

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ◆ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ◆ Jennifer Derrick—surg. recov.
- ◆ Larry Derrick—overseas travel
- ◆ Wilfred Derrick—aneurysm
- ◆ Florene Howze—health
- ◆ Finn Lawson—adenoids, tubes
- ◆ Jim Ward—health problems

Others in Need

- ◆ Janet Andrews—chemotherapy
- ◆ Avery Derrick—tests
- ◆ Elise Davis—shoulder surgery
- ◆ Gunner Griffin—improving
- ◆ Laura James—Covid, pneum.
- ◆ Virginia Johnson—Shoal Creek
- ◆ Brenda Mateer—cancer
- ◆ Thad McCall—health problems
- ◆ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ◆ Susan Murphy—COPD
- ◆ Evan Oliver—2yr old in hospital
- ◆ Patty Ryan—radiation

Continued in next column...

To Our Visitors



We are happy and honored that you are here! Please fill out a visitor's card and give us a chance to get to know you. If you have any questions about anything said or done in Bible class or worship, please ask. We seek to give a Bible answer for everything we do (Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 3:15; 4:11).

Events



Lord willing...

May 26

Fourth Wednesday Singing

October 3rd-6th

Leonard St. Gospel Meeting

Privileged to Serve



Announcements—Leo Derrick
Song Leading—Sunday—David Howze; Wednesday—Mark Howze
Serving the Lord's Supper
 Head: Glenn Howze; Helpers: Caleb Howze, Mark Howze, Johnny Moss
Lord's Supper PM
 Head: Ethan Howze
 Helper: Caleb Howze
Scripture Reading—Leo Derrick

Faithful Worship — **1) Praying** to God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ (Luke 11:1-2; John 16:23; Eph. 5:20; Phil. 4:6); **2) Singing** without mechanical instruments (Matt. 26:30; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16-17; Heb. 2:12); **3) Preaching** God's Word (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:42; 20:7); **4) Giving** weekly as prospered, cheerfully (1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:7); **5) The Lord's Supper** on the first day of every week (Matt. 26:26-28; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20-34; 16:2; Heb. 10:23-31).

THE BAKER BULLETIN

The weekly bulletin of

The church of Christ in Baker, FL

May 23, 2021

Meeting Times

Sundays:

10AM Bible Class

11AM Worship

6PM Worship

Wednesdays:

7PM Bible Class

Other Information

5761 Hwy. 4

P.O. Box 285

Baker, FL 32531 USA

850-669-9117

Website:

churchofChristatBaker.com

Radio Program:

104.7FM Sundays 8:30AM

WAAZ1047.com livestream

Jason Hilburn's Info:

850-826-8198

jasonhilburn@yahoo.com

TheBibleDomain.com

JasonsBibleBlog.com

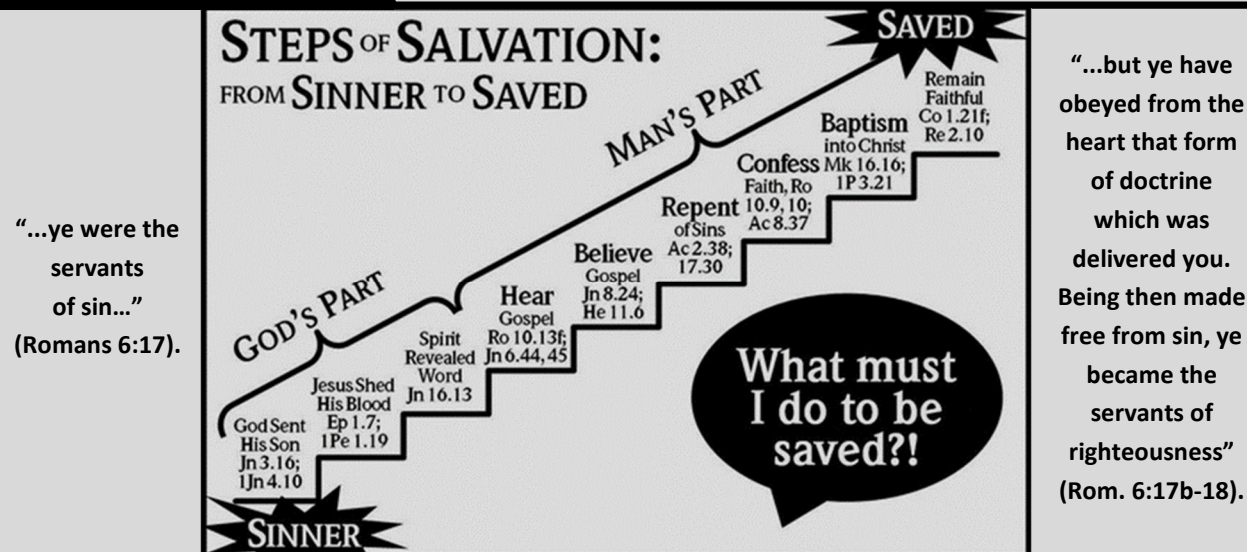
A False Concept of God's Grace

By Bobby Duncan

After Paul, in the book of Romans, showed that the child of God is saved by a system of faith that gives him access to the grace of God (Romans 5:1-2), he anticipated that some of his readers might have a false concept concerning God's grace. This prompted the question in Romans 6:1: "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?" The answer is an emphatic, "God forbid." And then in the following verses he shows why it is inconsistent to think that salvation by grace affords any encouragement to sin.

