

**What follows represents the unedited lecture notes of Pastor Merritt's teaching of the Book of Galatians. Please feel free to reproduce all or part for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

Galatians Lesson

10-8-2017

1. Last week I taught in part Gal 4:30 by way of a review of the *Doctrine of Grace*. I want to review some of that learned and then begin new material at point 11 on page three.
2. Before returning to that study I want to give you opportunity to use 1Jo 1:9 as may be necessary.
3. Expanded translation of Gal 4:28-29.

**Gal 4:28 Now for you my brothers and sisters in Christ; we, like Isaac are children of promise.**

**Gal 4:29 At the time of Paul's writing, those born after the flesh, i.e., those who had rejected God's grace, they were continuously persecuting those born after the spirit, representing those accepting God's grace. By the way said Paul, it is the same now.**

4. So far Paul has established a contrast between Hagar and Ishmael on the one hand, and Sarah and Isaac on the other.
5. In the Old Testament account we saw the conflict between Hagar and Sarah, and their immediate off-springs; but it was left to the apostle Paul to show how this feud represented an allegory. The allegory is designed to point out the antagonisms between the bondage of the law and the freedom of grace.

### **Doctrine of Grace**

1. Grace has two basic connotations in Scripture:

1.1 grace as it relates to salvation

1.2 and grace as it relates to the entire plan of God.

2. **Charis** is the Greek word for grace. **Charis** can be found more than 140 times in the New Testament, where in the KJV it is translated "grace, favor, pleasure, thanks" and "benefit."

3. The ultimate grace act of God toward mankind was the giving of His uniquely born Son; His favor bestowed upon us as Christ the Godman denied His Deity and accepted the limitations of humanity. Heb 5:8-10; Isa 48:16-17

4. The life of Christ is the manifest meaning of grace. He was reviled for no reason and yet His response was, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do."

5. Though we cannot know the weight or price or measure Christ paid, we can rejoice in the fact that God is absolutely and eternally propitiated.

6. We now stand forever pardoned before God, not because God is gracious but because there is total redemption through the spiritual death of Christ.

6.1 Our salvation is an act of justice rather than an act of mercy. God's +R was satisfied, therefore His +J executed what His +R demanded!

6.2 By means of grace human obligation has been forever dismissed and by divine decree human merit has been forever dismissed. Grace is the limitless, unrestrained love of God for the lost, acting in full compliance with the exact and unchangeable demands of His very own righteousness.

7. Grace is more than love; it is love set absolutely free and made triumphant:

a. God saves sinners by grace,

b. God keeps through grace those who are saved,

c. God in grace, within the limitations of His first divine institution (volition), works to teach His family how they might live in time as Sons of the Living God, set apart Holy and acceptable unto Him.

8. The more doctrine you take into your soul, the more you understand grace. The greatest impediment to learning doctrine is without a doubt "a rejection of grace." Instead of the lip service that many people give grace we must savor "the unlimited and unmerited favor of God as we come to Him on the basis of Who and What He is and not who and what we are."

9. We must hold to the cross of Calvary and eschew the arrogance of limited atonement. There is never anything limited with God. When God does a job, it is complete -- so "walk worthy of the vocation to which you have been called," a life of grace one moment at a time. Shout it from the house top, think it daily, speak of it with your family and deny it before no one.

10. Stand up for grace and do not be ashamed. With Paul declare yourself dead to self and alive in Him:

Gal: 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me, and gave Himself for me.

Gal 2:21 I do not frustrate the Grace of God: for if righteousness came by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

11. We are proud to be a part of America and that for which our Statue of Liberty stands. To a greater extent, we should be proud of the cross and the grace and liberty for which it stands.

12. Because God was perfectly **propitiated** by the work of Christ, both the righteousness and justice of God are free to function for our benefit.

13. Because of the exculpatory work of Christ, no attribute of God's essence is compromised in blessing the believer.

14. Our salvation has been sealed. We are in Christ and members of God's forever family, but living the Christian life is a battle and must be fought according to God's rules and His protocol plan. It was the genius of God that made us positionally perfect and acceptable to Him. It is the genius of Satan that causes us to doubt the power of Christ's death on the cross.

Rom 5:18 Therefore, as by the offense of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation, even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

15. Grace didn't start with the cross; the tale of grace winds back in time before anything was!

16. God's grace was evident long before even the fall of man. Yes, even before the fall of Satan and the restoration, even before the first day in the life of Adam -- God's grace was there.

17. For God created everything perfect; His original creation was not without form and void says Isa 45:18.

Isa 45:18 For thus saith the Lord who created the heavens; God Himself Who formed the earth and made it; He established it, He did not create it without form and void. He formed it to be inhabited ...

17.1 Man was totally equipped for perfection after the completion of the restoration. Like the angels, however, he also had volition. He could love and obey God or he could hate and reject God.

Gen 2:2 And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had made; because He had out from grace completed the work.

Gen 2:3 And God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it; because He had provided everything mankind needed and His work was complete.”

17.2 The tree of the knowledge of good and evil was provided to test the volition of man.

Gen 2:19 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat of it: for in the day that you eatest thereof you will surely die.

17.3 Like Satan, man failed to pass the test of volition, and so the issue is now grace versus legalism.

Joh 3:18 He that believeth on Him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

17.4 A rejection of God's grace plan is called legalism, which in short is man's effort to gain God's approbation, especially by means of pretending to keep the Mosaic law.

