

12th Sunday after Pentecost, 11th Sunday after Trinity – 2024

Saturday, 8/10 at 4:00 | Sunday, 8/11 at 9:00

God's Amazing Grace and Mercy

Text: NAS 1995

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: You have heard the words, **GRACE** and **MERCY**, but:

- What do **grace** and **mercy** mean?
- What is the **grace and mercy coin**?

1. The Words, “Grace” and “Mercy” – What Do They Mean?

a. **Grace** (χάρις – *pronounced*, charis):

i. Appears: χάρις in its various forms appears 155 times in the **NAS-95 Bible**.

ii. Means:

1. BW, Friberg: “**God’s attitude toward human beings** [translated:] *kindness, grace, favor.*”
2. God’s undeserved or unmerited love / favor.
3. God loves us **because God is love**, NOT because we are good and deserve His love.
4. God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense:

- a. God's Riches: *Forgiveness, spiritual life, and eternal salvation!*
 - b. At Christ's Expense: The Son of God
 - ✦ came down from heaven, ✦ put on flesh,
 - ✦ lived in our place, ✦ received our sins,
 - ✦ received our eternal punishment, and
 - ✦ laid down His life!
- iii. Example: "...by **grace** you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8). // In other words, because of God's **favor** toward us, and *NOT because of any goodness on our part*, God saved us through faith!
1. "by grace" – The **grace** (*kindness, favor*) of God makes salvation by faith possible!
 2. "through faith" – **Faith** is:
 - a. **Given** by the Holy Spirit!
 - b. **In Jesus** for eternal life!
 - c. **Sustained** by the Holy Spirit through God's word!
- iv. Summary: Since we cannot earn God's love or salvation – *because we are poor sinners, we desperately need God to love us and save us.*
Good News: **God does love us and has saved us!**
- b. **Mercy** (ἔλεος – *pronounced, eleos*):
- i. Appears: ἔλεος in its various forms appears 27 times in the **NAS-95 Bible**.
 - ii. Means:

1. BW, Friberg: “**gracious** [kind, favorable] **action demonstrating God’s compassion** [concern].”
2. Google: “**compassion or forgiveness shown toward someone whom it is within one’s power to punish or harm.**” Jesus said to His disciples, “...**fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell**” (Matt. 10:28). We are familiar with this passage, “**the wages of sin is death...**” (Rom. 6:23). Our sins earned eternal punishment. Therefore, *we are so thankful for God’s mercy!*
- iii. Example: **God “saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy...”** (Tit. 3:5).
- iv. Summary: There is NOTHING in our thoughts, words, or deeds that moved God to save us. Instead, God showed us mercy by **holding back the eternal punishment we DO deserve** and **gifting us with the eternal salvation we DO NOT deserve!**

2. **What Is the Grace and Mercy Coin?** It looks like this:



a. **Grace:**

- i. **Symbol:** A dove for the Holy Spirit, who works through baptism ([Titus 3:5](#)) and the Bible ([1 Peter 1:23](#)) *to give us the benefits of Jesus' saving work!*
- ii. **Words:** **Grace is when God gives you what you don't deserve**
- iii. **Verse:** [2 Thessalonians 2:16-17](#) "Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by **grace**, comfort and strengthen your hearts in every good work and word."

b. **Mercy:**

- i. **Symbol:** A cross for Jesus' saving work, by which He bore ✦our sins and ✦our eternal punishment to *be the Lamb of God and take away the sin of the world!*
- ii. **Words:** **Mercy is when God spares you what you do deserve**
- iii. **Verse:** [1 Peter 1:3](#) "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great **mercy** has caused us to be born again [*made spiritually alive*] to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead..."

Let Us Pray: Dear Father in heaven, help us to greatly rejoice in Your grace and Your mercy! Then help us to seize our opportunities to **show**, **explain**, and **share HIS Coin** (<https://www.hiscoin.com/>)!

Website: www.BLC7500.com; **YouTube and Podcast:** "Benefit from the Bible"
Facebook: "Bethlehem Parma" / **Pastor:** RevRLGreen@aol.com; 440-292-5915
7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134 / 440-845-2230