

Grace!

William R. Newell
(1868–1956)

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” (Romans 11:6).

Grace is God acting freely, according to His own nature as Love; with no promises or obligations to fulfill; and acting of course, righteously – in view of the Cross.

Grace, therefore, is uncaused in the recipient: its cause lies wholly in the GIVER, in GOD.

The discovery by the creature that he is truly the object of Divine grace, works the utmost humility: for the receiver of grace is brought to know his own absolute unworthiness, and his complete inability to attain worthiness: yet he finds himself blessed, on another principle, outside of himself!

The Place of Man under Grace

Grace, once bestowed, is not withdrawn: for God knew all the human exigencies beforehand: His action was independent of them, not dependent upon them.

The failure of devotion does not cause the withdrawal of bestowed grace (as it would under law).

He has been accepted in Christ, who is his standing!

As to his life past, it does not exist before God: he died at the Cross, and Christ is his life.

Things Which Gracious Souls Discover

To “hope to be better” is to fail to see yourself in Christ only.

To be disappointed with yourself, is to have believed in yourself.

To be discouraged is unbelief, as to God’s purpose and plan of blessing for you.

To be proud, is to be blind! For we have no standing before God, in ourselves.

Real devotion to God arises, not from man's will to show it; but from the discovery that blessing has been received from God while we were yet unworthy and undevoted.

To preach devotion first, and blessing second, is to reverse God's order, and preach law, not grace. The Law made man's blessing depend on devotion; Grace confers undeserved, unconditional blessing: our devotion may follow, but does not always do so, in proper measure.

Romans, Verse by Verse

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