

Mercy and Grace

1. Keeping the Law demanded performance from humanity.

[Jhn 1:17 KJV] 17 For the law was given by Moses, [but] grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

[Lev 11:45 KJV] 45 For I [am] the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I [am] holy.

Bob Hoekstra said, "Remember, faith is what corresponds with grace. "Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace" (Romans 4:16). Trying our hardest does not ensure God's grace working in and through us. Attempting to be passive does not bring forth a display of His grace. However, humbly trusting in the Lord, whether taking action or patiently waiting, will always result in His grace undertaking for us."

2. The Law provides no aid to make a person right with God

[Heb 10:1 NLT] 1 The old system under the law of Moses was only a shadow, a dim preview of the good things to come, not the good things themselves. The sacrifices under that system were repeated again and again, year after year, but they were never able to provide perfect cleansing for those who came to worship.

3. Nobody can keep all the law on their own. It takes faith in God.

[Hab 2:4 KJV] 4 Behold, his soul [which] is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.

[Gal 3:11 KJV] 11 But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, [it is] evident: for, The just shall live by faith.

Bob Hoekstra, "Faith is not something we can produce. It results from getting to know the Lord more and more. Paul spoke of this pattern in part of his testimony. "I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him." As the years passed, Paul was getting acquainted with the Lord in whom he had first believed.

4. God did not do away with the Law when the new covenant was put in place because of the purpose of both covenants.

[Mat 5:17 NKJV] 17 "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.

The Law showed us our sin and our inability to help ourselves.

[Rom 7:7 NLT] 7 Well then, am I suggesting that the law of God is sinful? Of course not! In fact, it was the law that showed me my sin. I would never have known that coveting is wrong if the law had not said, "You must not covet."

[1Ti 1:9 NLT] 9 For the law was not intended for people who do what is right. It is for people who are lawless and rebellious, who are ungodly and sinful, who consider nothing sacred and defile what is holy, who kill their father or mother or commit other murders.

Grace showed us how the Lord would save us and our righteousness came through faith in God.

[Eph 2:8-9 NLT] 8 God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. 9 Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

5. The New Covenant places the requirement for making a person whole upon the Lord by our faith in Him.

[Rom 3:31 NLT] 31 Well then, if we emphasize faith, does this mean that we can forget about the law? Of course not! In fact, only when we have faith do we truly fulfill the law.

6. The Holy Spirit provides all we need to be right with God

[Act 13:39 NKJV] 39 "and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.

[Rom 3:20, 28 NKJV] 20 Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law [is] the knowledge of sin. ... 28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.

[Rom 5:1 NKJV] 1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

[1Co 6:11 NKJV] 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

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7. God's Mercy and Grace was present in the Old Testament.

[Gen 6:8 NKJV] 8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

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[Exo 33:17 NKJV] 17 So the LORD said to Moses, "I will also do this thing that you have spoken; for you have found grace in My sight, and I know you by name."

[Pro 3:34 NKJV] 34 Surely He scorns the scornful, But gives grace to the humble.