

God's Grace Made Simple by David Heresy

Continued from page 1... If God's Grace operated apart from obedience to God, then the works of disobedience would not keep one out of the kingdom of God, yet Paul said they would.

Advocates of salvation by God's Grace apart from obedience frequently use Ephesians 2:8-9 to make the case for their belief. Paul there writes, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast." Paul goes on to make a direct connection between works and Grace in verse 10 when he writes, "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

When we look at God's Grace as a benevolent disposition He has toward us and take into consideration everything written in God's Word concerning obedience, it is evident that being saved by Grace through faith and not of works does not mean being saved apart from obedience. God's gracious disposition toward us compelled Him to act on our behalf. By Grace, God gave us free will, gave us His law so that we could know His expectations, gave us every opportunity throughout history to be obedient, and finally sent Jesus to die on the cross to pay the penalty for our sin, and then agreed to accept His Son's torture and death at the hands of those He came to save, to serve as the death penalty for the sins of all humankind. There is no way humankind can pay for or deserve that gift by anything we could ever do. God graciously accomplished all these things for our benefit, irrespective of anything we could do. The things He did for us are manifestations of His gracious nature. We don't deserve that. We cannot pay for that. We certainly cannot boast that our works had anything to do with that. "...While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us..." (Romans 5:8). The gift of God in Ephesians 2:8-9 that works could not earn was not salvation. Rather, the gift was God's gracious disposition toward us that compelled Him to do everything He did to make salvation possible.

Paul did not teach salvation through Grace apart from obedience. Rather, he taught salvation by Grace through faith that is manifested through our obedience to God. And He said as much in Romans 1:5: "By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for his name." and again in Romans 16:26, "But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith."

Brushy church of Christ
774 Hwy 48 South
Centerville TN 37033



The Brushy Beacon

"Open up Your Heart & Door in 2024"

October 13, 2024

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:00
Sunday Morning Service	10:00
Sunday Evening Service	6:00
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00

The church of Christ at Brushy

Elders

Ricky Atkinson
James Atkinson
Tony Duncan

Deacons

Paul Johnston Terry Banks
Kevin Johnston Justin Atkinson
Caleb Truett

Preacher: Kevin Johnston

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Continued from last week's bulletin... Paul instructed saved Christians in the body of Christ to "Work out their own salvation" by obeying God in Philippians 2:12. Paul instructed saved Christians in the church in Rome to seek eternal life through "patient continuance in well doing" in Romans 2:7. Paul then went on to write in verses 8-10 "But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile; But glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile." Concerning God's Grace, Paul went on to write in Romans 6:15, "What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under Grace? God forbid. Rom 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? Rom 6:17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Rom 6:18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness." Paul made a direct connection between God's Grace and obedience. Grace, therefore, cannot operate independently of one's obedience. The two are inseparable in God's Word.

Another way of looking at the connection in God's Word between Grace and Obedience is by considering what Paul said to the Christians in 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God." and again in Galatians 5:19-21 "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." Continued on page 4...

Family News & Notes

Mission Work in Africa Please continue to remember Tony Duncan in your prayers as he is in Tanzania, Africa. He spoke at the Tanzanian Leadership Conference this past week. If you want to follow some of his travels, search for Kilimanjaro Missions on Facebook. He will be return on October 15. Please remember Tony in your prayers & Cathy as she is here anticipating his return.

Men's Meal Hamburgers and hotdogs are on the menu for the Men and Young Men's Meal following morning worship today. We hope you will stay and enjoy a meal under our new pavilion.

Secret Sister Reveal All ladies and young ladies are invited to the Ladies Luncheon today, following the morning worship service. We hope you'll stay and enjoy sweet fellowship together!

Annual BIG Singing We are planning to attend the Annual BIG Singing at the church of Christ at Crieve Hall. It will be on Friday, October 18. This will be our 3rd Year to attend. We will plan to leave the building at 5 P.M. If you are interested in going or need more details, please see Kevin or Amy.

All Ladies and Young Ladies... are invited to attend the Ladies Class on Sunday Morning, October 27. The special speakers will be Lynlee Porter, Laynie Brown, and Brylee Tucker. In addition, songs and prayers will be led by Ansleigh Porter, Everleigh Porter, Ella Truett, and Mabry Truett. We are so proud of these young ladies and are encouraged by their example!

