

Salvation: God's Grace
(Ephesians 2:8-9)

Introduction:

1. In Matthew 16:26 Jesus asked 2 questions to show how valuable the soul is.
2. Since our souls are so valuable, saving them is extremely important.
3. Today we are beginning a series of lessons that relate to "salvation."
4. In our first lesson we are concentrating on "God's grace."
5. Let us begin by showing . . .

Discussion:

- I. WHAT "GOD'S GRACE" IS
 - A. "God's grace" is the kindness or favor that God extends to people, even though we do not deserve it ["unmerited favor"].
 - B. Although "God's grace" is demonstrated and illustrated many times in the Bible,:
 1. let us consider one demonstration of His grace in Deuteronomy 7:6-8
 2. let us consider one illustration of His grace in Luke 15:20-24.
- II. "GOD'S GRACE" IS FOR EVERYONE
 - A. According to Titus 2:11, *"the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men."*
 - B. This includes Jews and Gentiles (Acts 15:11).
 - C. While "God's grace" is for everyone, only *"the humble"* will receive it (James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5).
- III. WHY EVERYONE NEEDS "GOD'S GRACE"
 - A. We need "God's grace" because of sin and its consequences (Romans 3:23; 6:23).
 - B. Through His grace God provides special blessings that we need, including:
 1. redemption and forgiveness (Ephesians 1:7)
 2. spiritual renewal (Ephesians 2:4-7)
 3. salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 Timothy 1:12-15; Acts 22:16; 9:18)
 4. justification (Titus 3:7).
- IV. "GOD'S GRACE" ALSO RELATES TO CHRISTIANS [Those who have been saved]
 - A. (Acts 13:43) We are *"to continue in the grace of God"* (Galatians 5:4).
 - B. (Romans 5:1-2) We are to *"stand"* in grace.
 - C. (2 Timothy 2:1) We are to *"be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus."*
 - D. We are to live as "God's grace" teaches (Titus 2:11-13).
 - E. (Hebrews 13:9) Our hearts are to *"to be established with grace."*

Conclusion:

1. (Acts 11:22-23) When Barnabas went to Antioch he saw *"the grace of God."*
 - a. He saw people who had *"turned unto the Lord"* (vs.21).
 - b. He also saw people who were living as "God's grace" teaches.
 - c. This caused Barnabas to be *"glad."*
2. When people observe you, do they see "God's grace?"
3. Does your behavior cause others to be glad?
4. By receiving the salvation that God's provides through His grace and living as His grace teaches, we can have a powerful influence upon others.