

Present Tense Grace

- ✓ **We are saved by grace (Eph.2:8)**
- ✓ **We are justified by grace (Rom.3:24)**
- ✓ **We stand in grace (Rom.5:2; 1 Pet.5:12)**
- ✓ **We grow in grace (2 Pet.3:18)**
- ✓ **We are free from sin's dominion by grace (Rom.6:14)**
- ✓ **We are taught by grace how to say 'no' to sin and live righteously (Tit.2:11-12)**
- ✓ **We reign in righteousness by grace (Rom.5:17,21)**
- ✓ **We serve by grace (Rom.12:6; Eph.4:7; 1 Pet.4:10)**
- ✓ **We are what we are by the grace of God (1 Cor.15:10)**

- ✓ **We have abundance of grace (Rom.5:20)**
- ✓ **We receive grace heaped upon grace (Jn.1:16)**
- ✓ **We receive grace to help us in our times of need (Heb.4:16)**
- ✓ **Whatever we may go through, God gives us more grace (Jas.4:6)**
- ✓ **We can be strong through grace (2 Tim.2:1)**
- ✓ **God's grace will always be sufficient for us (2 Cor.12:9)**
- ✓ **The Christian life consists in discovering all the riches of God's grace (Eph.1:7)**
- ✓ **Throughout eternity we will magnify the grace of God (Eph.1:6)**

We receive grace one day at a time...

**But many do not experience God's grace
because...**

A) They Are Living In The Future

1) By Presuming

'Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth' (Prov.27:1)

For example:

***Salvation.** *'Seek the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near' (Isa.55:6)*

'Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation' (2 Cor.6:2)

***Reconciliation.** *'Do not let the sun go down upon your wrath' (Eph.4:26)*

'This is the day that the LORD has made...'

2) By Worrying

- *Worry is destructive**
- *Worry makes us sick**
- *Worry paralyzes**

The answer to worry is 'today'. 'Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble' (Mt.6:34)

'As your days, so shall your strength be' (Deut.33:25) 'His compassions... they are new every morning' (Lam.3:22-23)

- *Today belongs to us. Tomorrow belongs to God.**
- *Jesus is not saying we should make no preparation for tomorrow, but protecting us from the kind of anxiety which tears us apart**

B) They Are Living In The Past

They say...

1) 'Yesterday was better than today'

- ✓ **Some people live in a time warp**
- ✓ **Some even look back longingly to the old life**

2) 'I Am A Product Of The Past'

- ✓ **Old Covenant mentality**
- ✓ **Victim mentality**
- ✓ **Unforgiveness mentality**

3) 'I Failed In The Past, So I Won't Try Again'

What is failure?

- ✓ **To fall is not to fail. To fall and to blame others is to fail. To fall and not get up is to fail**
- ✓ **A mistake is only a failure if we don't learn from it**
- ✓ **What is 'success'? Some people spend all their time trying to climb the ladder only to discover when they get to the top that it was leaning against the wrong wall**
- ✓ **God promises 'good success'**



Yesterday is history,
tomorrow is a mystery,
but today is a gift,
that is why it's called

The Present

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