Amazing Grace

Robert Harkrider · Ephesians 2:8–10

INTRODUCTION

- Probably we've sung that song so many times that we may sing it without really thinking seriously about the very words that we're singing.
- John Newton, who wrote the song almost 250 years ago, he understood and felt like he was a wretch.
- It was soon after that he wrote the words of this song, 1779, to be exact.

1 Saved by Grace, Not of Works

Ephesians 2:8–9; Acts 2:38; Revelation 20:14–15

- It indeed expresses the grandest theme of the Bible.
- For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves. It is the gift of God. Not of works lest anyone should boast.
- See, mercy of God means that he does not give us what we deserve.
- Instead, by grace, and grace is undeserved favor. He gave you what you didn't deserve.
- God, by his love, has given us the means of salvation.

2 Access by Faith, Not by Works of the Law

Romans 5:1–2; Romans 4:2–5; James 2:24

- Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- It's not by grace only, but by grace through faith. Through faith, we have access.
- The word works in this context is not talking about faith, repentance, and baptism at all.
- He's talking about the law of Moses and the works, the perfect works that it demanded, that no man could keep.
- But we have access into it by faith. But not by faith only.

3 A Faith That Saves Is a Faith That Obeys

Hebrews 11:7–8; Hebrews 11:29–30; 2 Kings 5

- A faith that saves is a faith that obeys.
- By faith, Noah, being divinely warned of things not seen yet, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household.
- Each of those are stories of faith, but faith in action.
- Rather than simply trusting that if God said it, I'll do it.
- It'll be by grace through faith, not by grace only, and not by faith only, meaning mental agreement only. But by faith that obeys the will of God.

4 Good Works That God Ordained

Ephesians 2:10; Acts 2:38

- The good works that God wants us to walk in are works God ordained.
- He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. He who believes not shall be condemned.
- It's rather a simple commandment. However, it does command on our part, an attitude of total commitment.
- Repent and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins.

5 Baptized Into His Death

Romans 6:3–4; Acts 22:16; Galatians 3:26–27

- So many of us as have been baptized into Jesus Christ have been baptized into his death.
- If time of reaching his death or his blood is in baptism, that's why we need to be baptized.
- Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins. Calling on the name of the Lord.
- For as many of us as we're baptized into Jesus Christ, have put on Christ.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **That you once been blind, not knowing the truth, but you've come to the understanding of the Word of God, and now you see, and that therefore it's time for you to obey the gospel.**

MY NOTES