

The Age of Grace
A Biblical Studies Class

Introduction - Not Law But Grace

Deut 6:25	Law
Rom 3:20-26	Grace
Rom 4:4-5	Believing is counted for righteousness
Rom 5:1-2	This grace wherein we stand
Rom 6:14	We are under grace
Rom 11:5-6	If by grace, then no more of works
Rom 16:24	The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all
I Cor 1:3, 4	Grace unto you, I thank God for the grace
I Cor 15:10	By the grace of God I am what I am
II Cor. 9:6-8	God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that ye, having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work Sufficiency: vs. 8 - <i>autarkeia</i> - A perfect condition of life in which no aid or support is needed - Sufficiency of the necessities of life - A mind contented with its lot
II Cor 12:7-10	My grace is sufficient for thee (vs. 9)
Gal 1:3, 6	Grace to you, called into the grace of Christ
Gal 2:21	I do not frustrate the grace of God
Eph 1:2, 7	Grace to you, the riches of his grace
Eph 2:5, 7-8	By grace are ye saved
Eph 3:1-13	Administration of the grace of God (vs. 2)
Titus 3:7	Justified by his grace, heirs according to the hope of eternal life.
Heb. 4:16	Let us come boldly unto the throne of grace

I Peter 1:13 Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind and be strong

¹³ Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. (NIV)

Grace, Mercy, and Peace

Rom1:7 Grace to you and peace

Gal 6:16 (11-18) Mercy and Peace

Col 1:2 (1-14) Grace and Peace

I Tim 1:2 (1-6, ch 1) Grace, Mercy, and Peace

II Tim 1:2 (1-5, ch 1) Grace, Mercy, and Peace

Tit 1:4 (1-5, ch 1) Grace, Mercy, and Peace

II John 3 (1-4, all) Grace, Mercy, and Peace

God With Them – Christ in Us

Gen. 39 The Lord was with Joseph (vss. 2, 21)

Joshua 1:1-10 The Lord thy God is with thee (vss. 5, 9)

Judges 6:1-21 If the Lord be with us (vs. 13), why then is all this befallen us?

Mat. 1:18-23 Emmanuel (Isa. 7:14 - Immanuel)

John 14:15-27 He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you (vs. 17)

II Cor. 5:19 God was in Christ

Col. 1:26-29 Christ in you (vs. 27)

Rom. 8:35-39 Nothing shall separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus

I Peter 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible

Sons of God

Gal. 4:1-7 Thou art no more a servant, but a son (vs. 7)

Phil 2:14-15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God

Heb 12:1-13 God dealeth with you as with sons (vs. 7)

I John 3:1-2 That we should be called the sons of God, and we are!

The Vail of the Temple

Exod 26:1, 33 The vail shall divide unto you between the holy *place* and the most holy

Lev 16 That he come not at all times into the holy *place* within the vail (vs. 2)

Lev 24:1-3 Without the vail of the testimony, in the tabernacle of the congregation

Num 18:1, 7 Thou and thy sons with thee shall keep your priest's office for every thing of the altar, and within the vail

II Chron 3:1, 14 He made the vail *of* blue, and purple, and crimson, and fine linen

Mark 15:37-38 And the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom

Hebrews 9 And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of all (vs. 3)

Access to God - Today

John 16:23-24 In that day ye shall ask me nothing...Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.

Rom. 5:1, 2 Peace with God, justified by believing (cf. Rom. 14:20-25). Righteousness - being right with God, so that you can stand before him with no consciousness of shortcoming. Justification - freedom from guilt, "just as if..."

Eph. 2:18-19 Through Jesus Christ, we have access to God

Eph. 3:12 In whom we have boldness and access with confidence (confident access) by the faith of him. Or: we may approach God with freedom and confidence (NIV).

