Lesson 13; Part 4 What Grace is Not

Unfortunately, there is often a misunderstanding of God’s grace. We read in Ephesians 2: 8-9 that our salvation is not merited by our works, but rather by the grace of God. Some use this verse as an excuse to continue a lifestyle of sin or to avoid working for the Kingdom of God. Let’s see what Scripture says.

1. Does Paul teach that we can still continue in sin because we are under the grace of God? (Romans 6: 1-2, 15 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Can you have faith without any works? (James 2:17) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Can a man be justified by his works? (James 2: 21-26) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Give examples: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

4. We are Christ’s workmanship created for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Ephesians 2:10)

Works of righteousness are evidence of your faith as demonstrated by your obedience to the Lord. One’s lack of obedience shows one’s lack of faith. So we see that grace is God’s part, but faith, evidenced by works, is our part.

Summary:

It is the grace of God that enables us to enter this race and it will be the grace of God that will cause us to finish it. However, we need to be careful not to resist God’s grace. “Looking diligent lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root pf bitterness springing up trouble you and thereby many be defiled.” (Hebrews 12:15) It is the grace of God that influences our hearts to do what is right. When we begin to resist the grace of God, we will begin to harden our hearts. That is dangerous. However, if we keep a humble spirit we will abound in favor for, “God resisteth the proud but giveth grace unto the humble.” (James 4:6)