

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY NOTES

Grace and Peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord;... 2 Peter 1:2

We Are Saved by Grace, We Are Kept by Grace

If It Is by Grace, It Is Not by Works

Pastor Anthony Trezza

Romans 11:6 KJV - 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.

- **This is your grace litmus test**
- **This is the key that shows you if you are walking in grace or by works, in truth or in error**
- **Grace and works are incompatible**

John declares of our Lord Jesus:

John 1:16 For of His fullness we have all received, *and grace upon grace*. **17** For the Law was given through Moses; *grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ*.

But Jude Warns:

Jude 1:3 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints. **4** For certain persons have crept in unnoticed,...

- **Certain doctrines have crept in unnoticed**
- **Certain traditions...**
- **Certain errors...**
- **This false representation of the Gospel has taken the saints out from the liberty of grace into the bondage of works**

Romans 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, *we have peace with God* through our Lord Jesus Christ, **2** through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith *into this grace in which we stand*;...

Ephesians 6:13 ...and having done everything, to stand firm.

Then we are warned in verse **14** Stand firm therefore,...

- **If we stand firm in Grace, then and only then are we kept by grace**
- **For we have peace with God by faith through grace – not witnessing – not giving – not committing to ministries in your church**

Christianity as a whole has been attacked by religious spirits:

- That is why we have countless Christian denominations

How is it that the bible says:

Ephesians 4:4 [There is] **one** body and **one** Spirit, just as also you were called in **one** hope of your calling; **5 one** Lord, **one** faith, **one** baptism, **6 one** God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

- And yet, there are over 45,000 Christian denominations in the world

Remember what John 1:17 says:

John 1:17 For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.

- Most if not all of these denominations have strayed from the grace and truth of the gospel that Jesus came to bring us and as a result they have Fallen from Grace
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- That does not mean that within these denominations there are not those who actually are saved and kept by grace
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- But that the traditions and doctrines of most of these denominations are based on works and not on grace and truth
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- And that will save nobody

Galatians 5:4 You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law (**works**); you have fallen from grace.

- Religion begins the moment we fall from grace and get into works!

This deception has not only affected countless denominations it is also prevalent in many independent churches:

- And the ironic thing is these very same pastors who come against the religious are guilty of being religious themselves
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- They think simply because they are not under the banner of a denomination that they are therefore free from religious influences
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- When they themselves place their own congregants under the pressure of works

Here is the Truth: We need the Holy Spirit to stand in Grace and not Fall from it

- For the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Grace

Zech 12:10 “I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of Grace...”

Hebrews 10:28 Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on [the testimony of] two or three witnesses. **29** How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, **and has insulted the Spirit of grace?**

- **The sad truth is that far too many in the church have learned to serve God without the leading and assistance of the Holy Spirit**
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- **There are way too many saints who no longer hunger for, or depend upon the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of grace, to walk in this grace in which we stand**

Revelation 2:5 'Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place--unless you repent.

Galatians 5:16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. **17** For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another,...

- **The Letter killeth, the Spirit gives life**
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- **We serve God by the power and influence of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Grace**
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- **That is; we don't sin because we don't desire to sin anymore, not because we are not allowed to**
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- **We witness because our cup of salvation runneth over, not because we have to**
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- **We love because He first loved us and we Love Him, not because our pastor tells us to from the pulpit**
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- **And we give not because we are pressured to, but because we know God loves a cheerful giver and we want to give...**

We are to walk by the Spirit not quench the Spirit:

Quench: *Spennumi* – To extinguish, to put out the fire

Many years ago through the revival of the 70's 80's, and early 90's we were all about the Holy Spirit:

- **We witnessed constantly through the joy of the Lord**
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- **We won multitudes to Christ because they saw the effects and influence of the Holy Spirit all over us and they wanted what we had**
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- **"For the Kingdom of God is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost"**
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- **I am convinced that the prosperity gospel, another gospel, quenched the moving of and dependency of the Holy Spirit**
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- **There were other factors, like church building instead of kingdom building**
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- **Pride of leadership and lording it over God's people**
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- **But by far the prosperity message had the largest negative effect upon the church**
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- **And it is still going on today!!! ...**

Here we go:

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, [it is] the gift of God; **9** not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

- **This truth is a two-edged sword - cutting in both directions**
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- **On one edge we cannot save ourselves we are saved when the Holy Spirit reveals Christ to our hearts**
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- **On the other edge, we cannot save anybody through our own efforts**
- **Compelling people to come into your church instead of compelling them to come into the kingdom,**
- **and**
- **coerced witnessing and making it a numbers game, doesn't save anyone...**
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- **We actually have saints going out witnessing without even properly presenting the gospel**
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- **They just go up to people and ask them if they can pray with them and lead them in a prayer thinking that actually has the power to save, it does not. Prayer alone saves nobody**

Paul Said:

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Here is the awful truth and someone has to say it:

- **As a result of trying to save people without the Holy Spirit and without preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ**
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- **We have multitudes of sinners thinking they are going to heaven because they said a prayer**
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- **Where are they? They are not in your church, your congregation is not increasing because of your witnessing.**
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- **All you have is bragging rights and big numbers- All you have produced is numbers not saints**
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- **They are still in the bars, fornicating and drinking and partying because a prayer does not save anyone if it is not preceded with the preaching of the gospel**

The world is not a mess because we do not witness, and the United States of America has not fallen into the likes of Sodom and Gomorrah because the church is not witnessing

The world is a mess and the United States of America is a mess because the church stopped depending on the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of grace, and fell into the sin of works

Romans 9:30 What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, attained righteousness, even the righteousness which is by faith; **31** but Israel, pursuing a law of righteousness, did not arrive at [that] law.

Romans 9:32 Why? Because [they did] not [pursue it] by faith, but as though [it were] by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone,

Romans 10:2 For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge.

Romans 10:3 For not knowing about God's righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God.

Here is the righteousness of God:

Acts 1:4- Gathering them together, He (**Jesus**) commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," [He said,] "you heard of from Me; **5** for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

The Great Commission:

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **19** "Go therefore *and make disciples* of all the nations, **baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,**

- **Baptizing them in the name of the Holy Spirit is filling them with the Holy Spirit**

This is How you Witness when you are filled with the Holy Spirit:

Mark 16:15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and *preach the gospel* to all creation. **16** "He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.

And

Mark 16:17 "These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues; **18** they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly [poison,] it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

- **All these instructions were given by Jesus to His church after He resurrected from the dead and just before He ascended to His Father**

John 16:7 "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.

John 16:8 "And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment;

- **Lets get back to being the church that Jesus suffered and died for**
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- **And lets renounce this cheap religious imitation of what now passes for Christianity**

- **The world Needs Jesus and the church needs the Holy Spirit so that we can reveal Jesus to the world!!!**

