

**Salvation By Grace Alone**  
(appropriate for Mid-Schoolers and older)  
Michael R. Daily July 2017

Other youth bible studies by Michael Daily available at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

Please take out a piece of paper and a pen or pencil. In a moment, I am going to ask you a question about how you feel about something. When I do, I want you to write down that emotion (one word) on the paper and fold the paper so others can't see your answer. Please don't look at someone else's answer, don't let them see yours, keep this a secret from those around you, and don't discuss it with anyone.

Ready? Its just after the end of your life and you are standing before almighty God.

**Hebrews 9:27**

**And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment,**

**(Romans 14:12)**

**So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.**

This is the God who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light (**I Tim 6:16**). The God that the Bible says is a consuming fire (**Heb 12:29**). God is now reviewing your life in order to judge how you have lived your life. As you see yourself in this scene in heaven, what emotion are you feeling? Write it down.

Gather up the papers. Either read through some of them or have someone tally them for you, depending on audience size. Note that there is a variety of emotions expressed by the audience. These emotions may vary from fear, disappointment, and regret - to excitement, anticipation, and joy. Which responses are based on a true understanding of salvation by grace and which ones are not? This is what we will look at tonight.

**Grace:** *unmerited divine assistance given to humans for their regeneration or sanctification*

Grace is assistance given to us by God that we don't deserve. There are two types of grace.

- 1) God gives us eternal life by regenerating grace. He provided us assistance through Christ so that we could have an eternal life that we don't deserve.
- 2) He also gives us sanctifying grace, that is, the power and ability to live the Christian life.

But tonight we will talk not about the grace given to us by God to live the Christian life. Instead we will focus on the grace that saves and regenerates people.

For a detailed study on grace for living the Christian life please see, "Grace for Living – It Might Not Be What You Think It Is" at: <http://gciweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

In the New Testament, the Greek word translated as "grace" in English is *charis*, which means "favor, blessing, or kindness." All else being equal, God's natural desire is to treat people with favor, blessing, and kindness.

**Luke 6:35**

**But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men.**

God is favorable to men in His disposition and actions, even to those who are ungrateful and evil! His natural response is to help us. Why? Because He loves us.

**Titus 3:4-7**

**But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, <sup>5</sup> He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.**

Because of God's great love for us He saved us from eternal destruction, regenerated us with eternal life, and richly poured out His grace so that we could be made His heirs – inheriting from Him, eternal life.

**Heir:** *one who is entitled to receive something from a parent or predecessor*

When my father died, I received an inheritance from him that he had created during his lifetime by his hard work. I had nothing to do with creating the inheritance. My part was to show up and receive the inheritance he had created for me. He created this inheritance because he wanted to show me favor, blessing, and kindness.

The day I became a Christian, I received an inheritance of eternal life from God that he had created by the hard work of Jesus Christ on the cross. I had nothing to do with creating the inheritance of eternal life. My part was to show up and receive this inheritance (eternal life), that God had created for me. God created this inheritance of eternal life because He wanted to show me everlasting favor, blessing, and kindness.

As Christians, God's love and grace have nothing to do with what we do or don't do. There is nothing you can do to make God love you more and there is nothing you can do that will make God love you less.

### **The Curse of the Law**

Before the grace of Jesus Christ came, we were under the curse of the Law.

#### **Galatians 3:10**

**For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT ABIDE BY ALL THINGS WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW, TO PERFORM THEM."**

#### **James 2:10**

**For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one *point*, he has become guilty of all.**

#### **(John 1:17)**

**For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.**

How many sins does it take to keep you out of heaven? One! But by the time you are old enough to understand this, you have already committed multiple sins! Its too late! This is why the Law is a curse to us. It can condemn us, but it can never save us.

#### **Romans 3:19-20**

**Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, so that every mouth may be closed and all the world may become accountable to God; <sup>20</sup> because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law *comes* the knowledge of sin.**

Doing good works cannot make us acceptable to God. The Law makes us aware of sin but it doesn't solve the problem of sin.

