11)

The GOLDEN CHAIN of Grace (Romans 8:28-30)

- (v. 28) Do you love God? (John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 13-14)
- (vv. 29-30) THE GOLDEN (Amazing) CHAIN of God's Grace!
 - ① **HE foreknew** . . .
 - ② **HE predestined** . . .
 - ③ **HE called** . . .
 - ④ **HE justified** . . .
 - ⑤ **HE glorified**.
- God's grace for every one of HIS people spans ETERNITY.
- Who are HIS people?
 - They are **CHRISTIANS** (*followers* of Jesus Christ) - 3 times.
 - They are **BELIEVERS** (who demonstrate their faith in obedience) - 3 times.
 - They are the **ELECT** (those who were chosen unto salvation before the foundation of the world) - **18 times**.
- Because God inhabits eternity (Isaiah 57:15) EVERYTHING is NOW to God. It "was" NOW. It "is" NOW. It "will be" NOW. It is "always" NOW.
 - ★ BEFORE God commanded, "Let there be light," God "DID" everything that would ever happen. (Acts 15:18)
 - ★ Whatever God **desired** "was" done! (Isaiah 14:24-27; 46:9-11; Job 23:13; Psalm 115:3; 135:6; Proverbs 19:21; Daniel 4:35)
 - ★ NO ONE can thwart God from doing what He desires. (Job 42:2)

- ★ In eternity “past” God “had” an **eternal purpose**. It is THIS purpose (plan, counsel, will) that God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, is working out (in extreme detail - Matthew 10:29-30). (Ephesians 1:11; 3:11; Proverbs 19:21; 21:30; Romans 11:33-34; Hebrews 6:17)
- When Did God “Grace” His people? Answer: IN ETERNITY “past” - **before time began!**
 - ☆ We were **chosen** (elected) in Christ *before the foundation of the world*. (Ephesians 1:4-5)
 - ☆ We were **chosen** before the world began. (2 Timothy 1:9)
 - ☆ We were **chosen** from the beginning unto salvation. (2 Thes 2:13)
 - ☆ We were **elect** according to the *foreknowledge* of God. (1 Peter 1:2)
 - ☆ (Acts 13:48) “As many as had been **appointed** to eternal life believed.” - “appointed” or “ordained” is PERFECT TENSE (something done in the past never to be repeated) PASSIVE VOICE (something done to you from something outside of yourself).
 - ☆ (Romans 9:11) God decides **before** any did anything good or anything evil.

The “Beginning” of Grace

- In **eternity**, when there was ONLY God (meditate on this), God **decided** (desired) what would be and what would not be. (Isaiah 41:22, 26; 44:6-8; 43:9-12; 45:21; 46:9-10; 48:3-8; Acts 15:18)
- When did God know who would be saved and who would not be saved? OR when did God know who He would save and who He would not save?
- How did God know who would be saved and who would not be saved?
- (Romans 8:29; 1 Peter 1:2) By His *foreknowledge*. What is the basis of God’s *foreknowledge* - His plan, purpose, counsel, will.
- God knows because He is ETERNAL and has purposed everything that will happen! Even His people’s salvation.

Is God Free?

- Is God free to do as He pleases? (Psalm 115:3; 135:6; Daniel 4:35)
- Is God free to give life as He pleases? (Acts 17:25; Job 12:10)
- Is God free to take life as He pleases? (Deut 32:39; 1 Samuel 2:6)
- Is God free to give gifts as He pleases? (1 Cor 12:11)

- Is God free to reveal Himself to whomever He pleases? (Matt 11:26)
- Is God free to give His mercy to whomever He wishes? (Romans 9:18)
- Is God free to give His grace to whomever He wishes? (Matt 20:15)

If You Are Saved, Why Did God Save You?

- Whose world do you live in? Do you care?
- Will you live tomorrow? Who decides is you live tomorrow?
- What will you do tomorrow? Can you choose to do this and that tomorrow? If you choose will it happen?
- (Isaiah 43:25) If you are saved, why did God save you?
 - Your answer:
 - God’s answer: (Isaiah 43:25; Psalm 106:7-8; Eph 1:6, 9, 12, 14; Isaiah 37:35; 48:8-11; 25:11; 79:9; Ezek 20:14, 20, 22; 36:22, 32)
- With whom will God share His glory? (Isaiah 42:8-9; 48:11)
- (James 4:13-16) Believing one is free to be or do as he/she will is boasting. Such boasting is ARROGANCE. ALL such boasting is EVIL.

God’s Business and Our Business

- God is who He says He is - no matter what men say He is.
- God is accomplishing His purpose, plan, will, counsel, for His world for His glory.
- No one can stop, thwart, prevent God from doing whatever He desires to do - not Satan; not any man. (Isaiah 43:13)
- God is NOT like us. He does not think like us. He does not work like us.
- God will (“has”) accomplish(ed) EVERYTHING He has purposed since the beginning of time.
- Because God is not like us and supremely superior to mere creatures such as ourselves we can only believe all that He has revealed to us.
- What are the “secret things” of God belong to God and not us.
- BUT what God has revealed is what we MUST DO and teach our children. (Deuteronomy 29:29)
- God’s business is ELECTING (choosing) and PREDESTINING.
- OUR business is to REPENT and BELIEVE. (Mark 1:14-15)

God Saves by GRACE and GRACE ALONE!

(Ephesians 2:8-10)