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Let's get the Word out!

Eternal Life Through Believing in Jesus

2) Grace Came

The Word came to our world

But our world did not know Him

'He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him'

(John 1:10)

'For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things'

(Rom.1:18-23)

'The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world'

(Psa.19:1-4)

'He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him'

(John 1:11)

It is not said of 'His own' that they did not 'know' Him, but that they did not 'receive' Him

The world is charged with ignorance, but Israel with unbelief

'But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God'

(John 1:13)

We receive by believing. Not belief but believing

The verb 'to believe' is used many times in John

The noun form for 'belief' or 'faith' is conspicuously absent

Belief is not a doctrine that we know but a Person we trust

The phrase, *'as many as received Him'* is equivalent to the pronoun *'whoever'* which flings open the door of salvation to all

Throughout Scripture until the very end of His revelation, this *'as many as'* attitude reflects the Father's heart toward fallen humanity...

'And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely'
(Rev. 22:17)

***'And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only
begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth'
(John 1:14)***

**The dilemma of how God could react in both
righteousness and love towards a sinful humanity
could only be solved through 2 things - the
incarnation and the atonement. Our salvation
requires not only Calvary, but also Bethlehem**

**We cannot separate what Jesus did from who He
is**

**Unless He was fully God and fully man, He could
not have saved us**

***'And of His fullness we have all received, and
grace for grace'***

(John 1:16)

**'Grace for grace' literally it means 'grace in place
of grace'**

'For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ'

(John 1:17)

Moses' ministry brought knowledge of the law. But the law could only show us how sinful and broken we were

Jesus didn't only bring us truth, He also brought us grace. Instead of simply telling us that we were broken, He came to fix us

The law was sent, Jesus came...

Some contrasts between law and grace:

- 1. Law addresses us as members of the old creation; grace makes us members of the new creation**
- 2. Law manifests what was in us - sin; grace manifests what is in God - love**
- 3. Law demanded righteousness from us; grace gave righteousness to us**
- 4. Law sentences a living person to death; grace brings a dead person to life**
- 5. Law speaks of what we must do for God; grace tells of what Christ has done for us**

'No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him' (John 1:18)

In the past, God, in the fulness of His glory, was not manifested—no one had seen Him

'Then Solomon spoke, "The LORD said He would dwell in the dark cloud"' (1 Kings 8:12) KJV = thick darkness

'Clouds and darkness surround Him' (Ps. 97:2)

**Under the law God was not revealed
What could be known of a person who dwelt in
'thick darkness!'**

***'And he said, "Please, show me Your glory."
Then He said, "I will make all My goodness pass
before you, and I will proclaim the name of
the LORD before you. I will be gracious to whom
I will be gracious, and I will have compassion
on whom I will have compassion." But He said,
"You cannot see My face; for no man shall see
Me, and live." And the LORD said, "Here is a
place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. So
it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will
put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover
you with My hand while I pass by. Then I will
take away My hand, and you shall see My back;
but My face shall not be seen"'***

(Ex.33:18-23)

But now we live in the full light of the dispensation of grace. We are in the light!

'For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ'

(2 Cor. 4:6)

'But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light'

(1 Peter 2:9)