

Lesson 12 – Principles 5

The Evidence of the Grace of God

Read the lesson below and then answer the questions that follow on a separate sheet of paper. If you believe this lesson would be helpful to others you know, feel free to share it with them.

“Wherefore the law was our **schoolmaster** to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.” (Galatians 3:24-26 KJV)

“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 NIV)

You may have asked yourself the question: What is the difference between the law and grace? The law clearly told which behaviors were evil (destroy God’s creation) and which ones were righteous (support God’s creation). It would appear that grace, in the verse above does the same thing. Both of the verses above use words associated with education: “schoolmaster” and “teaches”. You may find it interesting to notice that these two words share the same root in the Greek that has nothing to do with conveying knowledge. The shared root is the word for “child.” Instead of accumulating information from the law to bring us to Christ or by grace we receive the facts or doctrines to say “No” to ungodliness and “Yes” to godliness, we are raised up as dear children by our Heavenly Father.

“Who, when he (Barnabas) came, and had **seen** the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.” (Acts 11:23-24 KJV)

It is important to understand that if the grace of God is at work in our lives, it will not leave us wallowing in our sin and stuck in our old bad habits. Grace doesn’t wink at sin as sin destroys God’s creation, namely us. Grace raises us into the men God has called us to be. This is not some invisible process kept as a secret between you and God. Just as Barnabas “had seen the grace of God”, as grace does its work in our lives, it will be seen by others.

1. Before you were saved (or before you took salvation seriously), what could be seen when someone looked at your life?
2. Now, what is the evidence of the grace of God in your life?
3. What evidence of the grace of God should be seen in your life but isn’t because you are not letting grace do its work? What are you doing about it? Be specific.
4. What can you do differently to allow God to raise you up as His dear child so that the evidence of His grace can be seen in your life?