



# DO YOU BELIEVE IN GRACE?

Do You Believe?

## SERMON TEXT

Romans 5:15 (NIV)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!

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## Thesis/Synopsis:

The Grace of God is more powerful and effective than the sin of man.

## Objectives:

- I. The gift not like the trespass
- II. Adam and Christ
- III. Death and Life

## Introduction:

In our text Paul contrast the gift with the trespass. Previous to this verse and after there are several contrasts mentioned.

The contrast of Jew and Gentile

The contrast of life and death

The contrast of circumcision and Uncircumcision

The contrast of grace and of the law

The contrast of obedience and disobedience

The contrast of faith to faith

The contrast first to last

The contrast of the wise and the foolish

The contrast of righteousness and wickedness

The contrast of the natural way versus the unnatural way

The contrast of light and darkness

The contrast of inward and outward

The contrast faithfulness versus unfaithfulness

The contrast of falsehood versus truthfulness

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The contrast of the flesh and the spirit

Lastly a gift and the trespass

## Sermon Outline:

### I. The gift not like the trespass

- A. The trespass is the disobedience of man toward God's commands. The trespass has limited power, yet greater power than we can overcome by ourselves.

**Romans 5:18 (NIV)**

<sup>18</sup> Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people.

- B. When we consider the trespass, we understand it to be: sin; disobedience; darkness; the flesh; death; falsehood; unfaithfulness; etc.
- C. The trespass keeps on operating in a manner by which we understand it.
- D. The gift is the offer of God toward men who cannot earn it, yet desire to overcome the trespass.

**Romans 6:23 (NIV)**

<sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- E. When we consider the gift of God, we understand it to be: righteousness; obedience; spirit; life; truth; faithfulness; etc.
- F. The gift of God continues operating in the manner we understand it.
- G. *The trespass was an act committed by Adam, the gift is the result of the acts of Jesus the Christ.*

### II. Adam and Christ

**Romans 5:16–17 (NIV)**

<sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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!

- A. Those who remain in Adam, remain in the trespass.

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**Romans 5:14 (NIV)**

<sup>14</sup> 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.

**1 Corinthians 15:22 (NIV)**

<sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

**1 Corinthians 15:45 (NIV)**

<sup>45</sup> So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit.

**1 Corinthians 15:47 (NIV)**

<sup>47</sup> The first man was of the dust of the earth; the second man is of heaven.

- B. Adam demonstrates the pattern of all men born of the flesh.
- C. Those born of Christ, receive the gift and walk in it.
- D. *We may say that it is unfair that the one man can do so much harm to the human race. Yet God has equally provided through the one man Jesus who is the Christ and makes it possible for us to believe in Grace.*

## III. Death and Life

**Romans 5:12 (NIV)**

<sup>12</sup> 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—

- A. The destiny of the disobedience of Adam and all it brings and operates in brings death to mankind.

**Romans 5:18–21 (NIV)**

<sup>18</sup> Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. <sup>19</sup> 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.

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

- B. Jesus the life giving spirit makes possible a gift by His righteous acts. We call it GRACE.
- C. If mankind wishes to be saved and have life everlasting, then men must receive the gift.

## Conclusion:

Now it is possible to refuse a gift. Just because there is an offer on the table we do not have to accept it. If we are to accept the offer or the gift, then we must comply with the terms.

You may think that there can be no terms for accepting a gift, but there is. If I were to offer you a car for free and you accept it, you cannot use that car like it was a boat. If you do, then the gift is no good to you as a car. Take that car and put it in the water and you will no longer have a car to use. In accepting the GRACE of God which is eternal life through His Son our Savior Jesus Christ, you cannot use it the same you act in death; sin; disobedience; darkness; the flesh; falsehood; unfaithfulness. For if you use the gift of God's GRACE like that then you will have no life.

## Galatians 1:6–9 (NIV)

<sup>6</sup> I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—<sup>7</sup> which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ.

<sup>8</sup> But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse! <sup>9</sup> As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God's curse!

If we do not accept the terms of the gift, then our only other option is the destiny and the operation of every other man in the history of mankind whose pattern is that of Adams.

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## Invitation:

**Romans 10:17 (ESV)**

<sup>17</sup> So faith comes from **hearing**, and **hearing** through the word of Christ.

**Hebrews 11:6 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must **believe** that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

**Acts 17:30 (ESV)**

<sup>30</sup> The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to **repent**,

**Acts 26:20 (NIV)**

<sup>20</sup> First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and then to the Gentiles, I preached that they should **repent** and turn to God and demonstrate their repentance by their deeds.

**1 Timothy 6:12 (ESV)**

<sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good **confession** in the presence of many witnesses.

**Acts 2:38 (ESV)**

<sup>38</sup> And Peter said to them, "Repent and be **baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

**1 Peter 3:21 (NIV)**

<sup>21</sup> and this water symbolizes **baptism** that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

**Revelation 2:10 (ESV)**

<sup>10</sup> Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be **faithful** unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.