

## Riches of Grace

Ephesians 1: 7b-8a according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight

### I. Intro

- A. God's Grace is not lacking
- B. It never runs out
- C. It is given to us, not earned, but it was not cheap
- D. To provide this Grace, while not breaking His own standard, God became flesh and gave His perfect life as the ransom paid for our sin.
- E. Grace is not just costly, it is invaluable!
- F. Grace Quotes:

"Grace is free sovereign favor to the ill-deserving." – Benjamin B. Warfield

"Grace is the voice that calls us to change and then gives us the power to pull it off." – Max Lucado

"Grace, like water flows to the lowest part." – Philip Yancey

"For grace is given not because we have done good works, but in order that we may be able to do them." – Saint Augustine of Hippo

"Grace is the very opposite of merit... Grace is not only undeserved favor, but it is favor, shown to the one who has deserved the very opposite." – Harry Ironside

"Your worst days are never so bad that you are beyond the reach of God's grace. And your best days are never so good that you are beyond the need of God's grace." – Jerry Bridges

### II. Text

- A. Recap:
  - 1. Redemption: apolytrosis: literally: out of Ransom
  - 2. Through His blood:
    - a) The blood that Jesus shed for me
    - b) Way back on Calvary
    - c) Will never lose its power
  - 3. The forgiveness of our deviation from the path: This is a personal rescue available to us by GRACE
- B. ACCORDING TO:
  - 1. This truth is based upon something else
  - 2. Forgiveness of trespasses is according to God attributes and actions.
  - 3. The foundation of our faith is from God's plan.
- C. The RICHES
  - 1. The riches of God never runs out
  - 2. There is no limit to the riches of God.
- D. Of HIS GRACE
  - 1. Grace is going to be a big word as we study through Ephesians.
  - 2. Grace is the subject of much of this letter.
  - 3. Mentioned 12 times in these 6 chapters.
- E. Which he LAVISHED
  - 1. Riches of Grace...LAVISHED
  - 2. He gives abundantly
- F. UPON US
  - 1. We are the recipient of this through the blood of Jesus, in accordance with His will.
  - 2. It is on us, in us, and works through us.

G. In all WISDOM and INSIGHT

1. The way we experience this grace lavished upon us is through WISDOM and INSIGHT
2. We have been given a beautiful relationship and it produces wisdom and insight

III. Points

A. Rich in Grace

1. Grace:
  - a) Popular definition: Unmerited favor
  - b) The word also has roots in thanksgiving, so this speaks to the intimacy of God being thankful for us as well.
  - c) Unmerited favor, thanksgiving, and relationship
2. Grace is not only a disposition or a quality or an inclination in the nature of God, but is an influence or a force or a power or an acting of God that works in us to change our capacities for work and suffering and obedience.
3. And HIS wealth in regards to GRACE has no limits
  - a) The well of Grace has no bottom, it does not go dry in a time of drought, it cannot be poisoned from the source, it is eternal.
  - b) The LIVING WATER of GOD'S GRACE provides continual refreshment and nourishment.

B. Rich in Application

1. When Grace is applied to us, it is lavished upon us.
2. This pouring out of Gods grace upon humanity is supernatural.
3. The grace applied to us is more than enough, it is everything.
4. When grace is applied to your life, there is a result:
  - a) Applied through faith
  - b) There is never a limit to how much can be applied
  - c) There is an expectation that something should come from it.
5. When you meet someone that has encountered GRACE, they will then be practitioners of GRACE
  - a) Since I have been forgiven of much, I should also forgive.
  - b) Since I have been blessed with much, I should also bless.
  - c) Since I have been recovered from a deep dark place, I should also assist in the recovery of others.
  - d) Since I have experienced much GRACE, I should be a part of the grace experience of others.

C. Rich in Production

1. That which is produced in us is truly supernatural.
2. Wisdom and Insight: Understanding
  - a) When God gives us His GRACE we find wisdom and insight, and gain understanding.
  - b) That which is produced in believers is a direct reflection of the riches of His grace
  - c) Therefore, the production wisdom and insight comes from the encounter with GRACE
3. By grace you are said, and by grace you come to understanding
  - a) Wisdom: the quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment;
  - b) Insight: a deep understanding of a person or thing.
  - c) This comes to us from the source of all wisdom and insight
  - d) But it is lavished upon us in wisdom and insight.
4. To gain wisdom is to gain it from grace.
5. To gain insight, or understanding, is to gain it from grace.
6. God's grace saves us, sustains us, and empowers us for service and ministry.

IV. Close

- A. So, what will you do with this GRACE you have received?