

Series: Glorious Grace: Foundations of Grace

Message: The God Of Grace: Part One

Scripture: Selected Texts

Teacher: Randy Pope

Dates: 15/16 July 2017

1. What Does It Mean That God Is A God Of Grace?

1) God Shows Common Grace To Everyone.

James 1:17

¹⁷ Every good thing bestowed and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation, or shifting shadow.

Matthew 5:45b

^{45b} ... for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

Luke 6:35

³⁵ "But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men.

1 Timothy 4:10

¹⁰ For it is for this we labor and strive, because we have fixed our hope on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers.

Romans 2:4

⁴ Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?

Isaiah 26:10

¹⁰ Though the wicked is shown favor, He does not learn righteousness; He deals unjustly in the land of uprightness, And does not perceive the majesty of the Lord.

2) God Shows Special Grace To His True Followers.

Special Grace

The special favor of eternal life specifically applied only to those who put their faith in Christ.

2. Can A God Of Grace Allow Bad Things To Happen?

1) Rabbi Kushner's Answer

Rabbi Kushner's teaching

Because man is good and God is good and because bad things happen to good people, God is not involved in bad things. Not only does He not allow them, but He is not able to stop them from happening.

2) Rabbi Jesus' Answer

Jesus' teaching

Because man is not good and God is good, bad things happen to people, not merely because they deserve them, but better yet because His followers, as well as His future followers, need those bad things.

Romans 3:9-12

⁹ What then? Are we better than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin;

¹⁰ as it is written, "There is none righteous, not even one;

¹¹ There is none who understands, There is none who seeks for God;

¹² All have turned aside, together they have become useless; There is none who does good, There is not even one."

Part 2:

3. Why Would A Gracious God Allow Bad Things To Happen?

4. Why Do Most People, Including Most Christians, Struggle Seeing God As A Gracious God?