

AMAZING GRACE:

The Scandal of Grace

October 24, 2021

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Notes:

Our culture operates on a system of merit – we get what we deserve. Grace upends this system because the very definition of grace is when we get what we do not deserve. But grace always gives us more than enough !

**“For my grace is sufficient for you and my power is made perfect in weakness.”
– 2 Corinthians 12:9**

“This is the mystery of the riches of divine grace for sinners; for by a wonderful exchange our sins are now not ours but Christ’s, and Christ’s righteousness is not Christ’s but ours.” — Martin Luther

**“The gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God’s grace.”
– Colossians 1:6**

**“When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’ The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius.”
– Matthew 20:8-9**

My Next Step(s):

- I will look to Christ instead of myself for sufficiency.
- I will acknowledge that living by Grace is the way of Christ, not of the world.
- I will demonstrate and give grace - instead of just expecting it from God & others.
- I will live my life differently - transformed by God’s grace.

Memory Verse: For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.
– John 1:16, ESV

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(This message uses materials provided The Preaching Project, San Antonio, TX.)



Amazing Grace.

Arr. by E. O. Excell.

McIntosh. C. M.

Amazing
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The Scandal of Grace













FARMERS' ALMANAC[®]

SINCE 1818



“Congregation”

sinner...

in need of God's Grace

Grace continually reminds us that we are
not self-sufficient ...
we are Christ-sufficient.

“For My **grace** is sufficient for you and My power is made perfect in **weakness**.”

2 CORINTHIANS 12:9



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Amazing Grace! how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,<
And grace has brought me home again.
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I once was lost, but now am found,
And grace has brought me home again.

The Scandal of Grace

“This is the mystery of the riches of divine grace for sinners; for by a wonderful exchange our sins are now not ours but Christ's, and Christ's righteousness is not Christ's but ours.”

– Martin Luther

“God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21

PARABLE - *para* (beside) ... *ballo* (throw)

“The kingdom of heaven is like...”

MATTHEW 20:1

Grace is Countercultural

**It functions differently than the
rest of the world.**

“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard.”

MATTHEW 20:1

He agreed to pay them a **denarius** for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

MATTHEW 20:2

WHAT CAN WE LEARN?

WHAT CAN WE LEARN?

#

1

God is the Initiator of
His Grace

“The gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you **since the day you heard it and truly understood God’s grace.**”

COLOSSIANS 1:6

*“That’s easy, it’s **grace**.”*

– C.S. Lewis

³ About **nine in the morning** he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. ⁴ He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' ⁵ So they went. He went out again about **noon and about three in the afternoon** and did the same thing.

MATTHEW 20:3-5

WHAT CAN WE LEARN?

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2

God's Grace is Relentless

⁶ About **five in the afternoon** he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?' ⁷ 'Because no one has hired us,' they answered. He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.'

MATTHEW 20:6-7

When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, **beginning with the last ones** hired and going on to the first.'

MATTHEW 20:8

The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius.

MATTHEW 20:9

WHAT CAN WE LEARN?

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3

God's Grace is a
Generous Promise

How do you respond to God's grace?

So when those came who were hired first, they **expected** to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius.

MATTHEW 20:10

¹¹ When they received it, they began to **grumble** against the landowner. ¹² 'These who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.'

MATTHEW 20:11-12

¹³ But he answered one of them, 'I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius?' ¹⁴ Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. ¹⁵ Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'

MATTHEW 20:13-15

¹³ But he answered one of them, 'I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius?' ¹⁴ Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. ¹⁵ Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'

MATTHEW 20:13-15

Are you someone who easily gives grace
to yourself, but you have a hard time
giving grace to others?

We have a tendency to want the other person to be a finished product while we give ourselves the grace to evolve.

– T.D. Jakes

Are you someone that easily extends grace
to others but you have a hard time
giving grace to yourself?

“For from his fullness we have all received,
grace upon grace.”

JOHN 1:16

However, I consider my life worth nothing to me;
my only aim is to finish the race and complete the
task the Lord Jesus has given me – the task of
testifying to the good news of God's grace.

ACTS 20:24