

“Understanding His Amazing Grace”
Genesis 3:20-4:5

- Genesis 3:20-21
 - Adam makes a proclamation that he believes the promise of God: *“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel”* (Genesis 3:15). “She was the mother of all living.”
 - Adam and Eve had sewed fig leaves together to try to cover up their shame or nakedness (Genesis 2:25; 3:7). It was not sufficient: *“We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away”* (Isaiah 64:6). But God clothed them after the shedding of blood with His righteousness: *“and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins”* (Hebrews 9:22). *“knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers...with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot”* (1 Peter 1:18-19).
- Genesis 3:22-24
 - Adam and Eve now knew something they didn’t previously know (Genesis 1:31), they knew the devastation of sin: *“Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned”* (Romans 5:12). But *“as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord”* (Romans 5:21).
 - God removed them from the garden for multiple reasons:
 - 1) God didn’t desire for them to be sinners for all eternity (Ezekiel 33:11).
 - 2) They were unable to be in God’s presence because they were now sinful (Hebrews 4:16).
 - 3) They were incapable of living a holy life because of sin (Titus 2:14).
 - Cherubim in the Bible are always associated with the presence of God and the glory of God. They were also directly related to the meeting place of God. The Cherubim blocked people from access to God’s presence.
- Genesis 4:1-7
 - What is grace? *The unearned gift of God’s love expressed in goodness towards mankind, supremely in the work of justification, sanctification, and glorification (salvation).* What is my biblical response to grace? *“You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body”* (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). *“I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me”* (Galatians 2:20).
 - God created a universe of **order**. God created a universe of **authority**. God created a universe of **moral standards**. God created a universe of **grace and mercy**.

“As long as we are convinced that God cares for us, our minds are easily led to patience, humility, and zeal. If we are convinced otherwise we run to the world.” (John Calvin)

 - Grace is not permission to sin against God, it is the ability to live zealous for God despite my circumstances (Titus 2:14). Grace is not a reason to excuse sin, it is a reason to put sin to death (Colossians 3:1-5). Grace is not a reason to run from God, it is the reason to run to God (Hebrews 4:16). Grace is not a reason to serve God less, it is the reason we can give God more and more of our time and effort (2 Corinthians 9:6-11). Grace is not the reason to sit in despair and weakness, it is the reason we can have strength in our despair and weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). Grace is not the

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Worship: All Creatures (Kings Kaleidoscope) Rock Of Ages (The Modern Post)

How Deep (Sovereign Grace Music) **Closing Song:** Christ Is Mine Forevermore (City Alight)

Service Times: Sundays: Revelation Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;

Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

absence of a holy standard, it is the ability to live a holy life (1 Peter 1:13-19). Grace is not a life without spiritual authority, it is the ability to be thankful for direction, love, and accountability (Hebrews 13:7,17).

- *Worship is* living for God in word and deed by being in awe of His orderly universe, humbled by His holiness, submission to the authority of His Word, and thankful for His abundant grace.
 - The Lord received Abel's offering (Hebrews 11:4) and rejected Cain's offering (1 John 3:12).
 - God offers grace to Cain: "*If you do well (worship) will you not be accepted?*"
 - Sin says: "Your feelings change reality and your circumstances change God's expectations. God's standard is ridiculous. God has given me grace, I don't have to submit to His authority."
 - Sitting in anger, resentment, frustration, or doubt, causes me to want to be far from God, far from people who pursue Him passionately, and will eventually lead to hurting, ignoring, or hating God and His people.

Keep smiling, His joy is still there. Keep praying, I promise that He cares. Keep hoping, there is a reason for the pain. Keep believing, His promises still remain. Keep listening, encouragement is always near. Keep knowing, He is strengthening through their prayers. Keep going, you are loved more than you know. Keep loving, they just aren't sure how to help. Keep trusting, soon all will be well.

Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** Thank you for all of your generous donations to Vertical 196 this month! Starting next Sunday and throughout the month of June we will be collecting monetary donations for HeartCry, one of the global missions that we as a church financially support.

★**NEW MEMBERS MEETING:** If you are interested in or have any questions about church membership, we will be having a New Members Meeting TONIGHT immediately following the worship service.

★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner NEXT Sunday, June 5th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the back table, please sign-up to bring something to the dinner. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us.

★**COMMUNION:** Next Sunday, June 5th, we will be celebrating and partaking of Communion together as a body!