

Notes used in the Message

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17-1126pm - Accepted In The Beloved - Joe Greene

EPHESIANS 1:6

» 6 † To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

THAT'S THE REASON WE'RE HERE: FOR THE PRAISE and THE GLORY of HIS GRACE.

Grace = God's unmerited favor upon our lives in the way we live, act and do; it is His Divine influence upon our hearts that is reflected in the way we live, act, and do. It has been termed, 'God's unmerited favor.

GRACE IS GOD GIVING and SHOWING FAVOR TO SOMEONE WHO IS COMPLETELY and TOTALLY DESTITUTE of ANY MERIT of GRACE.

It is the bestowing of all the benefits of grace without any regard to one's goodness.

IT IS NOT BECAUSE YOU ARE SMARTER, WISER, RICHER, MORE EDUCATED, MORE DESERVING, HOLIER or ANYTHING THAT YOU CAN DO, THAT THIS GRACE IS GIVEN TO YOU.

I CORINTHIANS 1:25-31

» 25 † Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

» 26 † For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:

» 27 † But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

» 28 † And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

» 29 † That no flesh should glory in his presence.

» 30 † But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

» 31 † That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

WHY DID GOD SAVE YOU? WHAT WAS THERE IN YOU THAT CAUSED HIM TO DO IT? WHAT ACT DID YOU PERFORM THAT MOVED HIM TO SAVE YOU? WHAT GOODNESS DID YOU DEMONSTRATE THAT MOVED HIM TO REDEEM YOU? NONE! IT IS ALL of GRACE!

THERE WAS NO REASON WHY HE SHOULD HAVE CHOSEN YOU! NO REASON WHY HE SHOULD HAVE REDEEMED YOU! IT IS GRACE! "God's unmerited favor."

"To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein HE HATH MADE US ACCEPTED in the beloved."

THE GREEK WORD TRANSLATED HERE "accepted" IS USED ONLY 1 OTHER TIME IN THE SCRIPTURES:

LUKE 1:28

» 28 † "And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured (OR ACCEPTED), the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women."

OH, WHAT A BLESSED THOUGHT! OUR ACCEPTANCE IS NOT FUTURE TENSE - OUR ACCEPTANCE IS AN ACCOMPLISHED FACT!

JEREMIAH 31:3

» 3 "The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."

JOHN 15:9

» 9 † ¶ **As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.**

CONSIDER SOMETHING:

HEBREWS 7:7-10

» 7 † And without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better.
» 8 † And here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth.
» 9 † And as I may so say, Levi also, who receiveth tithes, payed tithes in Abraham.
» 10 † For he was yet in the loins of his father, when Melchisedec met him.

DID LEVI ACTUALLY PAY TITHES? NO, SIR! YET, IT WAS ACCOUNTED TO HIM BECAUSE HE WAS IN THE LOINS of ABRAHAM!

WE NEVER PAID THE DEBT of SIN, YET IT'S CREDITED TO OUR ACCOUNT, BECAUSE WE WERE IN THE LOINS of OUR FATHER, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST WHEN HE PAID THE DEBT!

Debt has been cancelled! Paid in full! No balance!

DOESN'T THAT GIVE DYING GRACE? NOT WONDERING, "Will He accept me when I stand before Him?" NO, NO! HE HAS ALREADY ACCEPTED YOU!

"I may be poor, but I'm accepted in the beloved!"

"I may be uneducated"

"I may be crippled, but"

"I may be blind, but"

WHEN DEATH COMES KNOCKING ON YOUR DOOR, READY TO DO HIS WORST, TELL HIM, "I fear you not; for I have been accepted in the beloved!"

OH, WHAT PRECIOUS WORDS of DYING GRACE: "Accepted in the beloved!"

WE ARE MANIFESTED EXAMPLES of THE GRACE of GOD IN OUR LIVES! LIVING EXAMPLES of GRACE!

STORY TOLD OF OLD BLACK WOMAN DYING.

One of Job's comforters came around & looked down on her as she lay dying and with a sarcastic remark, asked, "Why would God save a miserable wretch like you?"

She looked up at the person & smiled, and said, "So's when I gets to Heabn, God can call the angels over and point to me and say, 'Come here; I want to show you what the grace of God can do.'"

SHE WAS A MANIFESTED EXAMPLE of THE PRAISE of THE GLORY of HIS GRACE - and THAT MADE HER ACCEPTED IN THE BELOVED - IN THAT COMPANY of THE REDEEMED.

