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"**Will a Child of God fall from Grace if he or she continues in sin?**" Is there in the Word of God the answer to this question?

The Greek word "Charis", in the New Testament Scriptures, is translated "Grace" 128 times. Another form of the same Greek word, "Charisma," is translated "Gift" 18 times. The word "Charis" is translated in the New Testament Scriptures, "***Favour***" six times. This same word is translated in 2 Cor. 1:15, "***Benefit***"; in 1 Corinthians 16:3, "***Liberality***"; in 1 Peter 2:20, "***Acceptable***"; in Acts 25:9 and Acts 24:27, "***Pleasure***". In Ephesians 1:6 the believer accepted (is "***Graced***") in the Beloved; the Greek verb is "Charitu".

The word "Grace" is not found in Matthew and Mark; only once in Luke; and only three times in The Gospel of John, all three occurrences in the first chapter. The word "Grace" is found 79 times in Paul's Epistles. Inasmuch as the word "Grace" is used 22 times in the Epistle to the Romans and the other form of the Greek word "Charisma" is used several times in that same Epistle, we surely are justified in calling The Book of Romans "the Grace Epistle". Moreover, we can truly say, that Paul was Christ's "Grace" messenger, although it was Peter who called God, "***the God of all Grace***". 1 Peter 5:10.

In that wonderful chapter of Romans 5, where we have the comparison and contrast between the first man, who brought sin and death, and the Second Man, who brought righteousness and life, the climax is reached in that blessed Divine truth: ***"where sin abounded, grace did much more abound*** (superabound)." Romans 5:20.

Thus we learn that God's grace is altogether sufficient for man's sin, man's **sins**, and for the sins of the whole world, by and through the death of the Second Man. And by careful study of Romans 5 and Romans 6, Almighty God would have us learn that His super-abounding Grace, through The LORD Jesus Christ, can save the believer not only from the wages of sin, but also from the **dominion of sin**.

Many have been the controversies between different groups of Christians as to "falling from Grace". Whether this particular expression has been used, or "the perseverance of the saints," or "once saved, always saved," or "the eternal security of the believer," or "the apostatizing of the saint," or "losing Salvation," the arguments generally have been on this one question, "**Can one continue in Grace and also continue in sin?"**
In the Epistle to the Romans, ten times The Holy Spirit through the Apostle Paul said, "***God forbid***." The literal translation is better, "***let it not be."***

"***Let it not be***" that the believer shall continue in sin that Grace may abound. Romans 6:1-2. "***Let it not be***" that a believer shall sin because he is not under the law, but under Grace." Romans 6:15.

But here we do not have the answer to the question, "**Will a believer fall from Grace if he continue in sin?**" Is there in the Word of God the answer to this question? And, whom would you consider the more miserable: the Child of God who insists that once in Grace always in Grace and yet continues in sin, or the Child of God, who, because he has continued in sin, has lost all hope, has given up in despair, and insists that he has fallen from Grace and lost his Salvation. Let's admit that both are miserable and perhaps should be. But what saith the Scriptures?

"FOR THE GRACE OF GOD THAT BRINGETH SALVATION HATH APPEARED TO ALL MEN, TEACHING US THAT, DENYING UNGODLINESS AND WORLDLY LUSTS, WE SHOULD LIVE SOBERLY, RIGHTEOUSLY AND GODLY IN THIS PRESENT WORLD; LOOKING FOR THAT BLESSED HOPE, AND THE GLORIOUS APPEARING OF THE GREAT GOD, OUR SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST; WHO GAVE HIMSELF FOR US, THAT HE MIGHT REDEEM US FROM ALL INIQUITY, AND PURIFY UNTO HIMSELF A PECULIAR (
acquired
) PEOPLE, ZEALOUS OF GOOD WORKS."
Titus 2:11-14.

Here we learn The LORD Jesus Christ's purpose in giving Himself for us. "***That He might redeem us from all iniquity."***
"
Purify unto Himself a peculiar people."
"
Zealous of good works."
And we learn that the Grace of God that brought us this Salvation through Christ, would teach us how to live.

The sinner saved by Grace is to live a righteous life, a life of good works. For such a life, God's Grace is sufficient. Hear what the Holy Spirit through the Apostle Paul says about it ***"And God is able to make all Grace abound toward us; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work."***
2 Cor. 9:8.