Gal 3:10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, cursed is everyone who continues not in all things which are written in the Book of the Law to do them.

Gal 3:11 But no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: the just shall live by faith.

Gal 3:12 And the law is not of faith: but the man who attempts to do the law he must live in it.”

17.5 After the Fall, only faith could save man and regain his spiritual life.

17.6 Subsequent to the Fall salvation came when Adam and Eve displayed positive volition toward God; they were asked to put on the animal skins, which they did.

Gen 3:21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins and clothe them.”

18. One of the major problems for believers is to sort out the difference between grace and legalism.

18.1 Legalism comes in three categories.

18.1.1 Salvation by works

18.1.2 Spirituality by works

18.1.3 Maturity by works

18.2 We must know the Scriptures if we are to distinguish grace from legalism.

Joh 1:19 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

1Pe 4:1 For as much then as Christ has suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same Mind: for He that hath suffered in the flesh has put an end to the control and domination of the old sin nature.”

1Co 2:16 For who has known the Mind of the Lord that it might instruct him? But we have the Mind of Christ.”

Rom 12:2 Be you not conformed to this world but be you transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may know what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

Phi 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.

19. To know the mind of Christ is why we are here in time; the mind of Christ is the source of good works.

2Ti 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,  
2Ti 3:17 In order that as God’s goal and purpose the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

20. Talented believers often have a hard time with grace; they think their talent adds to their creditability before God.

Luk 18:18 And a certain ruler asked him, saying, Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

Luk 18:19 And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? none is good, save one, that is, God.

Luk 18:20 Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother.

Luk 18:21 And he said, All these have I kept from my youth up.

Luk 18:22 Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me.

Luk 18:23 And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich.

Luk 18:24 Grace and legalism are mutually exclusive.

Jam 2:10 For whosoever tries to keep the law, and yet offends in one point, he is guilty of all.

## 21. Stages of Grace

### 21.1 Salvation

Rom 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;  
Rom 3:24 we have therefore been justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Acts 16:31 And they said, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved, and your house.

Joh 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God even to them that believe on His Name.”

Isa 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”

## 21.2 Logistical Grace

21.2.1 This is that grace which keeps us alive in time and provides everything we need to permit the cycling of Bible doctrine in the soul. Such cycling glorifies God.

21.2.2 We are provided protection in the devil’s world: food, clothing, shelter, transportation to Bible class, the Word, a pastor-teacher, oxygen for the brain, etc.

21.2.3 When positive to the Word we will receive doctrine. The Lord will feed us until we want no more.

Mat 5:6 Blessed are they who do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled.

21.2.4 There can be no spiritual growth without doctrine, so God provides a day at a time for this purpose.

Jos 1:8 This Book of the Law shall not depart out of your mouth; but you shall meditate therein day and night, that you may observe to do all that is written therein: for then God will make your way prosperous and you shall have a very successful life.”

21.2.5 You will be blessed in time as you cycle Bible doctrine and develop capacity for blessing.

Luke 12:28 If then God so clothed the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is cast into the oven; how much more will He cloth you...but rather seek you the Kingdom of God and all these things shall be added unto you.”

21.2.6 Even promotion, which the world attributes to hard work and talent, comes from the Lord.

Psa 95:6 For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south, but God is the judge,  
Psa 95:9 he putteth down one and He sets up another.”

### 21.3 Dying Grace

21.3.1 This is that time when we move from time to eternity, in the greatest of all possible happiness.

21.3.2 Our death is God’s sovereign decision, and His timing is absolutely perfect.

Psa 68:19 Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior Who daily bears our burdens.  
Psa 68:20 Our God is the God Who saves; from the sovereign Lord comes deliverance from death.”

21.3.3 The sin unto death is reserved for the habitual “reversionist.”

21.3.4 Dying grace is only for the mature believer.

21.3.5 In God’s eyes, precious is the death of His saints.

Psa 116:15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

Psa 33:19 To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.”

21.3.6 Dying grace is the golden bridge from time to eternity.

Heb 11:13 These all died in faith having not received the promises, but having seen them afar off and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.”

22. In summary, grace is God’s genius for dealing with man in order to provide all God has determined in His divine decrees after having seen the beginning and the end and all that transpired in the interim.

22.1 Grace is all that God is free to do for mankind on the basis of the cross without in any way compromising His character; it is God’s plan for mankind.

22.2 Without Christ there is no grace because He is the only object of faith capable of producing salvation and our justification.

23. Stand up for grace and do not be ashamed.

24. With Paul declare yourself dead to self and alive in Him:

Gal: 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me, and gave Himself for me.

Gal 2:21 I do not frustrate the Grace of God: for if righteousness came by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

25. Now let's see what we can learn from Gal 4:30.

KJV-New Sentence

Gal 4:30 Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.

NIV

Gal 4:30 But what does the Scripture say? "Get rid of the slave woman and her son, for the slave woman's son will never share in the inheritance with the free woman's son."

NEVERTHELESS WHAT SAITH Ἀλλὰ τίς λέγω

1. **Alla Tis Lego** is better translated "But in contrast what says ..."
2. **Alla** is the strongest of all the adversative conjunctions followed by the interrogative particle **Tis** and the verb **Lego** parsed as 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular, present active indicative.
3. **Tis** with the acute accent is an interrogative usually translated "what how" or "when." **Tis** without the acute accent is a categorical pronoun. As you can see Tis in this phrase has an acute accent thus we translate "what."

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