



Repentance Tabernacle Church

RepentanceTabernacle@gmail.com
www.RepentanceTabernacle.org (984) 369-5171

Grace and Truth!

Scripture: John 1:16-18 - ¹⁶ And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

Grace is God's activity and attitude toward human beings. It is the **unmerited favor of God**, which includes forgiveness, repentance, regeneration, and salvation. Also, it is the **love of God** shown to the unlovely; the peace of God given to the restless; and **unconditional love**. As well as the blessing, protection, and gifts that God freely extends to mankind, and other benefits that God offers through Jesus Christ. Grace is not earned by human actions or merits, but is a gift that provokes joy and gratitude in the recipients.

Truth in the Bible is related to God's character, will, and self-expression. Truth is also the knowledge and application of God's law, which brings wholeness and prevents confusion and destruction. Apart from it there is only confusion and destruction, because sin brings only confusion and causes only destruction! Truth involves speaking and acting with honesty, justice, and factual accuracy. Jesus tells us in John 17:17, "*thy word is truth.*"

John's point was not that the law was something other than a divine gift, but that the law displayed God's righteousness while Jesus Christ displayed God's grace. The truth revealed in Jesus has authority that surpasses that of the truth given through Moses. John simply affirmed that through Jesus Christ a new revelation of God's character and plan took place—a revelation that takes precedence over all that God gave before.

John 1:14 tells us, "*And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*" Apostle Paul also stated, "*For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily*" (Colossians 2:9).

Law and grace are both aspects of God's nature that he uses in dealing with us. Moses emphasized God's Law and justice, while Jesus Christ came to highlight God's mercy, love, and forgiveness. **Moses could only be the giver of the Law, while Christ came to fulfill it.** Paul tells us, "*The law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ*" (Galatians 3:24). The nature and will of God were revealed in the Law; now the nature and will of God are revealed in Jesus Christ. Rather than coming through cold stone tablets, God's revelation "**truth**" now comes through a person's life. As we get to know Christ better, our understanding of God will increase.

God communicated through various people in the Old Testament, usually prophets who were told to give specific messages. But no one ever saw God. In Christ, God revealed his nature and essence in a way that could be seen and touched. In Christ, God became a man who lived on earth. He was always at his Father's side, his constant companion, and implies close intimacy.

Therefore, Jesus Christ is the source of grace and truth. "*I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me*" (John 14:6). No mankind has ever comprehended or experienced God at any time in all His fullness, only His begotten Son. Now mankind can get today in fullness what men received only in part in Old Testament times. **God's grace and truth!**