

## Saved by Grace

### Scripture

“But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised [us] up together, and made [us] sit together in the heavenly [places] in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in [His] kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; [it is] the gift of God,” (Eph 2:4-8 NKJV)

### Devotion

God made us alive even when we were dead in trespasses. This He did to show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness towards us in Christ. What is it that magnifies God’s grace more than its timing?

God did not give us His grace when we were near the kingdom. No, He gave us His grace when we were hell bound and deserving of eternal damnation. We were snatched from the fire and made new in Christ because of the good pleasure of His will. Like a man ready to fall over the edge of Niagara Falls, no like a man having already fallen over the edge, He quickened us by His Spirit.

Our faith came as a result of God’s grace in our lives and not the other way around. How would grace be magnified if I beckoned it? I tell you your faith is a gift of God as the Holy Scripture says. He loved you and called you out of a lost and dying world not because of anything you did, but because He might show the exceeding riches of His grace.

“Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee’s house, and sat down to eat. And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that [Jesus] sat at the table in the Pharisee’s house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, and stood at His feet behind [Him] weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped [them] with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed [them] with the fragrant oil. Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw [this], he spoke to himself, saying, ‘This man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman [this is] who is touching Him, for she is a sinner.’ And Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Simon, I have something to say to you.’ So he said, ‘Teacher, say it.’ ‘There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. “And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?’ Simon answered and said, ‘I suppose the [one] whom he forgave more.’ And He said to him, ‘You have rightly judged.’ Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, ‘Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped [them] with the hair of her head. You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. Therefore I say to you, her sins, [which are] many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, [the same] loves little.’ Then He said to her, ‘Your sins are forgiven.’ And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, ‘Who is this who even forgives sins?’” Then He said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you. Go in peace.”” (Lu 7:36-50 NKJV)

Do you love little, or much? Your understanding of grace will have a bearing on your answer. Those who understand the hopeless condition of their depravity, and see the grace of God as an act of mercy will love much because they know they have been forgiven much.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!