Recently we are hearing some express an idea that is very much like, if not identical to, the idea that we should continue in sin that grace may abound. I heard of one lady who left a good congregation of God's people and started worshiping with a congregation across town. When she was asked why, she said: "Over here we have grace. We can do what we please without being made to feel guilty. We are free." Some have expressed the same erroneous idea with reference to the use of instrumental music in worship. "Maybe it is out of harmony with the New Testament, but the grace of God will cover us

STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED



anyway."

The idea that the grace of God will cover the high-handed sins of the impenitent is foreign to the teaching of the Bible. This false concept, unheard of in the church a few years ago, is becoming more and more prevalent.

As this false concept relates to marriage, divorce, and remarriage, it goes something like this: "Our marriage is unscriptural, and we are living in adultery. But we are going to continue in it, and just trust in God's grace to take care of us." But God's grace is never an incentive to continue in sin; it is rather a motive for getting out of sin. The fact that Paul uses the marriage law to illustrate that point in Romans 7:1-4 should cause us to know, that of all things, one cannot continue in an unscriptural marriage and expect the grace of God to cover his adultery. If one is committing adultery, the only way God's grace will cover it is for him to quit the sin and meet God's terms of pardon.

That is true of every other sin as well. For one to be aware of sin - any sin - in his life, and have no penitence, no plan to do better, and yet think the grace of God will cover that sin, is to sin presumptuously and travel the broad way that leads to destruction.

There is little doubt in my mind that we need more preaching on God's grace, but not the kind of preaching some are doing. God's grace should be held up as an encouragement to those who have obeyed the gospel and are trying to live right. All of us in that category are painfully aware of our shortcomings, and if there were no grace to cover our sins, we would become discouraged, throw up our hands, and sit down and cry, and cry forever. But God tells us that where sin abounds, grace abounds much more (Romans 5:20). And so we are encouraged by the marvelous grace of God to keep on doing our best, and he will keep on cleansing us from our sins through his grace.

God's grace is an incentive to righteous living, and not an encouragement to commit sin. One who sins without compunction, and refuses to be penitent and try to live right has no access to the grace and mercy of God.

– Adapted

You and I Are Not the Standard of Judgment

By Jason Patrick Hilburn

Are we guilty of being too critical of others? Do we judge others based on our own personal standards, instead of God's Word? Here are some questions to consider:

- Do you look down on others if they do not smile and joke around as much as you do?
- Do you look down on others if they buy something you personally would not buy? (though it is nothing sinful).
- Do you look down on others if they are not as energetic and outgoing as you?
- Do you look down on others if they do not exercise as much as you or follow the same type of diet you do?
- Do you look down on others if they do not clean or maintain their vehicles, house, or lawn exactly as you would?
- Do you look down on others if they do not discipline their children exactly as you would?
- Do you look down on others if they do not mourn their loved ones the same way you do?
- Do you look down on others if they do not have the same sense of humor as you?
- Do you look down on others if they read their Bibles, but not as much as you do?
- Do you look down on others if they do not do things exactly the way you do, even though either way is fine?

It has been said by those who are overly critical, "Well, I have always done X, so he should do X also," or "I have always been able to do X, so he should be able to do X also." If the matter being considered is a matter of personal judgment, not a matter of faith with clear Biblical instructions, then judgment on such matters should cease (Rom. 14). Beware of self-righteous pride, and remember that man has no authority to make laws where God has not (Dt. 4:2; Prov. 30:6; Mt. 7:1-6; 15:1-9; Lk. 18:10-14; Php. 2:3; Rev. 22:18-19).

The fact that everybody is different is obviously something God intended in His design of men and women. Variety makes this world more beautiful and interesting. We are not robots who all make the same choices and react to every event the same way, and we do not all have the same personality.

That said, the Gospel of Christ unifies Christians of all backgrounds so we can all be one, in spite of our external differences: *"For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus"* (Gal. 3:26-28). Because of the Gospel, we can (and must) all speak the same way when it comes to religious matters (1 Cor. 1:10-13; Php. 3:16; 2 Tim. 1:13; Titus 2:1; 1 Pet. 4:11). Christians all live by the same standard, which is God's Word (Psa. 119:105; Mt. 4:4), but God has given man liberty to make his own choices in many matters. Christians must only judge others with righteous judgment, based on what God has clearly stated in His Word, not opinions or personal scruples (John 7:24; 12:48; Rom. 14; 16:17). Let us learn to forbear one another (put up with each other's differences that are not sinful), and allow love to overlook any such differences! (Mt. 22:39; Eph. 4:2, 3; 1 Cor. 13:1-8; 16:14).