

POD Teaching Session Number 3

The Gospel of God's Grace

Learning Modules:

- A. Grace and the New Covenant
 - B. Our Struggle with Getting Our Needs Met
 - C. Living the Victorious Christian Life
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Session 3 Module A

Grace and the New Covenant

Learning Objectives:

- To gain a more complete understanding and appreciation of the gospel of grace.
 - To understand God's three stage plan of salvation, i.e. it's three tenses.
 - To see what role man plays, if any, in God's salvation plan.
 - To secure the Biblical view of man as a three part whole, "tri-unity".
 - To gain a view of "Pre-salvation man" and a "Saved person".
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Play "amazing Grace" video clip by IL Devo

"T'was Grace that taught my heart to fear. And Grace, my fears relieved."

Remembering from the last session 2, "Fear of the Lord", what is this verse conveying?

Grace: “Charis” Greek Strong’s G5485, appears 131 times in NASB

- 1) grace
 - a) that which affords joy, pleasure, delight, sweetness, charm, loveliness: grace of speech
- 2) good will, loving-kindness, favor
 - a) of the merciful kindness by which God, exerting his holy influence upon souls, turns them to Christ, keeps, strengthens, increases them in Christian faith, knowledge, affection, and kindles them to the exercise of the Christian virtues
- 3) what is due to grace
 - a) the spiritual condition of one governed by the power of divine grace
 - b) the token or proof of grace, benefit
 - 1) a gift of grace
 - 2) benefit, bounty
- 4) thanks, (for benefits, services, favors), recompense, reward

Grace in the Old Testament: “Chen” Hebrew Strong’s’ H2580, appears 39 times in KJV

- 1) favor, grace, charm
 - a) favor, grace, elegance
 - b) favor, acceptance



Grace = It signifies the unmerited operation of God in the heart of man, affected through the agency of the Holy Spirit.

Louis Berkhof

Grace = the conception that all a Christian has or is, is centered exclusively in God and Christ, and depends utterly on God through Christ. The kingdom of heaven is reserved for those who become as little children, for those who look to their Father in loving confidence for every benefit, whether it be for the pardon so freely given, or for the strength that comes from Him who works in them both to will and to do.

Burton Scott Easton (1877–1950)

Grace = “All that God freely and non meritoriously does for man and is free to do for man on the basis of Christ’s person and work on the cross.”

Hampton Keathley, III

Acts 20:24 But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. NKJV (see also Col 1:23)



According to Acts 20:24 what was Paul’s ministry? _____

Galatians 1:11-12 But I make known to you, brethren that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. NKJV Note: see context; he did not learn it from man.


How did Paul learn of the gospel of God's Grace? _____

Ephesians 3:8-10 To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ, and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things; so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places. NASB95

What was Paul's purpose in preaching according to Ephesians 3: 8-9 ? _____

Note in vs. 10: "and the authorities in the heavenly places"! We do not struggle against flesh and blood.

What is this mystery as define in Colossians 1:25-27? _____

 **Colossians 1:25-27** Of this church I was made a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might fully carry out the preaching of the word of God, that is, the mystery which has been hidden from the past ages and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints, to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory**. NASB95

What does "Christ in you, the hope of glory" mean? _____

This gospel = "good news" was foretold in the Old Testament and portrayed in the NT as the New Covenant:

Jeremiah 31:31 "Behold, days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant* with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah," **Jeremiah 31:33** "But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares the LORD, "I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people." **Jeremiah 31:34** "They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more." NASB95

Ezekiel 36:26-27 "Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances."

Ezekiel 37:14a “I will put My Spirit within you and you will come to life,”

NASB95

2 Corinthians 3:6 who (God) also made us adequate *as* servants of a new covenant*, not of the letter** but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. NASB95

Hebrews 8:6-7 but now He (Jesus Christ) has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant*, which has been enacted on better promises. For if that first covenant** had been faultless, there would have been no occasion sought for a second* NASB95

2 Corinthians 3:14-18 But their minds were hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant** the same veil remains un-lifted, because it is removed in Christ. But to this day whenever Moses** is read (i.e. the law), a veil lies over their heart; but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit. NASB95

* New covenant—Spirit and Grace, the last of eight covenants, unconditional

**Mosaic Covenant – The Law = 613 provisions, conditional.

Paul’s purpose according to Colossians 1:29

Colossians 1:28-29 We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ. For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me. NASB95 (See also Gal 4:19)



Therefore the gospel of God’s grace is at least in part “Christ in you” the result of the Holy Spirit and the finished work of the cross. It is the key to spiritual transformation, the means by which we are to be made complete in Christ, the fruit of which is obedient holy living.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth..... vs 16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. NASB95



We should remember the coming of Christ is described as the manifestation of God’s grace. Grace is summed up in the name, person, and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. HK

The Gospel of Grace deals with our salvation. It has three stages or tenses; Past, Present and Future:

Paul's epistle to the Romans presents the gospel more thoroughly and clearly than any other part of Scripture. In chapters 3-8 he explains that there are three parts to the gospel (good news).

