

# Characteristics of God's Grace

(Part 6)

## Instructing Grace

We have come to part 6 of our short inexhaustive list of characteristics of God's Grace, in our first 5 studies we considered 1<sup>st</sup> the Covenant of Grace, followed by Regenerating Grace, then we briefly looked at Sanctifying Grace and Justifying Grace, considering lastly Directing Grace. Why, might you ask do I recap each study with what we have studied before? Folks the Grace of the Lord is but the binding that weaves all these so called characteristics together, each study has been at it's base, a Caricature of the Lord! He is a Covenant God! He Regenerates those whom He has loved! He has Sanctified these who once walked according to the course of this world! He is Just and Justifier of them which believeth in Christ! And He directs our paths in the way we go! All according to His loving Grace! Unmerited favor!

Grace, Grace, God's Grace, Grace that will pardon and cleanse within,  
Grace, Grace, God's Grace, Grace that is Greater than all my sin!

Tonight we consider "Instructing Grace" may God instruct us in His ways and Truths!

**(Joh 6:45) It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.**

**(Isa 54:13) And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD;**  
speaking to the people of Israel.

**(Mic 4:1-2) But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.**

**(Jer 31:31) Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:**

Remember, the old covenant was the law, “If you do this”

**(Jer 31:32) Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD:**

**(Jer 31:33) But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.**

**(Jer 31:34) And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.**

And just in case verse 33 was not clear enough, the great Creator instructs His people, speaking through the prophet Jerimiah declaring this;

**(Jer 31:35) Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name:**

**(Heb 1:1-2) God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;**

Or another words, “The Lord of Host” be our instructor, and teach us through your word!

**(2Ti 3:16-17) All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.**

Let us consider 5 points of the Lord’s instructions in His Word!

## **Mans fallen nature!**

For a child of the most High to desire a savior, we must first be shown, or instructed in our need of a Savior! We must be instructed in our lack of ability, our complete desperation, with no place in of our selves to turn!

**(Psa 14:1-3) The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good. The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God. They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one.**

The Apostle Paul referring to this Psalm under the inspiration of the Holy spirit wrote;

**(Rom 3:10-18) 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.**

**Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: Their feet are swift to shed blood: Destruction and misery are in their ways: And the way of peace have they not known: There is no fear of God before their eyes.**

The word of God gives many pictures of our condition before regeneration, before spiritual life! One recently visited, Ezekiel 37 the valley of dry bones, and many others!

**Eph. 2 Paul declares Life being given by the giver of life; (Eph 2:1-5) And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ;**

Dead in trespasses and sin, even as others, so we see our Lord's words of instruction on our need of a savior and we say, yes that is right, I see my depravity and the depth of it!

Next He instructs us in His choosing a people in His Son from before the foundation of the world to be saved completely from their sin; (Eph 1:4) **According as he** (God the Father) **hath chosen us in him** (God the Son) **before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him;**

**(Rom 11:3-6) Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life. But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal.**

**Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace. And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work.**

Peter also inspired of the Holy Spirit wrote in (1Pe 1:2) **Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.**

Elect, chosen of God! Paul declares in; (Rom 9:15-16) **For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.**

Why would God choose me? Not for anything you have done or will do, but for the unconditional Love He has for this people! And we hear these words and say “Amen” that’s right! I know if God had not chosen to save me I would have gone out into damnation as I deserved!

Next we consider our Lord’s instructions on His atonement, the Blood of the Spotless Lamb of God, the perfect, the righteous, the Holy Blood of God was shed for someone and as such that someone shall be saved, no if’s, no maybe’s; (Joh 6:37) **All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.**

The precious Blood of the Son cleanseth away all the sin of His people; (Heb 1:3) **Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;**

(Rom 5:8-10) **But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.**

**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.**

And we hear this and say “That’s Right” that’s the atonement I desire, a sacrifice that is acceptable to God, a Perfect Holy payment that pleases God the Father! Did you know God the Father saw the travail of his Son’s Soul and was satisfied? It pleased the Father to bruise His only begotten Son, that you and I would be with Him for eternity!

Next our Lord instructs us in the depth of His Love in drawing His people unto Himself!

**(Jer 31:3) 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.**

Because I have Loved you, though you hated me, I will draw you unto me;  
**(Psa 110:3) Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power;**

**(Joh 6:44) No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.**

To call Christ Jesus the Lord, is to be drawn with the power of God, by His power, He reveals to us His everlasting Love and why would one who see’s this resist, why would one who was blind and with God given sight, can now see the greatness of His love not love Him back? Do we not Love Him for he first loved us?

Folks His love is so great though we were steeped in sin and unbelief, He shed His own blood for our sakes! And we hear this and cry out “Paises to the Highest! Amazing grace that saved a wretch like me”!

And last but not least we see our Lord’s love, instructing us that we cannot keep our selves!

If left to our own devices we would come up short again, and again and again!

We just read in Romans “**Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him**”. now you know, for maybe you were one, but somebody steeped in religion is going to ask “what does that verse mean?” folks it’s very simple, if the Blood of the Lord Jesus was shed for you, you “**shall**” be saved!

The Lord’s declaration

(Psa 32:1) **Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.**

(Psa 32:2) **Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.**

My cry

(Psa 32:3) **When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long.**

(Psa 32:4) **For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah.**

(Psa 32:5) **I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.**

(Psa 32:6) **For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him.**

(Psa 32:7) **Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah.**

(Psa 32:8) **I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.**

The Lord’s response

(Psa 32:9) **Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.**

**(Psa 32:10) Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about.**

**(Psa 32:11) Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.**

Folks we are kept unto salvation through the finished work of our savior; Through the Lord Jesus in His crucifixion we are kept; (Rom 1:16-17) **For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth;**

**1Pe 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,**

**1Pe 1:4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,**

**1Pe 1:5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.**

**1Pe 1:6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:**

**1Pe 1:7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:**

**1Pe 1:8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:**

**1Pe 1:9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.**

And this brings us to a consideration in closing! (Heb 12:6-8) **For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.**



The word Chasten is to correct, to instruct, it also means to punish, but God's chosen people are instructed that Christ died for our sins, He accept the punishment we deserve, and God is a just God, He can't condemn twice!

**Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.**

Christ The Lord satisfied God's judgement. God the Father punished His son in our stead!

The trials that come our way are just instructions, corrections, the Lord is weaning us from the things of this world, He is bringing us to repentance, turning from the flesh and looking to Him!

And we hear this, and with joy in our heart, we say ' by God's amazing grace, I believe"

These are just some of God's instructions, the ones I Know He has and will fulfill in Himself! Because He has loved me and chosen me to be a recipient of His Instructing Grace from the foundation of the world!