Col 3 Do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and (even) the Father by him (vs. 17)

Heb. 4:16 Come boldly to the throne of grace (cf. vss. 14-15)

Heb 7:24-25 He is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him - vs. 25

I Peter 3:18 That he (JC) might bring us to God

God is Righteous

Psa 112:4 Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness; he is righteous

Psa 119:138 Thy testimonies are righteous and very faithful

Psa 119:142 Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness; thy law is the truth

Psa 119:160 Thy word is true from the beginning; thy righteous judgments endureth for ever)

Psa 119:164 Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments

Psa 119:172 All thy commandments are righteousness

Psa 125:1-3 The rod of the wicked shall not rest upon the lot of the righteous; lest the righteous put forth their hands unto iniquity

Isa 32:17 The work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever

Isa 41:10 I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness

Our Righteousness – Then vs. Now

Gen. 6:5-7:1 Thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation (7:1)

Gen. 15:1-6 He believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness (vs. 6)

Deut. 6:24-25 It shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments (vs. 25)

Deut. 9:1-29 Not for thy righteousness, or for the uprightness of thine heart, dost thou go to possess their land (vs. 5)

Deut 24:10-13	Thou shalt deliver him the pledge (i.e. the cloak) ... it shall be righteousness unto thee before the LORD thy God (vs. 13)
Psa 106:30-31	Phineas executed judgment – counted unto him for righteousness
Isa 48:18	O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea:
Ezek 18:21-26	In his righteousness that he hath done (vs. 22) All his righteousness that he hath done (vs. 24) A righteous man turneth away from his righteousness (vs. 26)
Rom 1:16-17	The just shall live by faith
Rom 3:19-28	The righteousness of God without the law (vs. 21)
Romans 4	Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness (vs. 3)

JB Phillips:

1 ¶ NOW how does all this affect the position of our human ancestor Abraham?

2 Well, if justification were by achievement he could quite fairly be proud of what he achieved—but not, I am sure, proud before God.

3 For what does the scripture say about him? And Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned unto him for righteousness,

4 Now if a man works his wages are not counted as a gift but as a fair reward.

5 But if a man, irrespective of his work, has faith in him who justifies the sinful, then that man's faith is counted as righteousness.

6 This is the happy state of the man whom God accounts righteous, apart from his achievements, as David expresses it:

7 Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven and whose sins are covered.

8 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not reckon sin.

9 ¶ Now the question arises: is this happiness for the circumcised only, or for the uncircumcised as well? Note this carefully. We began by saying that Abraham's faith was counted unto him for righteousness.

10 When this happened, was he a circumcised man? He was not; he was still uncircumcised.

11 It was afterwards that the sign of circumcision was given to him, as a seal upon that righteousness which God was accounting

to him as yet an uncircumcised man! God's purpose here was that Abraham might be the spiritual father of all who that time, despite their uncircumcision, show the faith that is counted as righteousness,

12 and that he might be the circumcised father of all those who are not only circumcised, but are living by the same sort of faith which he himself had before he was circumcised.

13 The ancient promise made to Abraham and his descendants, that they should eventually possess the world, was given not because of any achievements made through obedience to the Law, but because of the righteousness which had its root in faith.

14 For if, after all, they who pin their faith to keeping the Law were to inherit God's world, it would make faith meaningless and destroy the whole point of the promise.

15 For the Law can produce no promise, only the threat of wrath to come. And, indeed, if there were no Law the question of sin would not arise.

16 The whole thing, then, is a matter of faith on man's part and generosity on God's. He gives the security of his own promise to all men who can be called "children of Abraham", i. e. both those who have lived in faith by the Law, and those who have exhibited a faith like that of Abraham. To whichever group we belong, Abraham is in a real sense our father,

17 ¶ as the scripture says: A father of many nations have I made thee. This promise was valid because of his faith in God himself, who can make the dead live, and summon those who are in existence as though they were not yet born.

18 Abraham, when hope was dead within him, went on hoping in faith, believing that he would become "the father of many nations". He relied on the word of God which definitely referred to "thy seed".

19 With undaunted faith he looked at the facts—his own impotence (he was practically a hundred years old at the time) and his wife Sarah's apparent barrenness.

