

The Letter of St. Paul to the COLOSSIANS

# grace

this changes everything

LIVING IN FREEDOM • Part 2 • April 23-24, 2016 • #ThisChangesEverything

## MAKING IT HARDER

Don't let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ. (Colossians 2:6-8)

✓ The law can't be \_\_\_\_\_

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. (Romans 3:23)

For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. (James 2:10)

✓ The law can't be \_\_\_\_\_

The wages of sin is death... (Romans 6:23a)

## GOOD NEWS

You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross. (Colossians 2:11-15)

## GRACE SETS US FREE

So don't let anyone condemn you... (Colossians 2:18-19)

You have died with Christ, and he has set you free from the spiritual powers of this world. So why do you keep on following the rules of the world, such as, "Don't handle! Don't taste! Don't touch!"? Such rules are mere human teachings about things that deteriorate as we use them. These rules may seem wise because they require strong devotion, pious self-denial, and severe bodily discipline. But they provide no help in conquering a person's evil desires. (Colossians 2:20-23)

This same Good News that came to you is going out all over the world. It is bearing fruit everywhere by changing lives, just as it changed your lives from the day you first heard and understood the truth about God's wonderful grace. (Colossians 1:6)

1. Grace is \_\_\_\_\_

The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)

2. Grace is \_\_\_\_\_

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

For these rules are only shadows of the reality yet to come. And Christ himself is that reality. (Colossians 2:17)

3. Grace is \_\_\_\_\_

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. (Romans 10:13)

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

## GRACE CHANGES EVERYTHING

For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age. (Titus 2:11-12)

Grace: When what you \_\_\_\_\_  
becomes what you \_\_\_\_\_

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✓ **The law can't be obeyed.**

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. (Romans 3:23)

For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. (James 2:10)

✓ **The law can't be avoided.**

The wages of sin is death... (Romans 6:23a)

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This same Good News that came to you is going out all over the world. It is bearing fruit everywhere by changing lives, just as it changed your lives from the day you first heard and understood the truth about God's wonderful grace. (Colossians 1:6)

### 1. **Grace is a free gift.**

The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)

### 2. **Grace is received only through faith in Christ.**

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

For these rules are only shadows of the reality yet to come. And Christ himself is that reality. (Colossians 2:17)

### 3. **Grace is available for everyone.**

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. (Romans 10:13)

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

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**Grace: When what you ought to do  
becomes what you want to do.**

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