

CouplesInBloom.com – De-relationship-ized Grace

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God's riches at Christ's expense is an acronym for the Bible's use of the word **grace**. Grace is undeserved kindness paid for by another. In Christianity, it is preceded by mercy which is undeserved forgiveness paid for by another. The central aspect in both is that all of that undeserved goodness hinges upon someone else... creating a **relationship**. Grace, by definition, is relationship based... specifically on Biblically defined intimacy.

The Bible says we can receive this kindness, this forgiveness, and even do likewise to others... yet still lack relationship with the one who paid for these ⇒ Matthew 7:21-23. In this Scripture, these *non-relational takers faithfully verbalized credit to God* so everyone who observed them would *know the truth*. The problem was that these credit-givers did *not relationally know the Truth* ⇒ John 14:6. Their preaching may have ushered many *people to Heaven, yet they sent themselves to hell... actually. How can this be, you ask?*

Jesus paid for *everyone* to receive mercy for forgiveness of sin. Jesus paid for *everyone* to receive grace for eternal life, starting now. This is the **objective** part of the relationship called Christianity. The **subjective** part of the relationship called Christianity consists of *whether or not* the believer walks / works out God's salvation with fear and trembling ⇒ Philippians 2:12; Ephesians 6:5; 2 Corinthians 7:15; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5.

Demons are authentic believers in God's grace through Jesus Christ alone ⇒ James 2:19, **and** also have fear and trembling at the very mention of His Holy Name. The part demons do **not** partake of is the **subjective** "walking / working out God's salvation" because it is the **relationship** part. This is how demons fit nicely into many Christian religions (that is: the counterfeits for the intimate relationship central to Christianity). Jesus **objectively** paid for **grace** to have **relationship** with us; not to get religion from us.

Grace without relationship is greed. Receiving God's unmatched goodness with a life that does not reciprocate: turned angels into demons ⇒ 2 Peter 2:4, and subjectively blocks the **objective** part of the relationship called Christianity; this is how people send themselves to hell. Choosing intimate two-way relationship with God determines whether every human will spend eternity in heaven or in hell, and already did that for the angels. Refusing eternal life in heaven results in eternal death in hell. Greed for God's eternal goods without reciprocating life to God (the Creator of these goods) justifies eternal hell.

De-relationship-ized grace includes not having a heart and a life for God. If you **mistakenly** were told that Christianity was religion, then realize His goodness is about relationship with you; your heart will long for *Him*. If you **neglected** your relationship with God, then return to *Him* ⇒ Revelation 2:4-5, and build intimacy up more and more this time. If you **perversely** hear that Christianity is about human improvement (a popular lie with a Christian label) you are deceived, and could end up following demons to hell.

God's heart is for you; love comes. Jesus' blood is for you; forgiveness comes. The Holy Spirit's power is for you; victory over life problems comes. But all these come from reciprocated intimacy with *God*; His trinity. It all starts with **relationship**, realizing **grace** is wonderful, undeserved, and from God alone. Let your heart-felt life for God grow! ♥