



Grace through Faith Part 2

In Grace through Faith Part 2, I taught that God made Grace available for all, but it only becomes effective when one believes in Jesus the Christ. This is what the Biblical phrase *grace through faith* means.

Unfortunately, there are several deceptive doctrines produced by three belief systems prevalent in the body of Christ, especially among those aware of the Gospel of Grace. It has caused severe damage such as lewdness, progressiveness and, most importantly, heresy – a distortion of the truth.

The name of the three belief systems that are responsible for these false doctrines are:

- Universalism
- Inclusionism
- Christian Universalism

Universalism teaches that all religions and forms of beliefs have the same outcome because all will eventually lead to God; thus, all will be saved.

Inclusionism teaches all died and rose with Christ; thus, all are saved. It concludes that many are asleep to the fact that all have been born in Christ, so they preach this heresy to awaken all. Those who are asleep are part of the body of Christ but are not participants. In other words, none are ungodly, sinners, or lost but all are righteous and reconciled to God apart from faith.

Christian Universalism teaches since divinity and humanity meet in Jesus Christ, all are participants of salvation but not all are in communion with Him; thus, all will have the chance to be saved after a purification process in purgatorial hell according to the amount of malice in their works.

The root of all these false doctrines is the distortion of love to such an extreme that the Grace of God is ascribed to all. This is what I like to call *spiritual rape*. According to statistics, rare are the cases when the rapist is some stranger. Most often it's someone close to the victim, especially one who at one point showed genuine care. This makes it hard for the victims to identify whether they were physically raped (yes, even spiritually raped).

In like manner, spiritual rape can be difficult to identify since it is done in the name of love. Since God is a loving Father, they refuse to believe eternal hell exists. Unknowingly, they begin to distort the Gospel of Grace and even deny Jesus the Christ. But let it be clear – love must be freely chosen or it's not love! Thus, spiritual rape is not Grace!

The truth is Grace is inclusive but Inclusionism is not Grace. Grace is universal but Universalism is not Grace, even if it's Christian Universalism. The apostle Jude foresaw the days when ungodly men (non-believers who profess to be believers in Christ) would turn the Grace of God into lewdness. Whenever the true Grace of God is taken away and replaced with a distortion of the Grace of God, lewdness occurs, as we see prevalent in the body of Christ, especially those in the Grace Camp.

A great minister of the Gospel says it like this:

- “There has been spreading, in this country, and in other lands also, the idea of universal salvation; and, mark you, wherever that doctrine spreads, vice must and will spread as the natural and inevitable consequence. When men are taught to believe in ultimate universal salvation, their immediate and legitimate inference is, “Then we may live as we like, and all will come right in the end;” and they will live as they like, but all will not come right in the end!” - **Charles Spurgeon**

I've come to find out that most of these wrong doctrines lie within the following two verses:

Romans 5:18-19

Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.

The guile is, since Adams' one sin brought judgment to all, Jesus' one righteous act came to all, thus, concluding all are saved. It is true Adam's one sin condemned all people. Adam forfeited everyone's God-given right to choose life or death since none of us had a say in it. The good news is his one action precludes the coming of Jesus to the world so He may restore everyone's God-given right to choose life or death.

It is true that Jesus' one righteous act came to all people. He paid for the whole world's sin. However, that doesn't mean all are saved because not everyone believes their sins have been forgiven and received justification of life. Paul had just stated in verse 17 that the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness must be received. Therefore, in context “many will be made righteous” is referring to those who will receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness by faith.

Ephesians 1:13

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation – when you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit.

Paul reminds us that we were included in Christ when we heard the message of truth but we were marked in Christ when we believed. Amen.

By: Joyner Briceño