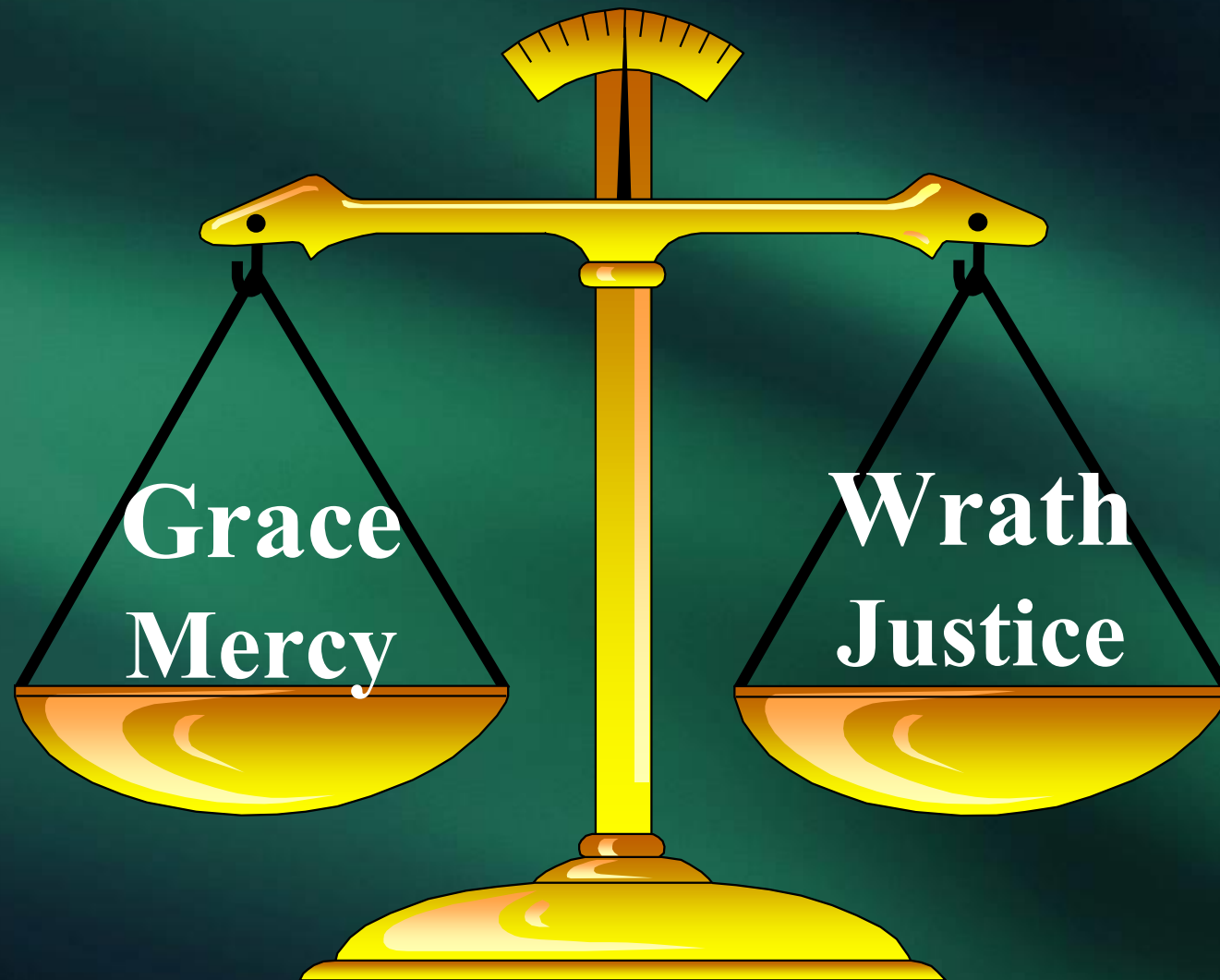


Extremes and Balance

- For by **grace** you have been saved through **faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 **not of works**, lest anyone should boast. Eph 2:8-10
- For the **grace** of God **that brings salvation** has appeared to all men, 12 **teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,** Titus 2:11-13
- Grace brings confidence, joy, peace, and comfort.
- But when we fully understand its teaching we are denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, living soberly righteously and godly.
- **The Balance:** Looking at both at the same time

The Nature of Balance



Grace & Salvation

- *Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; Phil 2:12-13*
- Balance fear and trembling with grace and peace.
- not always an easy balance.
- Some become too easy or too hard on ourselves.
- God wants us to know we are saved
- God wants us to fear becoming lost.
- He wants joy and peace / fear and trembling

The Nature of Balance



**Too
Easy?**

**Too
Hard?**

Scriptural Balance: Day 1

- All who obey the gospel are Saved!
- **Hear.** Rom 10:17; Acts 13:7;
- **Believe.** John 3:16; 8:24; Mk 16:16;
- **Repent.** Lk 13:3; Acts 2:38;
- **Confess.** Rom 10:9-10; I Tim 6:12-13;
- **Baptized.** Rom 6:3-6; Col 2:11-13; I Pet 3:21; Mk 16:15-16
- By grace you are saved by faith.
- Everyone feels saved the first day.