20 Yet he refused to allow any distrust of a definite pronouncement of God to make him waver. He drew strength from his faith, and, while giving the glory to God,

21 remained absolutely convinced that God was able to implement his own promise.

22 This was the "faith" which was counted unto him for righteousness.

23 ¶ Now this counting of faith for righteousness was not recorded simply for Abraham's credit,

24 but as a divine principle which should apply to us as well. Faith is to be reckoned as righteousness to us also, who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord,

25 who was delivered to death for our sins and raised again to secure our justification.

- Rom 5:1 Justified (made righteous) by faith – peace with God
- Rom 9:30-32 The Gentiles attained the righteousness which is of faith
- Rom 10:1-17 Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth
- Galatians 3 Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness (vs. 6)

JB Phillips:

- 1 ¶ O YOU dear idiots of Galatia, who saw Jesus Christ the crucified so plainly, who has been casting a spell over you?
- 2 I will ask you one simple question: did you receive the Spirit by trying to keep the Law or by believing the message of the gospel?
- 3 Surely you can't be so stupid as to think that you begin your spiritual life in the Spirit and then complete it by reverting to physical observances?
- 4 Has all your painful experience brought you nowhere? I simply cannot believe it!
- 5 Does God, who gives you his Spirit and works miracles among you, do these things because you have obeyed the Law or because you have believed the gospel?
- 6 ¶ You can go right back to Abraham to see the principle of faith in God. He, we are told, "believed God and it was counted unto him for righteousness."
- 7 You may be certain, then, that all those who "believe God" are the real "sons of Abraham".
- 8 The scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the gentiles "by faith", proclaimed the gospel in the words spoken to Abraham, "In thee shall all nations be blessed."
- 9 All men of faith share the blessing of Abraham who "believed God".
- 10 Everyone, however, who is involved in trying to keep the Law's demands falls under a curse, for it is written: Cursed is everyone which continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the Law, To do them.
- 11 It is clear that no one is justified in God's sight by obeying the Law, for: The righteous shall live by faith.
- 12 And the Law is not a matter of faith at all but of doing, as, for example, in the scripture: He that doeth them shall live in them.

13 Now Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the Law by himself becoming a curse for us. For the scripture is plain: Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.

14 God's purpose is therefore plain: that the blessing given to Abraham might reach the gentiles through Christ Jesus, and the promise of the Spirit might become ours by faith.

15 Let me give you an everyday illustration, my brothers. Once a contract has been properly drawn up and signed, it is honoured by both parties, and can neither be disregarded nor modified by a third party.

16 Now the promises were made to Abraham and his seed. (Note in passing that the scripture says not "seeds" but uses the singular "seed", meaning Christ.)

17 I say then that the Law, which came into existence four hundred and thirty years later, cannot render null and void the original "contract" which God had made, and thus rob the promise of its value.

18 For if the receiving of the inheritance were to depend on the Law, then it does not depend on promise. But God gave it to Abraham by promise.

19 ¶ Where then lies the point of the Law? It was an addition made to underline the existence and extent of sin but only until the arrival of the "seed" to whom the promise referred. The Law was appointed by means of angels, by the hand of an intermediary.

20 The very fact that there was an intermediary is enough to show that this was not the fulfilling of the promise. For the promise of God needs neither angelic witness nor any intermediary but depends on him alone.

21 Is the Law then to be looked upon as a contradiction of the promises? Certainly not, for if there could have been a law which gave men spiritual life then that law would have produced righteousness.

22 But, as things are, the scripture has all men "imprisoned" under the power of sin, so that to men in such condition the promise might be given to all who believe in Jesus Christ.

23 Before the coming of this faith we were all imprisoned under the power of the Law, with our only hope of deliverance the faith that was to be shown to us.

24 The Law was like a strict tutor in charge of us until we went to the school of Christ and learned to be justified by faith in him.