Brushy Members Group Did you know we have a Remind Group to help everyone stay informed of various things going on with our members. If you are not a part of this group and want to be, please text 81010 with the message @79f2fbk to join. If you have questions or can't get signed up, please see Amy Johnston.

Have you noticed the Stars? On the bulletin board in the back there are stars. Each star represents a household we have sent a compassion card to. Currently we have 51 stars and counting! You are making a difference by writing a card and showing that you care! A huge thanks for participating in the Compassion Card Ministry. Keep turning in names of people you know who are celebrating or dealing with a difficult time. We are using the cards as a way to show love, encouragement and support!

A Happy Birthday to... Terri Perkins...October 12 CJ Hinson...October 13
Fred Bowman...October 16 Kevin Johnston...October 18 Cade Tucker...October 19

A Happy Anniversary to... Ed & Terri Perkins...October 12 ~ Celebrating 50 Years
Caleb & Paige Truett...October 18

Upcoming Events

- *Today, October 13 ~ Men's Meal Following the Morning Worship Service
- *Today, October 13 ~ Ladies Luncheon ~ Secret Sister Reveal
- *Friday, October 18 ~ Annual Big Singing at the church of Christ at Crieve Hall

For the Record

Sunday Morning Bible Class	32	Sunday Morning Worship	66
Sunday Evening Worship	XX	Wednesday Bible Study	31

Pray for Those Sick Among Us...

- Cathy Duncan** is dealing with weakness & continues not to feel well. She is home after a hospital stay.
- Carl Bryant** is in Maury Regional Hospital dealing with pneumonia.
- Rita Atkinson** daughter of Ann Bryant, is doing therapy after shoulder surgery.
- Steve Winebrenner** Jacinda Porter's Dad, his heart procedure went well.
- Kane Cross** son of Emily Cross and grandson of Joanna Campbell. Has already had 3 surgeries and will have more. He is in Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.
- Easton Tanner** friend of Carter Tucker, was able to go home.
- Johnny Qualls** Anita Allen's Dad, is in ICU in ST. Thomas/will have a risky heart surgery on Mon.
- Rodney Tune** is taking treatments for esophagus cancer.

Continuing Prayer Requests

Dealing with Cancer - Roger Pace, Megan Inman, Debbie Pierce, Ricky Chandler, Ron Pafford, Robbie Pinkerton, Ruth Sanders, April Colvett, Glen Herrington, Shannon Irwin
Special Requests - Scottie Simmons, William Kirby, Deborah Brazil, Ryan Horton, Claud & Glenda Teet, Jeff Lynn, Ronnie Howell, Paul Schneider, Chris Allen, Helen Bryant, Miranda Smith, Dana McCaleb

Pray for Those in Nursing Homes

Dickson Nursing Home... Larry Donaldson
Community Living Center in Murfreesboro... Fred Bowman

Ongoing Prayer Reminders

- All in the military and civil workers overseas and their families right.
- All those Preaching and teaching the Good News all over the world.
- Our Government Leaders – Local, State, and National (1 Timothy 2:1-2).
- Our Elders and Deacons who oversee, care for, serve, and feed us spiritually. (Hebrews 13:7)

Open Marriages by Brad Harrub

Think parents and the church don't need to teach on marriage, divorce, and remarriage? Well consider this: last month Pew Research Group reported a little over half of young adults say open marriages are "acceptable." An open marriage is defined as a marriage where both spouses agree that they can date or have sex with other people.

Some of those who hold this view are sitting in our church buildings on Sunday mornings. The concept of one man and one woman for life is foreign in the world they are growing up in. Folks, that is messed up! Satan has convinced young people that adultery and fornication are "acceptable." Forget keeping the marriage bed pure—and don't worry about your wedding vows. Just go out and have a good time.

Of course, what Satan isn't telling the young people is that this "open marriage" behavior leads to heartache, distrust, and eventually divorce.

Rather than backing away from this topic we should be leading the charge! Christians should be demonstrating by example and by our teaching that this is sinful behavior—and that God does not approve.