GRACE MAKES THE MOST UNACCEPTED AMONG MEN ACCEPTABLE AMONG THE NOTABLES of HEAVEN!

A redeemed prostitute is made higher than the angels.

A drunkard's name is whispered among the population of Heaven.

A "no-one" becomes a "some-one" all because of Grace!

REMEMBER: "Salvation is of the Lord." IT IS ONLY BECAUSE of GOD'S GRACE THAT WE CAN STAND IN THE PRESENCE of A HOLY and JUST GOD, UNCONDEMNED and FAULTLESS.

Grace that forgives our sins and injustices against Him and His Holiness.

Grace that spares our lives and souls when we deserve death & eternity in Hell.

IF YOU HAD THE FAITH of ABRAHAM, THE ZEAL of ALL THE PROPHETS, ALL THE GOOD WORKS of ALL THE APOSTLES, YOU'D STILL NEED GRACE!

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One of the books I read on Mr. Dwight Moody, that Moody after reading Romans 7, ran into the street, and the first man he met, he said to him, "Do you know grace?"

And the man replied, "Grace who?"

Mr. Moody said, "The grace of God."

So it so thrilled him when he seen how grace had separated us from the law, and what part grace played. I always told the people when I crossed the line on the other side, I'd like to stand up and sing: "Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me!" Grace, precious grace, more of grace to know. For it is by grace we are saved; not by what we can do, what we can... Whatever we do is not counted to us; grace is what saves us. "By grace are ye saved through faith;"

IF THERE'S ANYTHING WE NEED TO PRAISE GOD FOR, IT'S GRACE! AND IT'S IN THAT GRACE THAT HE HAS MADE US "accepted" = indued with special honor and highly favored AMONG THE BRETHREN.

What makes men special to us? God's grace in their lives!

NOTICE: IT DOESN'T SAY THAT GRACE HAS MADE US "ACCEPTABLE." NO, BUT ACCEPTED!

It's not just the possibility of being accepted, but we've already been accepted!

EPHESIANS 1:7

» 7 "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;"

IN WHOM = IN HIM, BY HIM, and NO ONE ELSE, BECAUSE HE ONLY HAS THE REDEMPTION PRICE and THRU THE INSTRUMENT of HIS BLOOD (the Redemption Price), DO WE HAVE REDEMPTION.

Redemption = full and total deliverance, both body, spirit and soul, by the paying of a ransom;

MAN IS NOT SELF-REDEEMABLE! YOU CAN REDEEM WHAT IS PLACED IN A PAWN SHOP.

If the redemption price is within your reach.

MAN IS NOT REDEEMABLE BY ANOTHER MAN - FOR ALL OTHER MEN ARE IN THE DEVIL'S PAWN SHOP ALSO WITH THE SAME PRICE ON THEIR BODY, SOULS and SPIRITS.

PSALMS 51:5

"Behold, I was shapen in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me."

REMEMBER: REDEMPTION IS THRU THE BLOOD! NOT JUST ANY BLOOD - BUT THRU "HIS" BLOOD!

ROMANS 5:9

"Much more then, being NOW justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him."

COLOSSIANS 1:14

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:"

THIS IS 2 FOLD:

1) Redemption thru His Blood

Redemption is total deliverance from what had you in clutches.

2) The forgiveness of sin: Total: Past, present, future!

DO NOT FORGET WHAT Bro Branham TOLD US: "This is what God accomplished for was way back in the eternities!"

279-3 SARDISEAN.CHURCH.AGE - CHURCH.AGE.BOOK CPT.7

"First of all we know most assuredly that the purpose of God stands in election. It was purposed in Himself. It was God's purpose to bring forth a people like unto Himself that would be a Word Bride. She was chosen before the foundation of the world IN HIM. She was fore-known and beloved before she was ever brought forth during the ages upon the earth. SHE WAS REDEEMED BY HIS BLOOD (THAT WAS THE RANSOM PRICE PAID FOR HER) and (SHE) CAN NEVER COME INTO CONDEMNATION. She can never be in the judgment because sin cannot be imputed unto her. Romans 4:8, "Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin." But indeed she shall be with Him in His throne of judgment, judging the world and even angels. Her name (each of her members) was written in a section of the Lamb's Book of Life before the foundation of the world."