

Chapter 5: vs 20-21 God's grace

- Joy to the World "No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infect the ground; He comes to make His
blessing ~~law~~ flow; Far as the curse is found...
Far as the curse is found?"
- Were worried about Ebola? They say it kills
50-90% of those who contract the disease & only a ^{small} fraction get it
- Yet sin: James 1:15 "When lust has conceived,
it brings forth sin; and sin, when it is finished,
(it) brings forth death."
- And everybody is infected with the deadly
disease of sin... Everybody...
- And God gave us the law, not to cure the disease
but to diagnose it... It's like a hospital. Nowadays,
if you want to be sick, go to a hospital. I'm sure
they'll find something wrong with you... The Law will
find something wrong with you... It's a funny thing;
- The law did not enter to stop sin,
but so that sin may abound... It kinda reminds
me of our land and our laws...
- The more laws we make, the worse things seem
to be getting.
- Ex: Obamacare →
The government will run everything it gets its hands on...
- Laws + rules seldom fix anything...

- But they are necessary --
- How so? Remember, Jesus said that he came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance --
 - The Law entered that sin abounded,
 - But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound
- Have you ever soldered copper tubing? Some of you men might have done this before --
- Have you ever tried to solder copper tube w/o flux --
- w/o flux the solder just doesn't penetrate very well, does it?
- What is flux? Explain how it works --
- Gotta have the flux or the solder won't flow --
- God's grace is similar, in that (like the chisholm song) God's grace will flow far as the curse is found.
- As long as the curse of sin ~~is present~~ is present, God's grace can reach it -- And not just reach it, but cure it --
- "But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound --"
- It matters not how low you go, God's grace can reach it.
- Nor how far sin will take you, God's grace can reach it.
- Nor how long sin has got hold ^{for} God's grace will endure --

As far as the curse is found ----- God's blessing will flow --

- So, if there's nothing wrong with you. Then Christ, the free gift of God, is of no consequence to you.
- God gave his only begotten son to those in need of him...
- If you don't need a Saviour, if you don't need help from such wretched a condition, then Christ is not for you....

"People for horses + horses for curses..."

Exp 11

- A horse's temperament needs to compliment the owner.
- Horses have personalities and personalities clash.
- Some horses are good for this / sense aren't...
- Get a horse that's made for what you want to do...

- What are your needs? What are you trying to accomplish? I don't have any needs, I'm that I'm doing pretty good... ~~I'm doing my best~~... You've got the wrong horse...

- Side Note: Nobody thinks that... I'm building a straw man... Nobody is going to say "I'm good enough to go to heaven." "I've earned my way. God owes me eternal life." Nobody says that.... "That's always a danger in preaching. In that, if you don't specifically address someone's condition, they think they're off the hook, and message is not for them..."

You're sure
quick to point
out everybody
else's imperfections

outwardly say

- In other words, you may not think that you're perfect, but you sure think everybody else is imperfect!

- You may say you're forgiven, and have a place in heaven but hold grudges ^{cut} ~~as tight~~ like superglue. And have no mercy or compassion in your lips or your heart.

- If you're real good at finding fault in others and putting people down, then Christ is not for you.

- If you have no mercy to give. If you can't forgive those who have trespassed against you, then Christ is not for you.

- Pride comes in many flavors. I certainly cannot put my finger on everyone.

EXTREMES EXPLAIN Calvinism Unmistakable Wash 4th

- But if you need help, you need mercy, if you need grace, Christ is for you.

- God's Riches at Christ's Expense →

- "Humility will take you places ability can never go."

- Likewise, "Humility will profit you riches ability can never earn."

- I don't care how good you are, what great deeds you done in your life. None of it can gain what humility will give. or how hard & long you work

God's Riches...

Ephesians 2: 4-7

Key Phrase:

Even when we were dead in sins

When is the key word. When does God quicken a sinner, when does God's grace save the sinner, when does God raise us together with Christ? When does God make us sit together in heavenly places... When?

Answer: Even when we were dead in sins...

* Where SIN abounded, Grace did much more abound...

Right now, when it rains, it floods. Any little rain we get, the ground will have standing water for 1 1/2 weeks... Why? Because the ground is saturated already... It's got in it all that it could hold.

Isaiah 44:3 For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground...

There is no standing water, when it rains on dry ground... The water has got a place to flow...

In Rev.

The Spirit & the bride say, Come, let him that is thirsty come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

The water of life, will flow far as the curse is found.....

The song also says "Let no more sins & sorrows grow
where thorns meet the ground."

"Cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow
shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;
Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth
to thee ..."

(-THORNS are symbol & remedy of the CURSE)

The ground can bring forth many beautiful things...

- 20 acres → Explain

- But when you start pulling up trees & branches
you'll find that EVERYTHING has got thorns
on it. Everything... every plant, branch, tree,
bush is infested with thorns. gloves, jeans, boots

- Likewise, there is beauty & significance in every person...
Every single one of us was fearfully & wonderfully
made by the hands of God... Every single
one of us is special & beautiful in the sight of
God... but under the leaves & the flowers,
there's thorns on every plant...

- Oh, but where the thorns are, there you'll find
the grace of God

vs 21 (Road)

Jehn wrote:

Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns and purple robe. And Pilate saith unto them, Behold the man!...

Jesus wore the crown of thorns... And Paul said that sin reigned unto death... He who reigns wears the crown... Can I say this? They crowned Jesus "King of Sinners".

(God took upon himself the very curse he decreed)
"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

He who was perfect and righteous, and merciful & compassionate, levelly and amiable took upon him thorns he did not deserve...

Paul said in Hebrews 6:8: "But that which beareth thorns & briers is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing; whose end is to be burned..."

But where the thorns are ^{there} you'll find the grace of God...

... and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only-begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth..

- The grace of God was given to us by the Righteousness of his dear Son...

- Just like sin & the curse reigned unto death --
God's grace & righteousness will reign unto eternal life...

- Rev 19: vs 11-12 ; 16

IF God be for us, then who can be against us...

to him that overcometh, a crown of life shall be
He, with the King of glory, shall reign eternally...

Stand
up
for
Jesus