



IS GOD'S GRACE

A LICENSE TO SIN?

A SAVED TO SERVE STUDY GUIDE



INTRODUCTION

Law & Grace

We let the Bible interpret itself, comparing Scripture with Scripture and rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15). The study runs in one continuous sequence — from Point 1 through Point 25. Read each reference in your Bible and write your answers on the lines provided.

- I. PURPOSE** In this series of doctrinal lessons we will study the relationship between God's law and His grace. We will also compare and contrast a presidential pardon with God's work of cleansing us from sin.

In This Study

1	Under the law vs. under grace	Romans 6:14
2	The purpose of the law	Romans 3:20
3	Freed from the penalty of death	Galatians 4:3-5
4	What is grace?	Ephesians 2:8
5	How grace teaches us to live	Titus 2:11-14
6	The sanctuary & atonement	Leviticus 1:4
7	The Day of Atonement	Leviticus 16:29-30
8	The scapegoat & blotting out sin	Leviticus 16:20-22

◆ BEFORE YOU BEGIN

“For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.”

ROMANS 6:14 (KJV)

Keep your Bible open and let each text speak for itself. Lay aside tradition, weigh every passage in the light of the whole of Scripture, and answer honestly. Ask the Spirit to make you a wise and watchful Berean — from Point 1 to Point 25 — that you may know the truth about the law, grace, and the cleansing of sin.

2. **NOTE** Read the following current events which connect with our study — the accounts of presidential pardons in the news — and keep them in mind as we compare a human pardon with the pardon God offers.
3. Read Romans 6:14. Many use this scripture to say that we don't have to keep God's Ten Commandments because we are under grace. Based on the Bible, what does it mean to be "under the law"?

a) Romans 3:19

b) Romans 6:15-18

c) Romans 7:5-6

4. What is one purpose of the law, God's Ten Commandments?— *Read: Romans 3:20; James 1:23-25*

5. How did we become free from the penalty of the law, which is death?— *Read: Galatians 4:3-5; Romans 8:1-4*

6. What does Jesus give us to free us from the penalty of the law?— *Read: Romans 5:20; Romans 6:14*

7. What is grace?— *Read: Ephesians 2:8; Romans 5:15-16*

ANSWER Grace is the gift of God which saves us. It is also justification (to be made just or pardoned from sin).

8. How can we receive this grace from God?— *Read: Hebrews 4:16; Matthew 21:22; Romans 5:1, 2*

† KEY THOUGHT

*"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."
Grace is received by faith — never earned by our own works.*

ROMANS 5:1 (KJV)

9. After we have received God's grace, how does it teach us to live?

a) Titus 2:11-14

b) Titus 3:7-8, 3-5

c) 2 Corinthians 9:8

d) Romans 1:3-5

10. Since we receive God's grace by faith, are we freed from the responsibility of keeping God's law, the Ten Commandments?— *Read: Romans 6:1, 2, 15; Romans 3:31*

"The provision made for the salvation of men through the imputed righteousness of Christ, does not do away with the law, or lessen in the least its holy claims; for Christ came to exalt the law and make it honorable, to reveal its exceeding breadth and changeless character.... It is when the sinner realizes that he is without hope, lost, condemned to eternal death, incapable of doing anything to redeem himself, and believes in Jesus as his righteousness and salvation, that the word of God is fulfilled toward him."

ELLEN G. WHITE · THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES, SEPT. 5, 1892 {ST SEPTEMBER 5, 1892 PAR. 4, 5}

11. **NOTE** Let us now study the sanctuary services and how the sinner received pardon or atonement for his sins, to better understand the grace that we receive from Christ.

12. How often did the first step of atonement take place?— *Read: Exodus 29:36, 38-39*

13. What was the sinner to do in order to be accepted and for an atonement to be made for him?— *Read: Leviticus 1:4*

14. What did the person do when he laid his hands upon the head of the animal?— *Read: Leviticus 5:5-6*

15. Upon which principal thing was the blood of the slain animal sprinkled?— *Read: Leviticus 4:6*

16. **NOTE** Remember that with a presidential pardon, both the conviction and the pardon appear on a person's record. Similarly, the veil (or vail) which separated the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place served as a record that the sinner had sinned but had also received pardon. However, we will see that God's pardon, grace, and forgiveness abundantly exceeds what mankind is able to offer.

