

## God's Marvelous Grace

### **Ephesians 1:2**

When asked, "what's unique about Christianity." CS Lewis responded,  
"Oh, that's easy," "It's grace."

Grace is a dynamic intervening work of God that is real and tangible.

It is a true encounter between a supernatural God and frail humanity.

The word grace is used in three distinct ways in the New Testament.

### **I. THE FIRST IS SAVING GRACE – Ephesians 2:8-10**

Why do we need God's grace, and how did God's provision of it come about?

#### **Ephesians 2:1-3**

Once we were dead in our sins against God.

We were destined for God's judgment of our sin.

#### **Ephesians 2:7**

These are God's riches at Christ's expense—all because of God's "amazing grace."

THAT'S GRACE!—Marvelous, wondrous, matchless, FREE GRACE!

### **Romans 3:23**

### **II. THE SECOND IS SUSTAINING GRACE. – 2 Corinthians 12:7-9**

Paul pleaded three times with God to lift it from Him.

But God's answer to Paul was "My grace is sufficient," **2 Corinthians 12:10**

God's sustaining grace may be defined as

"the power and strength to persevere and overcome trials and difficulties."

### **III. THE THIRD IS SANCTIFYING GRACE. – 1 Corinthians 15:10**

If you either Desire to do God's will, and if you do God's will, it is because -

God is giving you the desire and the power to act upon those desires. **Philippians 2:13**

It is through His grace that we function in the Christian life if we let Him.

- God commands us to LOVE HIM;  
then He gives us the will, power and desire to love Him.
- He commands us to SERVE HIM; then He gives us the grace to serve Him.
- He commands us to LIVE HOLY BEFORE GOD—  
then He gives us the grace to be holy.
- He commands us to LOVE ONE ANOTHER—  
then He gives us the grace to love one another.

Sometimes people delay trusting in Christ.

They don't think they can live the Christian life.

They're right; they can't—not by themselves.

But BY GOD'S GRACE—they CAN. **Philippians 4:13**

That is, with GOD'S GRACE operating in my life. **Galatians 2:20**

That's sanctifying grace—the will, power and desire to do God's will.

Praise God for the wonderful grace of Jesus!