### **God, by His Grace, Freed Us From The Curse of the Law**

Jesus freed us from the curse of the Law by becoming a curse for us. This was the hard work He did that made it possible for us to inherit eternal life from Him.

#### **Galatians 3:13**

**Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE"**

#### **(II Corinthians 8:9)**

**For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.**

## **God Has Given Us The Gift of Eternal Life By His Grace Alone, Without Contribution From Us**

### **Ephesians 2:8-9**

**For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is the gift of God*; <sup>9</sup> not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.**

God has taken away any option of our contributing to our eternal life, otherwise we might have a basis for taking some credit for it. As a result, eternal life is a gift, fully paid for by God, then given freely to us.

### **Romans 11:6**

**But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace.**

### **(Galatians 2:21)**

**I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness *comes* through the Law, then Christ died needlessly.”**

### **(Romans 3:28)**

**For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.**

Eternal life is given to us as a gift of God's grace. It cannot be combined with any work from us or it would not be grace.

### **I John 2:25**

**This is the promise which He Himself made to us: eternal life.**

Our eternal life was 100% done by God. Because He is completely faithful and reliable, this means that we cannot lose our eternal life. But what if our eternal life depended 99% on God and 1% on us? How would that change things? Since we are not 100% faithful and reliable, it would mean that there would always be a possibility that our eternal life could be lost.

## **We Cannot Lose This Eternal Life Since We Did Nothing To Earn It**

### **I John 5:13**

**These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.**

The reason God tells us we can know right now that we have eternal life is because we can't lose it.

### **Ephesians 2:4-7**

**But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), <sup>6</sup> and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.**

Paul describes our regeneration and seating with Christ in the heavenly places in the past tense. In other words, this has already happened. Our eternal life started the day we became a Christian.

***Eternal: having infinite duration, continued without intermission, valid or existing at all times, timeless***

Since eternal life is infinite in duration and is also valid and existing at all times, and it started the day we became a Christian, that means it can never be lost.

For a detailed study on Eternal Security please see, "Eternal Life: Why We Can't Lose It Once We Get It" at:  
<http://gcivweb.org/2011/04/youth-bible-study-materials-michael-r-daily/>

## **Understanding That Salvation is By Grace Alone Takes Away Fear of Judgment**

The "Judgment of God" is often associated with punishment, which it is for the non-Christian. But the word "judgment" itself is not negative, it is an evaluation leading to a conclusion, which can be, and is, positive for the Christian.

**Judgment:** *the process of forming an opinion or evaluation by discerning and comparing*

### **Isaiah 43:25**

**"I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake, And I will not remember your sins.**

At the judgment for the Christian, God will not remember our sins. There will be not discussion about sin!

### **Romans 8:1**

**Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.**

**Condemn:** *to declare to be reprehensible, wrong, or evil usually after weighing evidence and without reservation; to pronounce guilty; to declare something as unfit for use*

Since there is no review of sin at the judgment, there is no basis for God to condemn us!

### **Hebrews 6:10**

**For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints.**

Instead God will remind us of the times we served Him that we had forgotten about.

### **Psalms 103:10-13**

**He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. <sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth, So great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him. <sup>12</sup> As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. <sup>13</sup> Just as a father has compassion on *his* children, So the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him.**

He will then reward us for our service out of His lovingkindness toward us.

### **Romans 5:1-2**

**Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.**

**Exult:** *to be extremely joyful*

God's judgment of Christians will be a time of extreme joy, because of the grace given to us through Jesus Christ

### **I John 4:16-18**

**We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. <sup>17</sup> By this, love is perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He is, so also are we in this world. <sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love.**

Because of what God has done for us in grace, we can have confidence in the day of judgment without any fear of punishment. We can look forward to God's judgment with extreme joy and anticipation.

**QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD**

*JEREMIAH 15:16*

**THEME:** *Salvation By Grace Alone*

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Hebrews 9:27, Romans 14:12*

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me? Explain why:**

**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Luke 6:35*

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**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 11:6*

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**How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?**

**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *I John 2:25, I John 5:13*

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**PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION:** *Psalm 103:10-13*

**How does this passage relate to the theme?**

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