17. The daily ministration of the priest in the earthly sanctuary was only the first part of the atonement process. What was the name given to that day for the final atonement?— *Read: Leviticus 16:29, 30*

18. Remember that the word 'atonement' means to forgive, cleanse, and reconcile. What was to be cleansed on the Day of Atonement in the earthly sanctuary?— *Read: Leviticus 16:33, 16*

19. What were the people to do on the Day of Atonement while the high priest was ministering in the Most Holy Place to cleanse the temple of sin?— *Read: Leviticus 23:27-30*

20. To cleanse the sanctuary and the people from sin, the sins had to be transferred to a live goat. What happened to the live goat or the scapegoat, which represented Satan, at the end of the Day of Atonement?— *Read: Leviticus 16:20-22*

"It was seen, also, that while the sin-offering pointed to Christ as a sacrifice, and the high priest represented Christ as a mediator, the scape-goat typified Satan, the author of sin, upon whom the sins of the truly penitent will finally be placed.... So will Satan be forever banished from the presence of God and his people, and he will be blotted from existence in the final destruction of sin and sinners."

ELLEN G. WHITE · THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY, VOL. 4, P. 266 {4SP 266.3}

21. How do other Bible authors refer to this occurrence of the removal of sin on the Day of Atonement?— *Read: Isaiah 44:22; Isaiah 43:25; Psalm 51:1, 9*

† THE BLOTTING OUT

"I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee."

ISAIAH 44:22 (KJV)

22. **NOTE** The Day of Atonement was the day when all of the sins which were transferred to the sanctuary were to be blotted out by placing them upon the scapegoat. Not until Jesus places all of our confessed sins upon Satan and blots out our record of sins (Isaiah 43:25) from the heavenly sanctuary, will the second phase of the atonement be complete. Jesus is offering us complete pardon and an utter removal of the record of sin forever, without remembrance!
23. As we close, let us examine ourselves to see if we are operating as “under the law” or if our sins will be blotted out by Jesus. How can we know practically if we are “under the law”?— *Read: Galatians 5:19-21*
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24. What will be manifested in our lives if we are freed from the penalty of the law and are living in harmony with its principles?— *Read: Galatians 5:22-24*
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25. Many false teachers distort the Bible and lead people to break God’s commandments. How have they distorted the grace of God to give license to sinful practices?— *Read: Galatians 1:6-7; Jude 4*
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- a) What are we exhorted to do?
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Grace That Blots Out Sin

The grace of God is no license to sin — it is the power that frees us from sin’s penalty and its dominion. Christ came not to abolish the law but to exalt it, writing it upon the heart. As our great High Priest He offers a pardon greater than any earthly pardon: He does not merely record our guilt beside our forgiveness, but blots out the very remembrance of sin and lays it upon its author. This is grace reigning through righteousness unto eternal life.

ISAIAH 43:25 (KJV)

“I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.”

Will you let His grace both pardon your sin and reign over your life?

REFERENCES

Sources & Notes

A WORD OF CAUTION

“The provision made for the salvation of men through the imputed righteousness of Christ, does not do away with the law, or lessen in the least its holy claims; for Christ came to exalt the law and make it honorable.”

ELLEN G. WHITE · THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES, SEPT. 5, 1892 {ST SEPT 5, 1892 PAR. 4}

SCRIPTURE & STUDY HELPS

- 1 Ellen G. White, The Signs of the Times, September 5, 1892 {ST Sept 5, 1892 par. 4, 5}.
- 2 Ellen G. White, The Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 4, p. 266 {4SP 266.3}.
- 3 Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance — Hebrew #3722, “kaphar,” to cover / atone / reconcile. biblehub.com/hebrew/3722 ↗

All Scripture is quoted from the King James Version (KJV). Spirit of Prophecy references are cited for study and comment.