

**“For it is by grace...”**

**God’s Propose of Grace**

**Ephesians 2:8-9**

**“For it is by grace...”**

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**8** For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — **9** not by works, so that no one can boast.

# **“For it is by grace...”**

**“Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners.**

**It is consistent with the free agency of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is the glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable.**

**It excludes boasting and promotes humility.”**

**“For it is by grace...”**

**Ephesians 1:4-6**

**4** For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love **5** he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will — **6** to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

# **“For it is by grace...”**

**“To elect means to select or chose.**

**According to the Bible, before creation God selected from the human race those whom He would redeem, justify, sanctify, and glorify in Jesus Christ. The divine choice is an expression of free and sovereign grace. It is nor merited by anything in those who are chosen. God owes sinners no mercy of any kind, only condemnation; so it is a wonder that He should chose to save any of us.”**

**“For it is by grace...”**

**2 Thessalonians 2:13-14**

**13** But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth.

**14** He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**“For it is by grace...”**

**Romans 8:28-30**

**28** And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. **29** For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. **30** And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

**“For it is by grace...”**

**“Predestination is a word often used to signify God’s foreordaining of all the events of world history-past, present, and future. This word is quite appropriate. In Scripture, and historic Protestant theology, however, predestination refers to specifically to God’s decision, made in eternity before the world existed, regarding the final destinies of individual persons.”**

**Reformation Study Bible**

**“For it is by grace...”**

**“Election, to a saint, is one of the most stripping doctrines in the world - to take away all trust in the flesh, or all reliance upon anything else except Jesus Christ.”**

**Charles Spurgeon**

**“For it is by grace...”**

**“It [election] prostates all human hope at the feet of a Sovereign God, and teaches the prayer, ‘Lord if thou wilt, Thou canst make me clean.’ It discountenances all effort to save ourselves by our own works of righteousness; but brings the sinner to commit himself at once to the sovereign mercy of God.”**

**John Dagg**

**“For it is by grace...”**

**Romans 10:9-10,13**

**9** That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. **10** For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. **13** for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

**“For it is by grace...”**

**John 15:16, 19**

**16** You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit —fruit that will last. The the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. **19** If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.

**“For it is by grace...”**

**“Throughout the history of the church, Christians have struggled to find the best way to reconcile God’s sovereignty and human free will. Although Baptists have included believers who hold different understandings of how these truths are affirmed, we stand together on the great truth that God alone saves sinners.”**

# **“For it is by grace...”**

**“Compatibilism is an attempt to reconcile the theological proposition that every event is causally determined, ordained, and/or decreed by God (i.e., determinism, not to be confused with fatalism) - with the free will of man... the compatibilist concept of free will states that though the free will of man seems irreconcilible with the proposition of determinism, they both do exist and are “compatible” with one another.”**

**“The foundation of the compatibilistic concept of free will is the means by which “will” is defined. From a theological viewpoint, the definition of the will is viewed in light of the revealed, biblical truths of original sin and the spiritual depravity of man. These two truths render the definition of “will” in regards to fallen man as “captive to sin.”**

**“For it is by grace...”**

**Romans 8:7-8**

**7** the sinful mind is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so.

**8** Those controlled by the sinful nature [the flesh] cannot please God.

**“For it is by grace...”**

**1 Corinthians 2:14**

**The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them because they are spiritually discerned.**

**“For it is by grace...”**

**Romans 9:18-20**

**18** Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden. **19** One of you will say to me: “Then why does God still blame us? For who is able to resist his will?” **20** But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? “Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, ‘Why did you make me like this?’”

**“For it is by grace...”**

**“All true believers endure to the end. Those whom God has accepted in Christ, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never fall away from the state of grace, but shall persevere to the end.**

**Believers may fall into sin through neglect and temptation, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, and bring reproach on the cause of Christ and temporal judgments on themselves; yet they shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.”**

**“For it is by grace...”**

**“The regenerate may backslide and fall into sin. In doing so they oppose their own new nature, and the Holy Spirit convicts them of their sin and compels them to repent and be restored to righteousness.”**

**Reformation Study Bible**

**“For it is by grace...”**

**John 6:37,44**

**37** All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away.

**44** “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day.

**“For it is by grace...”**

**John 10:27-30**

**27** My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. **28** I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. **29** My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand. **30** I and the Father are one.

**“For it is by grace...”**

**Philippians 1:6**

**being confident of this, that he  
who began a good work in you  
will carry it on to completion  
until the day of Christ Jesus.**

**“For it is by grace...”**

**Philippians 2:12-13**

**12** Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed — not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence — continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, **13** for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order according to his good purpose.

**“For it is by grace...”**

**Romans 8:38-39**

**38** For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, **39** neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

# Applications

- **Be humble in your election**
- **Be humble in your salvation**
- **Tell everyone the Good News**

# Final Thoughts

**“You contribute nothing to your salvation except the sin that made it necessary.”**

**Jonathan Edwards**

# Final Thoughts

The more grace we have, the less we shall think of ourselves; for grace, like light, reveals our impurity. At best, we are but clay, animated dust, mere walking dirt. But viewed as sinners, we are monsters indeed. Let it be published in heaven as a wonder, that the Lord Jesus should set His heart's love upon such as we are!

- C. H. Spurgeon

# Final Thoughts

## Ephesians 1:4-10

**4** But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, **5** made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved. **6** And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

**7** in order that in the coming ages  
he might show the incomparable  
riches of his grace, expressed in  
his kindness to us in Christ  
Jesus. **8** For it is by grace you  
have been saved, through faith  
— and this is not from  
yourselves, it is the gift of God —

**9** not by works, so that no one can  
boast. **10** For we are God's  
handiwork, created in Christ Jesus  
to do good works, which God  
prepared in advance for us to do.