

The
Means
Of
G.r.a.c.e.

“Great Redemption at Christ’s Expense”

All Scripture KJV

The Means of Grace

Suppose a man who cannot swim falls overboard. Suppose his friend in the boat throws him a lifeline and pulls him to safety.

Who or what saved the drowning man? His friend? The lifeline? The life preserver? The boat? Or did the man save himself? The answer, of course, is that his friend saved him, the lifeline, and the life preserver, and the boat saved him. He also saved himself.

This simple parable helps us understand that it is as foolish to say that we are saved by grace alone as it would be for the drowning man to claim that any one of the above means saved him without other intervention.

The bible certainly does teach that we are saved by grace. But it also teaches that God uses means. These means are called by theologians, the “Means of Grace.”

This booklet lists seven of God’s chosen “Means of Grace,” and is intended to be a quick reference and teaching tool. On these pages we have compiled pertinent portions of the pure word of God to show how God saves us by His grace.

When the truth of salvation by grace is better understood, the doctrine of easy believism loses its siren appeal.

Step One

Saved by Grace

Definition of Grace: 1. The unmerited love and favor of God;
2. A state of reconciliation with God.

Someone demonstrated that the letters of the word grace suggest the acrostic -
“Great Redemption At Christ’s Expense”

G.R.A.C.E.

- Romans 3:23,24 “...*all have sinned and come short of the glory of God; being justified freely by His grace through redemption that is in Christ Jesus...*”
- Titus 2:11 “...*For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men...*”
- Ephesians 2:5 “...*Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, by grace ye are saved.*”

We can not be saved without the grace of God. The unmerited favor of God gives us the privilege of being saved, but we are not saved by grace alone and apart from God’s chosen means.

- Ephesians 2:8 “...*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.*”

Step Two

Saved by Faith

Definition of Faith: 1. Confidence or trust; 2. Spiritual acceptance of truth; 3. Belief in God and His word.

- Ephesians 2:8 “...*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.*”
- 1Peter 1:9 “...*Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls...*”

To be saved we must have **faith** in God.

- Hebrews 11:6 “...*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*”
- Mark 16:16 “... *he that believeth not shall be damned.*”
- Jam 2:19-20 “... *Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?*”

When someone says, “I believe,” it doesn't necessarily mean that they are saved, because the devils also believe. Devils are definitely not saved. There is more to salvation than saying, “*I believe in God.*”

- Romans 10:10 “...*For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*”

Step Three

Saved by Confession

Definition of Confession: 1. To disclose sins or faults to God; 2. To unburden the conscience; 3. To acknowledge guilt, wrong-doing or sinfulness; 4. To admit to unbecoming deeds.

- Romans 10:10 *“...with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”*

Someone said, “Confession is good for the soul.”

- 1John 1:9 *“...If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*
- James 5:16 *“...Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”*

Confession involves transparency and honesty.

Pro 28:13 *“...He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.”*

Step Four

Saved by Repentance

Definition of Repentance: 1. To change one's mind; 2. To turn around; 3. To forsake sin; 4. To make an about face.

- Proverbs 28:13 *"...confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."*

It is not enough to merely confess our sins. We must turn from sin to be saved.

- 2Corinthians 7:10 *"...For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death."*
- Luke 13:3 *"...I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."*
- 2Peter 3:9 *"...The Lord is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."*

Repentance is more than being sorry for one's sins. It involves a lifestyle-mindset adjustment. It is exciting to turn away from the old life of sin and condemnation!

We must not stop here.

Act 2:38 *"...Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you."*

Step Five

Saved by Baptism

Definition of Baptism: 1. To dip, plunge, or submerge;
2. A religious ceremony signifying spiritual purification by immersion in water.

- 1Peter 3:21 “...*baptism doth also now save us...*”
- Mark 16:16 “...*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.*”
- Act 8:16 “...*they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*”
- Act 10:48 “...*And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.*”
- Act 22:16 “...*And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.*”
- Act 10:43 “...*that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.*”
- Luke 24:47 “...*remission of sins should be preached in his name...*”
- Act 2:38 “...*Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*”

Step Six

Saved by the Holy Ghost

Jesus said to Nicodemus, “...*Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.*” (John 3:3)

Nicodemus asked Jesus, “*How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother’s womb, and be born?*” (John 3:6) Jesus said to Nicodemus, “*Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of the water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*” (John 3:5)

- Romans 8:9 “...*Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.*”
- Romans 8:14 “...*For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*”

How do I know if I have received the Spirit of God? What is the initial evidence? Read about the new birth experience in Acts 2:1-4.

- Act 10:44-46 “... *While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God...*”
- Read Acts 19:1-6
- Titus 3:5 “...*Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.*”

Step Seven

Saved by Endurance

Definition of Endurance: 1. The act, quality, or power of withstanding hardship; 2. The state or fact of preserving; 3. Continuing existence or duration.

The writer of Hebrews referred to the Christian life as a race.

Hebrews 12:1 “...let us run with patience the race that is set before us...”

To finish the Christian race we must keep running and enduring. It is not enough to begin this race by having faith, confessing sins, forsaking sins, being baptized in the name of Jesus and receiving the Holy Ghost. We must continue on with the Lord.

- Matthew 10:22 “...*he that endureth to the end shall be saved.*”
- Matthew 24:13 “...*But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.*”
- 2Timothy 2:3 “...*Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.*”
- Hebrews 12:7 “...*If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons...*”
- James 1:12 “...*Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.*”