

## Grace Under The Law

Currently believers are divided, some believe “Salvation is by grace and grace alone.”

The other side counters, “That idea leads to lawlessness. God’s righteous standard in the Law must be upheld.”

And someone else chimes in with, “Salvation is by grace, but grace only comes to those who obey God’s Law.”

Today many proclaimed Christians have come under the false belief that the Law has been done away with and that grace abounds, giving them an excuse or pass for sin.

### **Today’s message will connect what’s believed to be a New Testament gift in grace to the Law of the Old Testament.**

The error in this belief possibly stems from sermons delivered out of context and translators misinterpreting the text, whether intentionally or unintentionally.

John 1:17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

This verse standing alone would lead one to think that the Law was given by Moses and that grace and truth first appeared with Yeshua Hamashiach (the latter being true, but not completely understood by believers).

If one was to go beyond what is directed by religious leaders and read around the verse or verses being highlighted, you would see how the misunderstanding comes about.

John 1:14-17

<sup>14</sup> And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

<sup>15</sup> John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.

<sup>16</sup> And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.

<sup>17</sup> For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

Grace – G5485 - χάρις – charis- (pronounced: khar’-ece) - from [G5463](#); graciousness (as gratifying), of manner or act (abstract or concrete; literal, figurative or spiritual; especially the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life; including gratitude):—acceptable, benefit, favour, gift, grace(- ious), joy, liberality, pleasure, thank(-s, -worthy). KJV

**Usage:** [grace](#) (130x), [favour](#) (6x), [thanks](#) (4x), [thank](#) (4x), [thank \(with G2192\)](#) (3x), [pleasure](#) (2x), *miscellaneous* (7x).

According to the New Testament, “grace” is the favour of YeHoVaH. Verse 17, read alone, leads us to the conclusion that grace and truth came by Yeshua, who most believers only associate with the New Testament.

Does not the Old Testament contain the favour of YeHoVaH?

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. That Word, which we know to be Yeshua, became flesh in verse 14.

John 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

As I have established in a previous teaching, Yeshua was here with YeHoVaH in the beginning. Therefore, I submit unto you that **grace had to be here since the beginning and did not miraculously appear in the New Testament for the first time.**

1 John 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

The frequently referenced Paul lets us know:

Romans 3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Romans 5:20-21

<sup>20</sup> Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

<sup>21</sup> That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6:1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

As stated earlier, we know that YeHoVaH spoke His Commandments and Moses wrote them down. Sin is disobedience of YeHoVaH's Commandments and from the beginning was to result in death. Before Yeshua was manifested in the flesh, YeHoVaH had established grace. In fact, YeHoVaH is gracious.

Psalms 116:5 Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful.

Not only is YeHoVaH gracious, but His grace is established by His mercy.

Gracious – H2587 – חַנּוּן - channûn (pronounced khan-noon') - From [H2603](#); *gracious* KJV **Usage** (13x)

H2603 - חַנּוּן (pronounced khaw-nan') - The KJV translates Strong's H2603 in the following manner: [mercy](#) (16x), [gracious](#) (13x), [merciful](#) (12x), [supplication](#) (10x), [favour](#) (7x), [besought](#) (4x), [pity](#) (4x), [fair](#) (1x), [favourable](#) (1x), [favoured](#) (1x), *miscellaneous* (9x).

Again, most people think that grace is a New Testament concept that was brought by the birth of Yeshua as a man. Contrarily, I submit unto you that **grace actually came before the Law.**

Gen 3:1-3

<sup>1</sup> Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

<sup>2</sup> And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

<sup>3</sup> But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

Here, death was to result as the consequence for disregarding what YeHoVaH spoke to Mr. and Mrs. Adam. As we know, the Scripture tells us that Mr. and Mrs. Adam did not die after disobeying YeHoVaH's Command. We know they were ousted or evicted from the Garden of Eden.

Death reigned in the Earth from Adam to Moses. This is due to man not knowing what sin was. Because, but for the Law, sin could not be defined.

Once the Law was established, sin required a sacrifice for atoning. This was necessary due to the wages of sin being death. Something had to die as payment for the offense committed. Notice we do not see a sacrifice offered by Mr. and Mrs. Adam in Genesis 3; however, they did not die as a result of their disobedience. Why?

Now I know we have brothers and sisters here at HOI that are well-versed in Scripture probably thinking...Minister Ronald, the Law had not yet been established, so Mr. and Mrs. Adam could not face death because sin was not yet defined.

Remember the Golden Calf

Deuteronomy 9:12-16

<sup>12</sup> And the Lord said unto me, Arise, get thee down quickly from hence; for thy people which thou hast brought forth out of Egypt have corrupted themselves; they are quickly turned aside out of the way which I commanded them; they have made them a molten image.

<sup>13</sup> Furthermore the Lord spake unto me, saying, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people:

<sup>14</sup> Let me alone, that I may destroy them, and blot out their name from under heaven: and I will make of thee a nation mightier and greater than they.

<sup>15</sup> So I turned and came down from the mount, and the mount burned with fire: and the two tables of the covenant were in my two hands.

<sup>16</sup> And I looked, and, behold, ye had sinned against the Lord your God, and had made you a molten calf: ye had turned aside quickly out of the way which the Lord had commanded you.

What do you think caused YeHoVaH to put aside His wrath after the complete disobedience shown by the Children of Israel (including Aaron)?

Remember the Scriptures as they pertain to King David and Bathsheba in 2 Samuel 11-12. Now we know as a result of this passage that David was guilty of murder, covetousness, and adultery. Here death did result, but not for David.

2 Samuel 12:13-14

<sup>13</sup> And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the Lord. And Nathan said unto David, The Lord also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

<sup>14</sup> Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.

David was spared of death for his sin; however, the wage of sin had to be paid with the death of the child conceived through his actions. This was an act of grace, an extension of Father's mercy. It was an act of grace that YeHoVaH allowed David and Bathsheba to conceive another son, Solomon.

This same grace, which is either Father's favour or mercy, is shown throughout the Old Testament. Think about how Father dealt with Israel and Judah after their disobedience and forsaking Him for foreign gods.

The Assyrians and the Babylonians did a number on us (as we did not have YeHoVaH's favor in battle); but through repentance, the Children of Israel and Judah were able to obtain mercy from Father and be restored as a nation.

How do you expect to have the favour of YeHoVaH if you refuse to obey His Commands?

We, as Believers, are to be grateful for YeHoVaH's mercy; not take it for granted and attempt to abuse it.

As I reflect upon my own life, I acknowledge grace is what kept me; but I did not receive the favour of YeHoVaH until I started to obey His Commandments.

See, the Law and grace are like partners that go hand-in-hand. To separate from YeHoVaH's Law is also to separate from His grace (or favour). **You can't have one without the other.**