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Do you realize the enormity of the debt you owe to God and that you could never pay such a debt and dare not even try, lest you insult Christ for the grand and glorious work He did at the cross to save hell-deserving sinners?

"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him" [Hebrews 2:3]

"... Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts." [Isaiah 6:5]

Do you realize that religious rituals and religious traditions are useless coverings for the nakedness of your sins and that only the righteousness of Christ can cover your sins?

"... Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition." [Matthew 15:6]

"Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked" [Revelation 3:17]

"There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness." [Proverbs 30:12]

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." [1 John 1:7]

Do you realize how much God hates sin?

"The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth. Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup." [Psalm 11:5-6]

"The foolish shall not stand in thy sight: thou hatest all workers of iniquity. Thou shalt destroy them that speak leasing: the LORD will abhor the bloody and deceitful man." [Psalm 5:5]

"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." [Hebrews 10:31]

Do you realize how much you need God to be graceful and merciful towards you?

"Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted." [Luke 18:10-14]

Do YOU have God's grace? Do YOU possess God's salvation?

For more information:

Web site: http://comingintheclouds.org E-mail to: mail@comingintheclouds.org

What is God's grace?

According to God, according to the Bible, what is grace? It is not some words you say before you eat dinner. God's grace is His wonderful provision of a free and complete pardon from sin to undeserving rebellious sinners. To put it another way, God's grace, in particular, is His salvation plan and that salvation plan is manifested in Christ, the all-sufficient sin-bearer and substitute who suffered the wrath of God for all the ungodly sinners that He came to save. Are you one of those sinners? How do you know?

Here is a description from the Bible of God's grace (keep in mind that these verses do not apply to you if you are not saved):

"8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. 10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life." [Romans 5:8-10]

Notice in verse 8 above, that Christ came to save sinners and that label applies to everyone. God's grace involves His love for those who do not deserve love: sinners, people who daily and continually ignore and violate God's commandments. God's

love is displayed by the fact that He came to earth as a man and suffered and died to pay the price for sins that sinners could not pay.

In Romans 5:9 above, we see God's grace has to do with **saving a sinner** from the punishment due to him, **at the expense of Christ's shed blood** and that shed blood is sufficient to justify (make righteous) those sinners whom Christ saves. We also learn from this verse that we are saved from the **wrath of God** which is **eternity in hell**: "And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him." [Luke 12:4-5]

In Romans 5:10 above we see that before God saves a person they are His enemies. Those who are enemies against Christ includes anyone who is not yet saved.

It is the grace of God that redeems sinners (purchases their salvation) through Christ Jesus:

"Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus" [Romans 3:24]

It is the grace of God that calls a person out of this lost world and into God's eternal kingdom:

"But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and <u>called me</u> by his grace" [Galatians 1:15]

It is the grace of God that makes a sinner acceptable to Him on Judgment day:

"To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved." [Ephesians 1:6]

It is the grace of God that redeems a sinner through the blood sacrifice of Christ:

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace" [Ephesians 1:7]

God's grace is the undeserved kindness that He shows a sinner by placing the sinner's sins on Christ and placing the righteousness of Christ on the sinner:

"That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus." [Ephesians 2:7]

"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." [Isaiah 53:5-6]

Has God converted you from a self-righteous sinner into a person who is now aware of the depth and degree of their unrighteousness in the sight of an infinitely righteous God?

"And be found in him, <u>not having mine own</u> <u>righteousness</u>, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, <u>the</u>

righteousness which is of God by faith" [Philippians 3:9]

Do you understand the holiness of God and who He is to whom you will have to give an account to someday for every thought, word and deed?

"Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity" [Habakkuk 1:13]

"Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do." [Hebrews 4:13]

God's grace involves showing sinners how He sees them and how much trouble they are in with God and how far they fall short of His glory:

"As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one." [Romans 3:10-12]

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" [Romans 3:23]

"That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord." [Romans 5:21]

"And he said, <u>If now I have found grace in thy sight</u>, <u>O Lord</u>, let my Lord, I pray thee, go among us; for it is a stiffnecked people; and <u>pardon our iniquity and our sin</u>, and take us for thine inheritance." [Exod. 5:21]