

False Grace

**It is a poor sermon that
gives no offense; that
neither makes the hearer
displeased with himself
nor with the preacher.**

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George Whitefield
American Clergyman

I once watched a very well known 'Grace Preacher' (a man who believes that he has discovered a new truth which has been missing from the church for the last 2000 years) making a statement.

As he was looking down from the pulpit of one of the large mega-churches he told his listening audience that "we do not know whom we will meet in heaven one day". He added that just because a person was not 'saved' in this life does not mean that we will not see them in heaven.

He stated that Jesus could have appeared to them at the point of death when they entered into the 'grey zone'. He believes that this 'gray zone' is the zone that a person enters into at the moment of dying when a person is no longer alive but has also not yet fully stepped into eternity itself. He assured his audience that Jesus can still meet a person right at that point and reveal himself thus giving that person one more last chance. As a result of this he concluded that we will see many more people in heaven than what will end up in hell.

His audience seemed visibly taken by his assurance that there is still a chance of salvation even after we died.

Surely a God of love would not send to many people to hell!

But there was no one in the entire audience of that large church who dared to challenge his unbiblical assumptions.

Those words were in fact a complete contradiction of scripture itself.

Once a man (and this does not matter how famous he is) starts to build his believe on his own ideas and assumptions rather than on the solid word of God he will always end up in error.

The Bible states very clearly that it is in this life and in this life alone that we need to find God's forgiveness. It is here in this life were experience His wonderful salvation. There is no chance after. There is not 1 single verse in the entire Bible which indicates that there might be another chance once we have closed our eyes for the last time.

There is no more salvation in this 'grey zone' (there is no proof that such a place even exists).

The fact is that it is extremely unlikely that a person would want to accept the message of salvation if he or she had ignored this message during their life.

All of us had an entire life time to get our life in order with God. If we have ignored him for an entire lifetime, why would we suddenly desire to change and run towards him at the moment when we have closed our eyes?

It is here in this life that we need to make peace with God for there is no chance to do so in the life after.

Scripture has made this point very clear to us on many occasions.

Why would we have been told a lie when God's word claims that it has revealed the truth to us?

The assumption of a 2nd chance, of a chance of salvation once our spirit has left our body is a very dangerous assumption that provides people with a very false sense of security.

The fact is that Jesus told us the exact opposite to what this famous preacher told that congregation.

Jesus said that the way to heaven was small, was narrow and he also told us that only few would walk on this narrow path. **(Matthew 7:13-14"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it."**

The way to eternal destruction is wide and comfortable and most of mankind has chosen to walk on that road. This is the very literal 'hiway to hell', a large, wide open road with few obstacles along the way. It is an attractive wide open road and it's so easy to walk on. This is the road that leads to destruction!

Either Jesus has lied to us or this man was deliberately out to deceive his congregation.

It is spiritual suicide if we elevate the words of a man over the words of our Lord.

By believing that God's grace was so great that it would even include the salvation of those who had passed away without first getting their life in order is believing in a 'grace' that simply does not exist.

I have also heard that same preacher (on a different occasion) make mocking comments about one of the great English revival preachers of the past.

When this dear man of God used to preach people would often break down in tears under great conviction of their sins. This man was known to often preach about God's holiness which exposes our sin. During his meetings (mainly open air meetings) the Holy Spirit would often fall down on many of his listeners. People would cry out to God in a loud voice pleading for mercy as they were overcome by great conviction. It was told that in many of the old mining towns, coal miners would stand and listen to him with their faces covered in black (from the dirty coal mines). When the Holy Spirit fell upon them their faces were washed clean by floods of tears.

Everywhere this man went to great numbers of man and woman were getting converted. And their conversions were so real that the changed lives of those people transformed the entire nation. The whole social fabric of their society was changed as a result.

And this boastful preacher mocked this dear English saint because of the way people would weep under conviction of sin when they heard the wonderful message of salvation.

Who was it who had convicted them of their sins? Was it simply the words of the preacher or was it the real presence of the Holy Spirit Himself?

If they simply got converted as a result of the crafty words of a preacher then their conversions would not have been real. There would have been no fruit to follow. But the fruit in their life was the evidence that there was someone else who had been at work in their hearts!

To mock what the Holy Spirit has done equals 'grieving the Holy Spirit'. It is the only sin which cannot be forgiven!

