

Claiming Grace

“The Unmerited Favor of God”

Rom 5:6-8

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

:10 “...when we were **God's enemies...**”

“...See to it that no one misses the grace of God.” Hebrews 12:15

Rom 3:21-24

*“But now **a righteousness from God**, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness from God **comes through faith in Jesus Christ** to all who believe. **There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God**, and are **justified freely by his grace** through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.”*

*"The real Son of God is at your side. He is beginning to turn you into the same kind of thing as Himself. He is beginning, so to speak, to "inject" His kind of life and thought...into you; beginning to turn the **Tin Soldier** into a living man. The part of you that does not like it is the part that is still **tin**."* Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis'



Insecurity
Compromise
Pride

1. Claiming the Grace to be what I am.

(The "Tin" of **Insecurity**)

1 Corinthians 15:6-10

*"After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and **last of all** he appeared to me also, as to one **abnormally born**. For I am **the least** of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the **grace of God** I am what I am, and **his grace** to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the **grace of God** that was with me."*



*"In spite of his unfitness to bear the name, the **grace of God** has made him equal to it. **The persecutor** has been **forgiven** and the **abortion adopted**."*



3. Claiming the Grace to stand for what I believe.

(The "Tin" of **Compromise**.)



Heb 13:7-9

"Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings. It is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace..."

4. Claiming the Grace to submit to what I need.

(The "Tin" of **Pride**.)



"But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says:

"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." James 4:6

"Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because,

"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." 1 Peter 5:5

Proverbs 3:34

"He mocks proud mockers but gives grace to the humble."

"On no point is the mind of God more fully declared than against **Pride...a lowly Spirit – a deep conviction of utter nothingness...is a most adoring grace. Nor is it an occasional or temporary feeling...but a habit, clothing the man...from the sole of the foot to the head...He pours it [Grace] out plentifully upon humble hearts."**

Charles Bridges


