

A Walk Down The Romans Road

Sunday, April 26, 2026

Encountering The Truths of The Book of Romans

Chapter 5 - Amazing Grace

Having established the fact that we are justified by faith Paul shifts his discussion to the GRACE of God.

Perhaps no other words capture the heart of the power of grace than those penned by a once vile and profane slave ship captain who had a reputation, even among sailors, as being extremely foul and repugnant. Yet by the grace of God he was saved and transformed. He renounced his former way of life and eventually gave himself to the Ministry. In 1772, he penned these words to accompany a New Year's Day sermon and to share some insights into his own salvation and transformation

*Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.*

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.*

Philip Yancey coined the question "What's So Amazing About Grace" in his book by the same title.

Many have defined grace as "God's unmerited favor" and set it apart from a definition of mercy - "Underserved forgiveness"

I have often shared Bill Gothard's definition of grace that views it as divine enablement and qualifies it as God giving us "*the desire and power to do His will.*"

The more I study GRACE in the Bible the more its definition grows in my heart. I believe that we can define grace as encompassing the active outworking of God's love, mercy, forgiveness, salvation, reconciliation, and transformation in our lives through His divine favor, influence, enablement and empowerment in our lives.

Grace is indeed AMAZING and here in Romans Chapter 5, Paul expounds upon the wonder and power of that grace and its work in our lives

Romans 5

5 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we[a] have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **2** through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we[b] boast in the hope of the glory of God. **3** Not only so, but we[c] also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; **4** perseverance, character; and character, hope. **5** And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. **7** Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. **8** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! **10** For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! **11** Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

12 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

13 To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law. **14** Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

15 But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did **God's grace** and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! **16** Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. **17** For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned

through that one man, how much more will those who receive **God's abundant provision of grace** and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

18 Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. **19** For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

20 The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, **grace increased all the more**, **21** so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also **grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

I know I have quoted this verse quite a bit in recent months; but I would like to use it to tie in to our discussion of Grace and Romans Chapter 5.

Titus 2:11-14

11 For the **grace of God** has appeared that offers salvation to all people. **12** It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, **13** while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, **14** who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

IT'S AMAZING BECAUSE...

It doesn't make sense

Nothing about grace makes sense from a human standpoint. That we are loved by God, that we can be forgiven, reconciled to God, transformed and have eternal life all because of the Grace of God doesn't make sense or even seem possible. But it is, not because of anything we have done, but because of God.

2 Timothy 1:9

9 He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time,

Paul says that we access this grace through faith

Romans 5:1-2

5 Therefore, since we have been **justified through faith**, we[a] have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **2** through whom we have **gained access by faith** into this grace in which we now stand.

He goes on to describe the acts of this unbelievable grace

Romans 5:6-8

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. **7** Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. **8** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

How amazing is that?... It doesn't make rational sense... Why would God love us so much? Why would He send His Son to die for us? Why would He pour out His favor upon mankind and offer us forgiveness, salvation and eternal life after all we have done to turn our backs on Him and His truth. Why would He trust us with an offer of His grace when time and time again we have - as **Hosea 2:13** puts it

burned incense to the Baals; she decked herself with rings and jewelry, and went after her lovers, but me she forgot," declares the Lord.

Or consider the words of Jeremiah...

Jeremiah 2:19

19 Your wickedness will punish you; your backsliding will rebuke you. Consider then and realize how evil and bitter it is for you when you forsake the Lord your God and have no awe of me," declares the Lord, the Lord Almighty.

That's why John Newton called it Amazing Grace

*Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.*

I commit my soul to my gracious God and Savior, who mercifully spared and preserved me, when I was an apostate, a blasphemer, and an infidel, and delivered me from the state of misery on the coast of Africa into which my obstinate wickedness had plunged me; and who has been pleased to admit me (though most unworthy) to preach his glorious gospel (John Newton in his last will and testament)

It isn't DESERVED

Again let me draw your attention to the words of Romans chapter 5

Romans 5:6-10; 17

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, **Christ died for the ungodly.** **7** Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. **8** But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: **While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! **10** For if, **while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son,**

17 For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive **God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness** reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

As David says in Psalm 103

Psalm 103:10

10 he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

Ephesians 2:4-5

4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, **5** made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

It offers salvation to EVERYONE who will receive it by faith

Romans 5:18

18 Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also **one righteous act resulted in justification and life for ALL PEOPLE.**

Titus 2:11

11 For the **grace of God** has appeared that **offers salvation to ALL people.**

John 3:16 (Jesus Speaking to Nicodemus)

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that **WHOEVER BELIEVES** in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Acts 2:21 (Peter quoting the Prophet Joel on the Day of Pentecost)
21 And EVERYONE who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

That saved A WRETCH LIKE ME!