And for the believer's infirmity and temptation, God again speaks in the same Epistle: "***My Grace is sufficient for thee."***
2 Cor. 12:9. Coupled with God's Grace is God's faithfulness, and again we have the promise: "***God is faithful, Who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it."***
1 Corinthians 10:13.

In a message through the Apostle John, the sinner saved by Grace has his word from the Holy Spirit: "***These things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."*** 1 John 2:1.

In the light of these Scriptures, and many others, we say emphatically to Romans 6:1…“shall we continue in sin, that Grace may abound?” No! And we say emphatically to Romans 6:15…“shall we sin, because we are not under the law; but under Grace?” No!

Now, we certainly do not want to limit the possibilities of the Grace of God IN the life and FOR the life of any believer. And while we know that the Word of God clearly teaches that God’s Grace is sufficient for every trial, every temptation and every God given task, and is sufficient to keep the believer from sinning, yet we also know that no believer always does what is right, and always refrains from doing what is wrong.

So, question arises…**Are we positive in our assurance that the Grace of God delivers from condemnation every Child of God who fails to do right and is guilty of doing wrong? YES!**

Wrongdoing is sin. Failing to do right is sin. The wrong-doings and failures of some believers are far more numerous than those of other believers, and perhaps the sins of some believers are worse than those of others. But we have to agree that all Children of God do continue in sin to some extent; and perhaps we further agree that there is a difference in being overtaken in sin and willfully committing a sin; and we know that if we sin willfully after we have “***received the knowledge of the truth, that there remaineth no more SACRIFICE for sins.”***
Hebrews 9:26.

Thank the LORD Jesus Christ, there does remain Forgiveness!

For not one of us believes that God’s Grace is not sufficient for His full pardon, cleansing and forgiveness for believers who sin, Whether, the sin be willful or otherwise. According to the Word of God, every Child of God needs that cleansing and forgiveness, whether willfully sinning or not. Now some would argue that at the moment of Salvation all of your sins, past AND future, were forgiven, and you were cleansed by the Blood of Christ, and His Righteousness was put to

your account. Once, and for all. And to that I say AMEN! And yet we cannot ignore the plethora of Scripture such as 1 John 1:9 "***If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*** And this, the Holy Spirit through the Apostle John wrote to "My little children" 1 John 2:1. That's Children of God, not unbelievers. So, we can see this is NOT for forgiveness unto Salvation.

Now comes this question…**Where do we have in God's message of Grace the statement, that if a Child of God sins, he will fall from Grace?** THEN, if the believer who sins does fall from Grace, and by thus falling, loses his Salvation, which, in the beginning was BY Grace, this begs the further question…

How many sins, and just what kind of sins, must the believer commit in order to lose his Salvation, or fall from Grace?

And that leads to…

There must be a line over which the believer must step in order to lose his Salvation. See where this leads…to NO GOOD, that's where! This propaganda propagated by Priests, Pastors, and Preachers (not all, so save your emails), is nothing less than Priestcraft! A methodology to keep you needing the Priest and NOT thinking you need the LORD Jesus Christ!

So then we must ask…Who is sufficient, besides God, to fix that line; and where in His message of Grace has He fixed that line? The stupid judgment that some Child of God who is guilty of wrongdoing has fallen from Grace so far that he has fallen away from Salvation, does not make it true. NOW, what saith the Scriptures…

"Whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from Grace." Galatians 5:4.

The Child of God who knows that he is saved by Grace, knows positively that he is not Justified by The Law of Moses; and therefore he is not fallen from Grace; therefore we must apply some Scripture other than this verse. For here we have, rather, the teaching that some of those who would condemn their erring brothers and would teach them how to keep from falling from Grace, by doing this or refraining from doing that, might themselves be guilty of falling from Grace by the preventive they are offering to others!

Look, Salvation is not for sale. Every Child of God should know this fact. Salvation can neither be purchased nor earned. No man deserves Salvation or is worthy of saving. In God's

message of Grace no truth is more clearly taught than the fact that Salvation is never because of man's good works or religious endeavors. The Child of God is saved to DO good works, UNTO good works, to be zealous of good works, to maintain good works. But…NEVER by, or on account of, or because of, good works, or any works. " ***IF BY GRACE, THEN IT IS NO MORE OF WORKS."***
Romans 11:6.

"Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness." Romans 4:4-5. And then, "***For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."***
Ephesians 2:8-9.