25 Once we have that faith we are completely free from the tutor's authority.

26 For now that you have faith in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God.

27 All of you who were baptized "into" Christ have put on the family likeness of Christ.

28 Gone is the distinction between Jew and Greek, slave and free man, male and female—you are all one in Christ Jesus.

29 And if you belong to Christ, you are true descendants of Abraham, you are true heirs of his promise.

Phil 3:1-9 Not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ (vs. 9)

Tit 3: 3-7 Not by works of righteousness which we have done (vs. 5)

Giving - Then

Gen 14:18-20 Abraham tithed to Melchizedek

Lev 27:30-34 The tithe of the land is the Lord's

Num 18:20-24 Tithes for the Levites (heave offering: dedicated gift)

Deut 14:22-29 Tithes of all, for the Levites every third year

II Chr 31:1-6, 11-12 Tithes and offerings reintroduced after priests and Levites appointed

Neh 10:32-33; 12:44 Offerings, firstfruits, and tithes for the house of God*

Mal 3:7-10 The windows of heaven open up with tithes and offerings

Giving - Now

Rom. 12:8 He that giveth, let him do it with simplicity

I Cor 16:2 As God hath prospered him

II Cor. 9 Every man as he purposeth in his heart; God loveth a cheerful giver (vs. 7)

Gal. 6:1-10 Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap (vs. 7)

Phil 4:10-19 Ye sent once and again unto my necessity (vs. 16) (vs. 11: content - self-sufficient, independent of external circumstances)

Heb. 7:1-4 Even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils (vs. 4)

Perfect Prayer

- II Chron 20:12 Neither know we what to do
- Prov. 3:5-6 Lean not unto thine own understanding
- Rom. 8:26-27 Intercession for the saints according to the will of God

Faithfulness – Then as Now

- Deut. 7:7-9 The LORD God is the faithful God
- Ps. 36:5-9 Thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds
- Ps. 92:1-5 To show forth thy faithfulness every night
- Ps. 108:1-6, 12-13 Your mercy (steadfast love, lovingkindness) is great above (higher than) the heavens and thy truth (faithfulness) reaches to the clouds (skies) (vs. 4)
- Ps. 119:86 All thy commandments are faithful
- Ps. 119:90 Thy faithfulness is unto all generations
- Ps. 119:138 Thy testimonies are very faithful
- Lam. 3:22-23 Great is thy faithfulness
- I Cor. 10:13 God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above what ye are able
- I Thes. 5:23-24 Faithful is he that calleth you
- II Thes. 3:3 The Lord is faithful, who will stablish you and keep you from evil
- II Tim. 2:13 If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful
- Titus 1:9 Holding fast the faithful word
- I John 1:9 He is faithful and just to forgive
- Rom. 12:10-14 Patient in mental pressure, continuing instant [steadfastly, faithful, persevering, be constant] in prayer (vs. 12)

For recordings of this and related classes, see www.cabsf.org.

***Varieties of Tithes & Offerings - A Partial List**

frankincense	- continual
	- fine flour
oblations	- baked
	- bread
oil	
sacrifices	offerings by fire (Num 15:13)
- bullocks	- burnt offering
- cattle	- sacrifice
- rams	offerings for the house of God
- lambs	
- goats	passover offerings
- turtle-doves	
- pigeons	peace offerings
showbread	sin offerings
tithe(s) - 32 times in AV	thank offerings
- firstfruits	
<u>offering(s) - 641 times in AV:</u>	trespass offerings
burnt offerings	wave offerings
- continual (two every day)	- wave breast
- without blemish	wine offerings
- whole	- poured out
drink offerings	wood offering
freewill offerings	Numbers 7: many offerings made by the princes of Israel
heave offerings	Levites receive tithes, then tithe to the Lord (Num 18:24-32)
- heave thigh	
holy offerings	The sin and trespass offering money went to the priests (II Kings 12:16)
incense offerings	
meal offerings	Summary (perhaps partial) of offerings: Deut 12:11
- of memorial	
- of jealousy	