

The Superfluity of Grace: An Amazing Abundance

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"For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ." ~ Romans 5:17

We will often hear about the danger of carrying God's grace too far. Yet the fact is that we could not possibly carry grace any further than God has carried it!

Take notice in the rest of our Scripture text, the extent to which Paul takes the theme of grace.

*"Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, **grace did much more abound**: That as sin hath reigned unto death, **even so might grace reign** through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 5:20-21).*

This passage is clear. When sin accelerates, grace goes into overdrive. God's grace will *never* be out done! It will **ever** exceed the measure of sin.

Paul speaks richly and freely of "the abundance of grace" of our wonderful God. The word *abundance* is a truly magnificent one! James Strong, in his concordance, shows us that the Greek word used here is also translated as *superfluity*. What a word! Superfluity! Look at how the word is defined:

"Excess, oversupply" – Merriam-Webster's Dictionary

"Superabundance; a greater quantity than is wanted; as a superfluity of water or provisions." – American Dictionary of the English Language, 1828

“Excessive quantity: an excessive or overabundant supply of something” – Encarta

“An overly large amount; excess” – Word-Smyth

The etymology of the word superfluity has the meaning of “super-flow.” The idea is that of an overflow. God’s grace to sinful man is what Niagra Falls is to a thirsty man. It’s a super-flow! It’s an excessive, overabundant supply!

James Strong defines *abundance* as “super abundance,” while Noah Webster defines it as “Plentiful; in great quantity; fully sufficient; as an abundant supply. In Scripture, abounding; having in great quantity; overflowing with.”

God’s grace will extend *much more* beyond the scope of sin. Grace will have the super abundance over sin. This is God’s doing, and grand is the extent of it!

“But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, **much more** the grace of God, and the gift by **grace**, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath **abounded** unto many” (Romans 5:15).

“For if by one man’s offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive **abundance of grace** and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:17).

“Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did **much more abound**” (Romans 5:20).

“And God is able to make **all grace abound** toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work” (II Corinthians 9:8).

“... the **exceeding grace of God** in you” (II Corinthians 9:14).

“For all things are for your sakes, that the **abundant grace** might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God” (II Corinthians 4:15).

“That in the ages to come He might shew the **exceeding riches of His grace** in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus” (Ephesians 2:7).

“And the grace of our Lord was **exceeding abundant** with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus” (I Timothy 1:14).

The true character of God's grace is clearly in a greater abundance than sin could ever be. It is a "*much more*" super-flow from our benevolent Creator! Little wonder that Paul would praise this glorious, amazing attribute of God!

"To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the Beloved" (Ephesians 1:6).

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