We Must Learn Fear

- *Work out salvation with **fear** and **trembling** Phil. 2:12*
- ***Fear** him who has authority to cast into hell Lk. 12:4-5*
- *Don't be conceited but **fear** Rom. 11:16*
- *Let us **fear** lest we come short of it Heb. 4:1*
- *Conduct time of stay in **fear** 1Pet. 1:17*
- *Be **sober**; be **watchful** the devil as a roaring lion is seeking whom he may devour. 1Pet. 5:8*
- *Therefore let him who thinks he stands **take heed** lest he fall. 1 Cor 10:12-13*
- *When we look at ourselves we fear*

We Also Learn Confidence!

- *My yoke is easy my burden is light; Mt. 11:28-30*
- *No condemnation to those in Christ; Rom. 8:1-2 1*
- *We are more than conquerors through him Rom. 8:37*
- *God wants all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. 1 Tim. 2:3-4*
- *Jehovah pities those who fear him. Ps. 103:8-14*
- *If we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive. 1 Jn. 1:9*
- *When we look at God and His plan we feel confident*

A Parable of Contrasts

- Also He spoke this parable to some who **trusted in themselves** that they were righteous, and **despised others**: 10 “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men.
- And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘**God, be merciful to me a sinner!**’
- I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who **exalts himself will be humbled**, and he who **humbles himself will be exalted.**” Lk. 18:9-14

Poverty Yet Wealth

- Man is saved by grace and not by perfect works. Eph. 2:4-10
- God takes our faith and fidelity and renders us righteous. Rom. 4:1-8
- God has supplemented our efforts with the blood of his Son and he will always make up the difference for us if we are trying as hard as we can. Rom. 3:21-23
- We will always be Poor
- God will always make us Rich
- We can NEVER trust in ourselves

Godly Sorrow

- *Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. 10 For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. 2 Cor 7:9-11*
- God's grace does not remove this ... Strengthens it!
- Repentance & Confession = Confidence.

Godly Sorrow Brings Right Emotions

- *For observe this very thing, that you sorrowed in a godly manner: What **diligence** it produced in you, what **clearing** of yourselves, what **indignation**, what **fear**, what **vehement desire**, what **zeal**, what **vindication**! In all things you **proved yourselves to be clear** in this matter. 2 Cor 7:9-11*
- Regardless of God's grace, we must feel this and do this after every sin of commission or omission.
- Never self-satisfied as the Pharisee.
- Salvation is never on auto-pilot.
- Always needs faith, humility, submission and fear

The Present Moment

- when a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, All the righteousness which he has done shall not be remembered; because of the unfaithfulness of which he is guilty and the sin which he has committed, because of them he shall die. 18:20-24
- "When a righteous man turns away from his righteousness, commits iniquity, and dies in it, it is because of the iniquity which he has done that he dies. 18:26
- "When I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, but he trusts in his own righteousness and commits iniquity, none of his righteous works shall be remembered; 33:12-13
- "When the righteous turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, he shall die because of it.. 33:18
- At the moment of sin before repentance there is no grace

The Present Moment

- if a wicked man turns from all his sins which he has committed, keeps all My statutes, and does what is lawful and right, he shall surely live; he shall not die. None of the transgressions which he has committed shall be remembered against him; because of the righteousness which he has done, he shall live. 18:21-22
- Again, when a wicked man turns away from the wickedness which he committed, and does what is lawful and right, he preserves himself alive. 28 "Because he considers and turns away from all the transgressions which he committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. Ezek 18:27-28
- "But when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is lawful and right, he shall live because of it. 33:18
- At the moment of repentance and confession there is grace.

The Present Moment

- *The righteousness of the righteous man shall not deliver him in the day of his transgression; as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall because of it in the day that he turns from his wickedness; nor shall the righteous be able to live because of his righteousness in the day that he sins.*

- *"When the righteous turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, he shall die because of it. 19 "But when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is lawful and right, he shall live because of it.*

Grace is always given/received in the present moment

- It can't be saved up. It will not exempt when we sin.

- Grace is the opportunity to repent and confess.

Under such Circumstances

- *Don't be conceited, but fear if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will He spare you. Rom 11:19*
- *Take care, brethren, lest there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart. Heb 3:12-13*
- *let us fear lest, while a promise remains any one of you should seem come short of it. Heb 4:1-3*
- *conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay upon earth 1 Pet 1:17*
- *Be sober be watchful Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, 1 Pet 5:8*

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