- **PAST: We were "Justified"**: Delivered from the penalty of sin (Romans 3-5). God did something for the believer in Christ's substitutionary death on the cross by judicially declaring or crediting him with His perfect righteousness on the basis of faith alone. This deliverance is past tense, something that is already accomplished. It is what the Bible calls "justification" It deals with our SPIRIT.
- **PRESENT: We are being "Sanctified"**: Delivered from the control of the power of sin (Romans 6-8) God did something radical in the believer at the moment of conversion by placing him or her into union with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection. The believer has become a new creation, a new person, having Christ's perfectly righteous life imparted to him or her. This righteousness is both past tense (something that has already been imparted to the believer) and present tense (something that is being progressively accomplished in the believer) as , day by day, the Christian is being gradually conformed to the image of Christ. This is what the Bible calls "Sanctification". It deals with our SOUL. (mind, will and emotions)
- **FUTURE: We will be "Glorified"**: Delivered from the presence of sin (Romans 8). One day, God will fully and finally conform us into His image by giving us a resurrection body free from the sin that dwells in our members (Rom 7:23). This righteousness is future tense, and is the completed or perfect righteousness --- what the Bible calls "glorification". It deals with our BODY.

(Taken from The Marvelous Exchange by Dick Flaten)

Note: Glorification also involves the doctrine of eternal rewards which we will cover in detail in session six "God's Reward Standards".

Salvation = Soteria Strong's G4991 45 times

- 1) deliverance, preservation, safety, salvation
 - a) deliverance from the molestation of enemies
 - b) in an ethical sense, that which concludes to the soul's safety or salvation (1) of Messianic salvation
- 2) salvation as the present possession of all true Christians
- 3) future salvation, the sum of benefits and blessings which the Christians, redeemed from all earthly ills, will enjoy after the visible return of Christ from heaven in the consummated and eternal kingdom of God.

Sanctification (5 times)/ Holiness (5 times) = Hagiasmos Strong's G38 10 times total

- 1) consecration, purification
- 2) the effect of consecration
 - a) sanctification of heart and life

SALVATIONS THREE STAGES (The Three P's of deliverance)		
Justification	Sanctification	Glorification
(Gal 2:16) Nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we may be justified by faith in Christ, and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified. It's what we typically call "SAVED".	(Rom 6:22) But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.	(Phil 3:21) Who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.
legal righteousness imputed; deliverance from sin's Penalty	personal righteousness imparted; deliverance from sin's Power	moral perfection & resurrected bodies; deliverance from sin's Presence
establishes Position	transforms Condition	matches Condition with Position
one act of faith	many acts of faith	no act of faith
once-for-all-time	progressive, dynamic, never-ending in this life ("spiritual growth")	once-for-all-time
Fruit = Heaven	Fruit = Fruit of the Spirit	Fruit = "True Riches", Rewards/Treasure, Incorruptible body

"Unfortunately, most talk most of the time, if not almost exclusively, is on the first tense of salvation: I have been saved from the penalty of sin. That Scripture calls salvation (Acts 16:31). It also calls that justification (Rom 3:24). But, in addition to what has happened to me, I am being saved every day from the power of sin (Heb 7:25). That Scripture calls sanctification. Because of God's faithfulness, I shall yet be saved one day from the presence of sin altogether. That Scripture calls glorification. All three of those are called "salvation" in the Word of God. **But unfortunately, the typical Christian has narrowed salvation way down to justification** and we talk almost exclusively of salvation as justification or regeneration or what happened to him at the beginning of his life in Christ. That is extremely unfortunate. Not unfortunate because this is not worthy of being talked about, but unfortunate because many people, **in talking only about that and in trying to squeeze everything into that, tend to distort even the first tense of salvation.**" (Earl Radmacher)

Each word has a semantic range (e.g. "love" in the English language means many different things depending on who we are saying it to). Therefore, we cannot assume that every time we see the word "sanctification" used in the Bible that it always refers to spiritual growth or "salvation" that it always refers to the onetime event of justification. How would we determine the exact meaning of a word?; By its immediate context, the author's normal usage of the word and the use of Strong's concordance.

What role does man play, if any, in the three stages of salvation?

