

Celebration Services (January 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008)  
**"More Than Forgiven"**

**"Condemnation and Its Cure" (Pt. 3)**

***If God had only canceled our debt and removed the future reality of His imminent wrath, then the Gospel would be incredibly Good News! ... But there's more...***

“ Jesus not only rescues us from the wrath to come, he not only forgives us our sins, but he has obtained for us a place to stand in grace, a place of total acceptance and security, fully qualified and not fearing sudden disqualification or forced removal. His credentials overcome all the barriers that stood against us. No need to search the depths of our hearts for arguments to force our entry. The only way in is through his perfect righteousness, and having gained entry we must learn to stand in grace.” **Terry Virgo**, “God’s Lavish Grace”, p. 13

## LIVING IN THE REALM OF GRACE

***Do not forget from where you have come... but also, do not continue to act as though you still live there.***

Last week: we discussed **God’s Remedy to Condemnation—> JUSTIFICATION** (Rom 5:16)

– And God’s MEANS of Justifying Us is by GIVING US HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS by taking us OUT OF ADAM and Placing us IN CHRIST

.... How Did This Occur?

**Rom 7:1-6** ... Our MARRIAGE to ADAM was Broken by our DEATH — But, When Did We Die?

**Rom 6:3-5** .... His Death is to be RECKONED as Our Death .... Which now opens the door for us to Walk in NEWNESS OF LIFE

— **A NEW WAY OF LIFE**— We are in a new place. No longer in the Realm of Condemnation, but now in the REALM of Grace!!

***We Have Relocated to a New Address — a New Relationship to God (Different than the one we had in ADAM.... Different than when we lived in the Realm of Condemnation ..... Different than the Rest of the World)***

## Scriptural Pathways— From the Realm of Condemnation to the Realm of Grace

**Rom 1:18** For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

– They exchanged the glory of God for the glory of creation.... SO...

... God gave them up ... God gave them up ...

**Eph 2:1-3** And you were dead in the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience — <sup>3</sup> among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

***- This is the REALM OF CONDEMNATION — God Rendering Judgement on the Guilty and Preparing Wrath as the Response***

**But for the CHRISTIAN** ....there's been a Relocation from the Realm of Condemnation to the Realm of GRACE

**Rom 8:1** There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

**Eph 2:4-9** But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved — <sup>6</sup> and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

***- This is the REALM OF GRACE — God LAVISHING Grace on Those He has Chosen to Save***

**Eph 2:7** .... What is God's INTENTION Toward those who have been Transferred into the REALM OF GRACE (into "FAVORED STATUS")

**Rom 8:15-17, 28** .... Not Just Forgiven — But HEIRS with Christ

**v. 28** .... Famous verse— but ***Why Is It True? Who is it True For?***

**Rom 8:29-30** —> **Eph 1:4-5** "even as He chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup> he predestined us for adoption through Jesus Christ according to the purpose of his will"

**Rom 8:31-35** .... "God's Elect" — Who is That?

**Rom 9:10-11** .... "God's Purpose of Election"

***— God Has Purposed to Treat You Differently***

.... This is NOTHING NEW— It's Always Been What God is Doing!

From Genesis 12 to Today — God has been Postured to BLESS ABUNDANTLY the Objects of His Mercy (not to just forgive them and spare them from Wrath) — God's Chosen People Living in the Realm of Grace (Favored Status) .... The Descendants of Abraham ( Israel) are Treated Like NO OTHER NATION on Earth!!!

**Josh 24:1-18** .... Learning to Stand in Grace

- **Life on the Receiving End of Grace**

- v. 3 .... Why do Abram & His descendants receive a FAVORED STATUS before God?
  - They're IDOL WORSHIPERS
  - What about the other people in UR?
- v. 4 ....Why does JACOB receive the Covenant Promise and Not ESAU or His Descendants?
- v. 5-7 .... Why Does Israel get Protected and Egypt Gets Plagued? Why does Israel receive Victory and Egypt is given DEFEAT?
- v. 8-13 .... Why does Israel get handed land and victory in battle, while these others nations lose their land and are handed defeat?

... Why does Israel get Divine Protection, Promised Land, the Law, the Tabernacle (dwelling place for the presence of God)?

... Why does David's House get blessed?

- David's puzzlement... 2Sam 7:18ff
- David described this "FAVORED STATUS" as "Goodness and Lovingkindness" will follow me all the days of my life.

***Rom 8:28 .... Rom 9 ... Eph 2:7 ... Because you are more than just forgiven, you are the object of God's Lavish Grace***

- **Motivated by Grace** .... Joshua's Response to God's Lavish Grace ... **Josh 24:14-15**

**Titus 2:11-14** .... The grace of God teaches us to say no to unrighteousness" ... a people "zealous for good works"

- Joshua is affected by God's Grace in such a way that he WANTS to Put Away other gods and Serve God.

***.... To Not WANT to Put Away Sin & Idols and Strongly DESIRE to Serve the Lord— is a Revelation of One Who DOES NOT SEE GRACE CLEARLY!***