

SUPER-ABOUNDING GRACE

Pt 2

Romans 5:20

Contrasts...

I. THE CONTRAST IN ACTION

*18 So then as through **one transgression** there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through **one act of righteousness** there resulted justification of life to all men.*

II. THE CONTRAST IN STATUS

*19 For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made **sinners**, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made **righteous**.*

Various contrasts...

III. THE CONTRAST IN PURPOSE

Law vs Grace

Various contrasts...

III. THE CONTRAST IN PURPOSE

A. The Purpose of God's Law

20 The Law came in...

Gal 2:4 - ...sneaked in...

Various contrasts...

III. THE CONTRAST IN PURPOSE

A. The Purpose of God's Law

20 The Law came in so that the transgression would increase...

A. The Purpose of God's Law

Rom 7:12 - ... the Law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

1 Tim 1:9-10 - ... law is not made for a righteous person, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers 10 and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching...

Rom 5:13 - *for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law.*

Rom 5:14 - *Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam...*

Gal 3:19 says it this way - *Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions...*

Martyn Lloyd-Jones...

- The Law clarifies sin's **DEFINITION**.
- The Law reveals sin's **NATURE**.

20...the transgression...

- The Law uncovers sin's **DECEIT**.
- The Law exposes sin's **POWER**.

Rom 7:7-9 - 7 *What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? May it never be! On the contrary, I would not have come to know sin except through the Law; for I would not have known about coveting if the Law had not said, "YOU SHALL NOT COVET."* 8 *But sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, produced in me coveting of every kind; for apart from the Law sin is dead. 9 I was once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, sin became alive and I died;*

Matt 5:21-30

Rom 7:13 - Therefore... through the commandment sin would become utterly sinful.

Gal 3:24 - Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith.

Various contrasts...

III. THE CONTRAST IN PURPOSE

- A. The Purpose of God's Law*
- B. The Purpose of God's Grace*

BOICE – *Romans 5:20 stands out like a brilliant beacon on a dark and dangerous night.*

20...but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more.

2 Cor 7:4 - I am overflowing with joy in all our affliction.

NEB – Where sin was thus multiplied, grace immeasurably exceeded it.

JB PHILLIPS – Though sin is shown to be wide and deep, thank God His grace is wider and deeper still.

BARNHOUSE – *Where sin reached a high-water mark,
grace completely flooded the world.*

M. LLOYD. JONES comments – *The idea is that of an overflowing, as if a mighty flood were let loose, sweeping everything before it. Indeed we might well use the term ‘engulfed;’ Such an abundance...such a super-abundance that it drowns and engulfs everything.*

Conclusions related to God's super-abounding grace:

1. Grace is NOT WITHHELD because of sin.

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BARNHOUSE – *Adam had not gone very far from the scene of his rebellion before the grace of God sought him, called him by name, pursued him in the obscurity of the grove where he was hiding... God did not withhold His grace because of Adam's sin. Instead, He made great promises of grace, announcing that the Messiah would come, the Deliverer, the Seed of the woman, the Lord Jesus Christ, who would destroy the destroyer and bring man back into fellowship with himself. Although man...sought to cover his shame with fig leaves, God intervened in grace and clothed the guilty pair with coats of skins, in the very garden where they had rebelled. The first blood ever shed upon this planet was shed by God Almighty to provide covering for the man and woman who believed His word about the redemption that would be provided. Grace was not withheld because of sin; grace was given in spite of sin.*

Conclusions related to God's super-abounding grace:

1. Grace is NOT WITHHELD because of sin.

1 Tim 1:13-16 - even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief; 14 and the grace of our Lord was more than abundant, with the faith and love which are found in Christ Jesus. 15 It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all. 16 Yet for this reason I found mercy, so that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience as an example for those who would believe in Him for eternal life.

Conclusions related to God's super-abounding grace:

1. Grace is NOT WITHHELD because of sin.
2. Grace is NEVER REDUCED because of sin.

Gal 5:4 - You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.

Summary of the relationship of law to grace:

1. Exposing our sin through His Law is an act of God's grace.
2. In the law we find an anticipation of the gospel.

Heb 4:15–16 - 15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. 16 Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.