Justification: *John 6:28-29* , “What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?” Jesus answered and said to them, “**This is the work of God that you believe in Him whom He has sent.**”

What is our work/ [we supply the willingness to grow and utilized the God given means](#)

Who accomplished this work? _____

Did we work/earn/ or have to perform to receive this gift? _____

See also Eph 2:8 (saved by grace through faith)



Sanctification: *Philippians 2:12-13* So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out*** your salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His* good pleasure. NASB95

If God is at work in us, what is our role, i.e. “work out your salvation**”? _____

[we supply the willingness to grow and utilized God given means to grow](#)

Note : *work out is in the “present tense, middle voice, imperative mood”

** soteria (G4991) = deliverance from the power of sin = salvation, safety (Vine’s) = sanctification.

Glorification: *Romans 8:30* and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified. NASB95

Romans 8:18-23 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed in (KJV and NIV) us. For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body. NASB95

Who provides for our glorification? _____

What do we do? [Wait eagerly](#)

Note: The doctrine of eternal rewards will be fully discussed in Session 6. We are rewarded by good works but only when we do the deeds God has specifically called us to do under His guidance and power. We can then look forward to blessings/rewards/to be repaid for those “good” deeds.

The Tri-Unity of Man (the trichotomous view)

A [three](#) part Biblical Picture of Man is invaluable in understanding how the [three](#) aspects of salvation are carried out according to scripture. Look at man as a three part whole; a Tri-Unity.



1 Thessalonians 5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify (to purify) you entirely; and may your spirit (pneuma) and soul (psyche) and body (soma) be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. NASB95 (See also Luke 1:46)

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul (pneuma) and spirit (psyche), of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart (kardia). NASB95

The [spirit](#) makes people different from the rest of God's creation (He has made us in His own image Gen. 1:26-27). The spiritual component of life is the area where we worship the Lord, where we fellowship and where the Holy Spirit dwells with those who are born of His Spirit.

Pre- Salvation Person:

[Sins](#) have separated us from God

Note: The spirit is dark = spiritually dead = devoid of God's Spirit. This occurred at the fall of man. This has been termed the "[Adamic](#)" spirit.

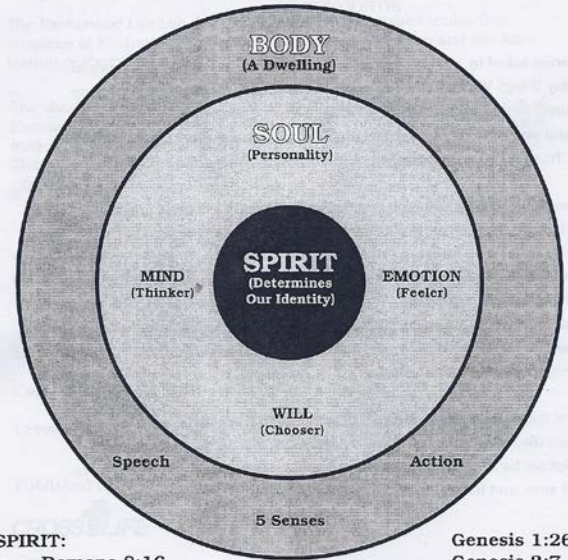
Apart from God man must then live out of one's own understanding of life and his own resources to meet his needs. This pattern of living is both inherited and learned behavior and is what the Bible calls flesh or independent [self-life](#).

See dark circle



A Biblical Picture of Man

MAN-A THREE-PART WHOLE
(1 Thessalonians 5:23)



SPIRIT:
Romans 8:16
1 Corinthians 6:17

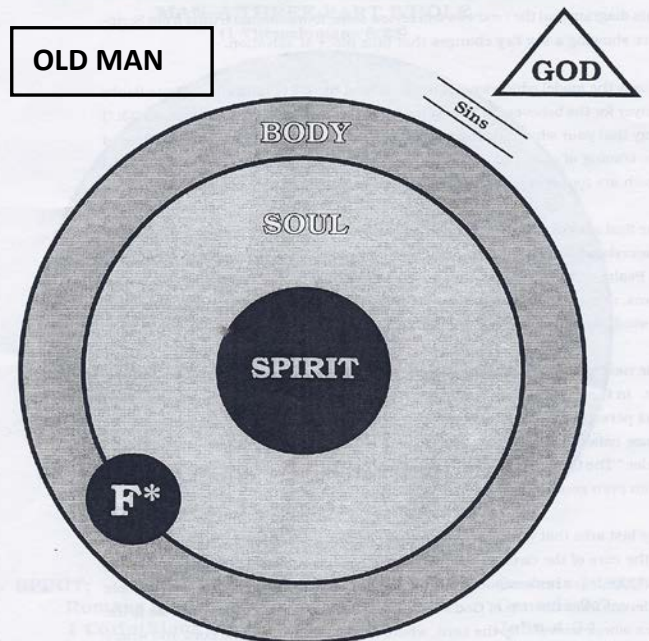
Genesis 1:26,27
Genesis 2:7
John 4:24

SOUL:
1 Corinthians 15:46-49
1 Thessalonians 5:23
Hebrews 4:12

NOTES:

Man is essentially a spirit, who has a soul, and lives in a body.

