

**General Topics :: Grace comes before repentance.****Grace comes before repentance., on: 2010/8/2 13:45**

Romans 5:6, "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly."

Romans 5:8, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Eph. 2:1-6, "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, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:"

Col. 2:9-15, "For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in Him, which is the head of all principality and power: In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: Buried with Him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with Him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised Him from the dead. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath He quickened together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; And having spoiled principalities and powers, He made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it."

1 Peter 2:24, "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."

John 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."

The grace of God must come before repentance; it is His grace that gives us the ability to respond. We were totally dead in trespasses and sins.

Romans 2:4, "Or despisest thou the riches of His goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?"

When the young pastor Timothy was dealing with difficult church members, Paul instructed him to humbly correct them saying that perhaps God "will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth" (2 Timothy 2:25). Repentance is not a human work, but a divine gift. Those who argue that our part in salvation is to repent have failed to see the source of repentance. God's part in salvation is to extend His mercy and grace. Our part is to simply receive it and then spend the rest of eternity celebrating it!

A person can change his behavior and change his mind without out receiving The Life of Christ!

Repentance does not open the door to grace. Without grace we could never repent. We can't even put ourselves in a place to get grace. Grace came to us when we were dead in sins and when we were God's enemies.

Rom 5:10, "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."

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Re: Grace comes before repentance. - posted by Miccah (), on: 2010/8/2 13:57

For God so loved the world... Praise the Lord for Jesus!

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2010/8/2 15:12

I would contend that saving grace, faith, and repentance all come at the same time. There is never a saving grace apart from faith. For grace comes THROUGH faith. And genuine faith and repentance must always come together. For when one has faith, one is believing in something they did not believe prior to faith. Such produces a change of thoughts, and as a result, a change of behavior... which is what repentance is.

Such is a little more Biblical than the typical Calvinistic construct.

Re: Grace comes before repentance. - posted by fromtheold (), on: 2010/8/3 4:55

Thanks for sharing that Tuc.