

Man's Acceptance of Grace  
Creflo Dollar  
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Scriptures:

- John 1:9-13
- Hebrews 2:9
- Titus 2:11
- John 17:3
- Exodus 19:7-12
- Romans 10:3-5
- John 6:28, 29
- Romans 4:16, *NLT*
- Romans 4:16

Summary:

*The finished works of Jesus Christ have already made God's grace available to everyone. However, for it to do us any good, we must make the decision to accept it. When Jesus, who is grace in human form, came to earth, He came for everyone but not everyone received Him. The decision whether or not to accept Him impacts every area of our lives. In the Old Testament, the people rejected grace, and instead chose to live by a set of laws that were too perfect to keep. The truth is that the law should be exalted because it brings us to the point where we must acknowledge our need for a Savior. The overarching message of grace is that we'll never be enough on our own; depending on Jesus keeps us from sinning by trying to be like God **without** God.*

Notes:

1. Jesus is grace; God offered Him as a gift to the everyone, but not everyone accepts Him. When God came into the world as Jesus, the world didn't recognize Him; not even the Jews would accept Him as one of their own. However, those who *did* receive Him received the right to become children of God.
2. We must intentionally live our lives depending on God. Anything the world offers is insufficient.
3. In the Old Testament, the people rejected grace, instead choosing to trust in the law. The people were arrogant enough to think that they could keep all of God's laws and commandments by themselves, without His help. We can't see grace if we continue to depend on our own ability.
4. We need faith in God's grace. It is by depending on Him that things begin to show up in our lives through His unmerited, abounding provision in love.

Category: grace

Keywords: acceptance, grace, available, decision, accept, received, rejected, depending