Pre-Salvation Person



Romans 8:6-9

*Flesh. Sometimes called "Self-Life."

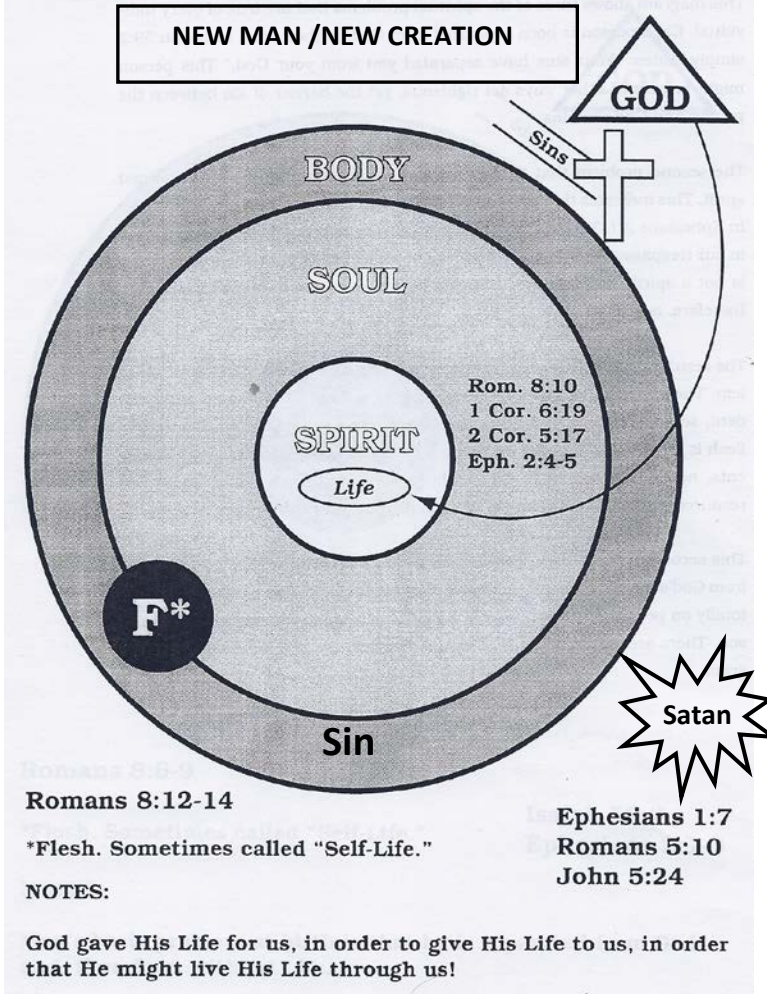
Isaiah 59:2
Ephesians 2:1-3

NOTES:

Man's basic problem at birth is **P.O.D. Communities** and, therefore, without **Spirit - Intimacy - Power**

Saved Person

Colossians 1:14, Hebrews 9:22, 1 John 1:7, 1 Peter 2:24



Saved Person:

The Cross = Jesus shed blood on our behalf.

- Redemption and forgiveness of sins
- God gives His life to us (the spirit is no longer darkened. We receive His Spirit in a great exchange!) Ezk 26:26-27
- Col 1:27 Christ in us the hope of Glory
- Old Adamic spirit is dead/ crucified. 2 Cor 5:17
- Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; and I no longer live , but Christ lives in me
- We become alive to God and dead to sin as master. Rom 6:1-11
- Justification *Romans 5:18* So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men.

Note: In the next module B we will be discussing the “Flesh” which is still with us.. *Galatians 5:13* For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do* not *turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh*, but through love serve one another. **vs. 16** **But** I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh*. NASB95

Further there is this entity called “sin” that dwells in our members. *Romans 7:23* but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members. NASB95 :

Also, beware that our common enemy (Satan) is prowling around like a roaring lion, 1 Peter 5:8.

REMEMBER: 1 Cor. 8:1 "Knowledge puffs up but love builds up". Studying the Bible is important, but the goal is never knowledge for the sake of knowledge. Being a disciple of Jesus Christ means that we learn from Him, fellowship with Him, and obey everything He commands us. Love is the goal thru obedient holy living.

APPLICATION NEXT STEPS: As you review this session in your own personal quiet time, with your POD mates and others, ask yourself; What is God saying to me? and How am I going to respond? Begin now to look for opportunities to start sharing what you have learned with others. That is disciple making. Take advantage of the transformative power of prayer, journaling, writing out personal application/next steps, and memorizing key scriptures. Also, be sure to read the articles and one or more of the books mentioned in the resource guide at the end of each of the seven sessions.

KEY TAKE-AWAYS AND MY PERSONAL APPLICATION/NEXT STEPS:

Scripture I will commit to memorize from this session:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.