It not only forgives our DEBT, but CREDITS our account

Most people can come to believe that grace can cancel their debts and that in itself is AMAZING. But what people struggle with is the idea that grace continues to be poured out to us giving us a positive balance in our account.

Liken it to a bank account... If we are in debt our balance is in the negative. This is where we are spiritual before we come to Jesus. Christ's work on the cross cancelled all of our spiritual debt but it did more than that... And this is where grace is even more AMAZING. His grace adds a positive balance to our account.

Romans 5:9-10; 17-21

9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! **10** For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!

17 For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive **God's abundant provision of grace** and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

18 Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. **19** For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man **the many will be made righteous.**

20 The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, **grace increased all the more, 21** so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also **grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Titus 2:14

14 who gave himself for us to **redeem us from all wickedness** and to **purify for himself** a people that are his very own, **eager to do what is good.**

2 Corinthians 5:21

21 God made him who had no sin to be sin[a] for us, **so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.**

“What a poor creature I am in myself, incapable of standing a single hour without continual fresh supplies of strength and grace from the fountain-head.” - John Newton

It **EMPOWERS** and **TRANSFORMS** us to live righteously and walk in right relationship with God

Titus 2:12

12 It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age,

“I hope it will always be a subject of humiliating reflection to me, that I was once an active instrument in a business at which my heart now shudders.” - John Newton

Newton was amazed at what God had done for him. He wrote, “I can see no reason why the Lord singled me out for mercy . . . unless it was to show, by one astonishing instance, that with Him ‘nothing is impossible.’” - John Newton

*’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.*

It **STRENGTHENS** us and causes us to **PERSEVERE** building character and giving us hope even in the midst of severe suffering and trial

Romans 5:3-5

And we[b] boast in the hope of the glory of God. **3** Not only so, but we[c] also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; **4** perseverance, character; and character, hope. **5** And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
’Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.*

It is GREATER, so much greater, than our transgressions

Romans 5:15-21

15 But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, **how much more did God's grace** and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, **overflow to the many!** **16** Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. **17** For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive **God's abundant provision of grace** and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

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"I am not what I ought to be, I am not what I want to be, I am not what I hope to be in another world; but still I am not what I once used to be, and by the grace of God I am what I am." - John Newton

"Although my memory's fading, I remember two things very clearly: I am a great sinner and Christ is a great Savior." - John Newton

Grace Wins

Song by [Matthew West](#)

*In my weakest moment, I see you
Shaking Your head in disgrace
I can read the disappointment
Written all over Your face*

*Here come those whispers in my ear
Saying, "Who do you think you are?
Looks like you're on your own from here
'Cause grace could never reach that far"*

*But in the shadow of that shame
Beat down by all the blame
I hear You call my name
Saying, "It's not over"
And my heart starts to beat so loud
Now drowning out the doubt
I'm down but I'm not out*

*There's a war between guilt and grace
And they're fighting for a sacred space
But I'm living proof
Grace wins every time, yeah
No more lying down in death's defeat
Now I'm rising up in victory
Singing hallelujah
Grace wins every time*

*Words can't describe the way it feels
When mercy floods a thirsty soul
A broken side begins to heal
And grace returns what guilt has stole*

*And in the shadow of that shame
Beat down by all the blame
I hear You call my name
Saying, "It's not over"
And my heart starts to beat so loud
Now drowning out the doubt*

I'm down but I'm not out

*There's a war between guilt and grace
And they're fighting for a sacred space
But I'm living proof
Grace wins every time, yeah
No more lying down in death's defeat
Now I'm rising up in victory
Singing hallelujah
Grace wins every time*

*For the Prodigal Son, grace wins
For the woman at the well, grace wins
For the blind men and the beggar, grace wins
For always and forever, grace wins
For the lost out on the street, grace wins
For the worst part of you and me, grace wins
For the thief on the cross, grace wins
For a world that is lost*

*There's a war between guilt and grace
And they're fighting for a sacred space
But I'm living proof
Grace wins every time, yeah
No more lying down in death's defeat
Now I'm rising up in victory
Singing hallelujah
Grace wins every time
Well, every time
Yeah, I'm living proof
Grace wins every time*

GRACE GREATER THAN OUR SIN

*Grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace, grace, God's grace,
grace that is greater than all our sin.*