Salvation is the gift of God. But, what must the sinner do to obtain that gift? The answer is, "***thr ough faith***
" And even the faith is God's gift. It is by Grace. "
Faith comes by hearing, and hearing (itself), comes by the Word of God."
Romans 10:17. And thus we call out for salvation, "
Whosoever shall call upon the name of the LORD shall be saved
" Romans 10:13, and as the Apostle Paul told the Philippian Jailer "
Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved
" Acts 16:31.

There is a big difference with Almighty God between working sinners and working Saints. And it is not for us to criticize or change God's saving message of Grace because someone, who claims to be saved by Grace, is not denying ungodly lusts and living soberly, righteously and godly in this present world. The believer's inconsistent behavior does not change the truth concerning God's Grace Message of Salvation. It is the man who tries to **supplement** the Grace of God with works as the means of Salvation, who
frustrates
the Grace of God. The Holy Spirit through the Apostle Paul,
"I do not frustrate the Grace of God: for if righteousness comes by the law, then Christ is dead in vain."
Galatians 2:21.

A sinner is saved wholly, solely, altogether without any "if" or "and" or "but", by the Grace of God, by Faith in the redemptive work of Christ. This is true whether or not the believer does right or wrong. You may condemn your fellowman now and say that his life proves that he does

not believe, because he does not live the Christian life. You may be right; you may be wrong. However, "***Who can lay anything to the charge of God's elect?" "Who is he that condemneth?"***

"***There is therefore NOW no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus."*** Romans 8:1. Now, remember, every sinner saved by the Grace of God,
should
appropriate, by the gift of Faith, the super abounding Grace for a consistent life of godliness, and, as James has written, he should show his faith by his works; but it is unscriptural and untrue to say that any man can be saved by Grace + works.

Works can never be the factor in Salvation, but invariably the fruit; and, there should be, in every Child of God's life, the fruit. But, alas, the fruit does not save him. The Grace that saved him will enable him to BEAR fruit; but he is saved by Grace without fruit.

There is perhaps no clearer message of Grace in all the Word of God than Romans 3:24-25, "***Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood..."***

Then, who is the happy man mentioned in this bit of Good News: ***"Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin."***
Romans 4:8. If that happy man is the man who never does wrong,
then that is no happy man! He feels jipped! But, the man who is Justified without a cause...Justified...declared righteous? How?
Without a cause! That is pure Grace. And pure Grace is the sinner's only hope.

It is not man's work; it is Christ's work; the death, burial and resurrection of that Perfect Man who was delivered for our offenses and raised again for our Justification. From first to last, "***Salvation is of the Lord."*** Jonah 2:9.

The Child of God who would try to pay for Righteousness or Salvation through the works of the Law or religion, after he has been saved by the Grace of God, is little better than the religious person who would NOT receive Salvation as the free gift of God, but prefers to work for it.

However Christians, genuine or counterfeit, may use or abuse God's Grace, no matter if some may give up in despair because they feel they have fallen from Grace by continuing in sin, or if others claim that they cannot fall away from God's Grace, if once saved, even if they do continue in sin, let us not be guilty of preaching another gospel, a message of Grace and religion mixed.

Neither let us endeavor to mete out the judgment to those who are unwilling to be taught how to live by the Grace of God. Rather let us always teach and preach to ourselves, as well as to others, that Salvation first, last, and all the time, is by Grace and Grace alone, and **every man who is in that matchless Grace, and trusting in the Work and depending upon the Worthiness of**
The LORD Jesus Christ, is SAVED
, and should day by day manifest his life in Christ, by a spiritual walk, and testimony.

***

In Ephesians 1:13 the Holy Spirit through the Apostle Paul declares that men are saved and sealed by hearing and BELIEVING the Word of Truth, the Gospel of your Salvation. Therefore, here, now, is declared unto you the Word of Truth, the Gospel of your Salvation: ***"that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures"***
1 Corinthians 15:3-4. BELIEVE today.
The time is short.

So There You Have it!

Spread this message to everyone you know, far and wide.

Grace be to you and peace, from God: our Father, and The LORD Jesus Christ.

In The LORD Jesus Christ,
The Lion and Lamb Ministry

Pastor David Picos, D.D.
Minister and Ambassador for Christ in the Ministry of Reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:18-20)

{jcomments on}