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Grace

The Divine Influence

Read Ephesians 2:1-10 (MKJ below):

1 And He has made you alive, who were once dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now works in the children of disobedience; 3 among whom we also had our way of life in times past, in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the thoughts, and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love with which He loved us 5 (even when we were dead in sins) has made us alive together with Christ (by grace you are saved), 6 and has raised us up together and made us sit together in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you are saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to good works, which God has before ordained that we should walk in them.

(Note: "He" in verses one is God, the Father. The context begins in Chapter 1:15.)

1. Where should we be so that God can show us the exceeding riches of His grace? Verses 6,7
2. What is meant by sitting together in the heavenlies in Christ? Eph 1:3; Jn 3:12-13; Isa 55:7-9
{Heaven, in the positive, is a type for the way God thinks; or understanding from the spirit of God.}
3. What is the gift contained in God's grace? Rom 5:15-19; Act 20:32
{Righteousness is right thinking by which God gives us spiritual birth by the word of truth, Jam 1:18.}

Ephesians 2:8: For by the grace (of God) are we saved through the faith (of Christ)... it is the gift of God.

4. How do we receive faith and from where? Rom 10:17; Gal 2:16 (KJ only); Rom 1:17 *from faith to faith*
{Christ's faith comes by hearing a person preach/teach; God's grace is His understanding given through faith.}

5. Are all automatically under grace? Rom 10:6-17 (cf Eph 4:7-8, 11-13; Rom 12:6-7; 2Cor 1:12)
{Grace is offered to all, but it only becomes a gift if one accepts it, Rom 3:22. The grace of God is when he offers the word of faith through a messenger, & the Lord gives the understanding, which is the "riches of His grace" mentioned in Ephesians 2:7. See also Eph 1:7; 3:8. Rejecters of truth are rejecting the gift of the grace.}