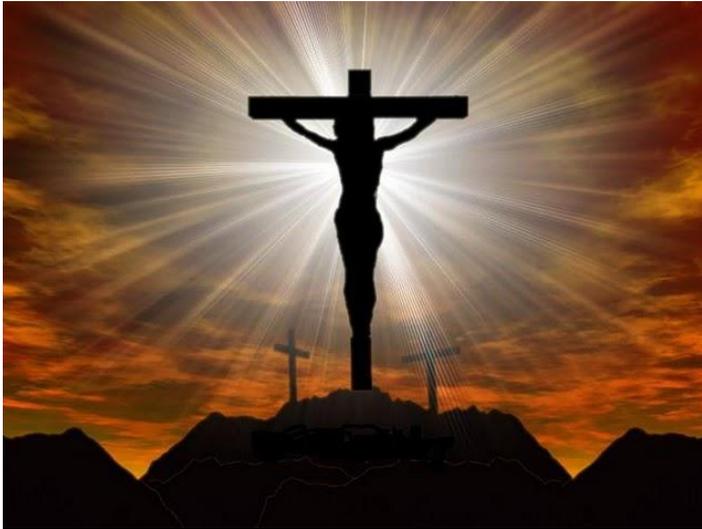
By mocking the work of God (with such boastful arrogance) this man was in fact grieving the Holy Spirit himself for it was God's Holy Spirit who was behind the declaration of the great and mighty work of salvation.

A man who dares to mock the work of the Holy Spirit will always lead his people astray. The spirit will not be at work in the words that he preaches!

He will simply be one of those men that scriptures has warned us about.

He will 'tickle' our ears and fascinate our minds with his 'new' revelations but none of that will be from the Lord!

Scripture is very clear about the simple and the true meaning of 'grace'.



God's 'grace' contains no mysteries that would require any additional revelations which have been given to someone in order to expose the full true meaning to us. God's grace has been revealed very openly to us in the form of a cross!

On that cross God the father did not spare the life of His son!

On that cross Jesus spilled his own blood for the sake of our salvation so that all who believe in him will have the power to become redeemed children of God!

The revelation of 'grace' had cost God everything that He had!

It had cost Him the life of His own son!

On the cross He exchanged the life of His son for our judgment!

Judgment demanded the 'death sentence' for all of us stand guilty before God.

We have been declared 'guilty' and the verdict 'death' is written over all of our faces. It is a divine verdict from where there can be no escape.

And this guilt results in a 'death sentence' which will lead to the eternal separation from God.

There is no 'grey zone' of salvation. We do not find no such indication anywhere in scriptures.

The 'soul that sins shall die' (Ezekiel 18) The wages of sin is death (Rom. 6:23)

We either die as a result of this verdict and suffer the full consequences thereof or we repent of our sins and live.

When Jesus hung on that cross it was not just he who hung on the cross. He was loaded up with the heavy burden of our sins, of our guilt. He carried the full load of our sins while he hung there suffering, plagued by great pain.

A man who preaches 'grace' without preaching repentance makes a mockery of the cross itself!

The fact is that the cross should move all of us to tears!

When we realize, when we truly understand what Jesus had done for us on that cross we should be so overwhelmed, so overcome by it that it should move us to tears.

The blood of Jesus is 'true grace' in action!
On the cross God's grace took on a very personal dimension.
It ceased from simply being a dogma or an idea and took on the form of a person.
God's grace was revealed in the very real form of 'blood', 'sweat' and 'tears'!

Sin had to be punished for God is righteous.

A righteous God can never allow sin into His pure and holy presence.

A man who believes that he can achieve his own salvation by his own works has become the victim of his own self-righteousness. He is the victim of his own deception.

The truth is that you cannot enter into God's presence the way you are.

You can only enter into His presence if you are fully covered in blood!

You need the blood of Jesus because only the blood of Jesus has the power to cover your sins.

Without that blood you will remain completely transparent before God and He will be able to see every speck of dirt that is hidden beneath your skin.

'False' or 'cheap grace' needed to invent a god who does not even exist.

The emphasis will always be on 'love'. It will always focus on the false, on the erroneous belief that this god of love is so loving that he can afford to deal with sin in a rather trivial manner. Such a 'false' preacher will trivialize sin by mocking repentance.

But the fact remains that God took sin so seriously that He did not spare the life of His son!

If the message of the cross has never moved us to tears than we have never understood the true meaning of it at all!!!

How could we remain indifferent when we hear what God had done to His son?

The true work of the Holy Spirit will always result in bringing a person to repentance and He will bring us to repentance at the foot of the cross!

Any other teaching may well tickle our ears but it will fail to turn us into true disciples of Jesus.

Someone else might greatly profit from it but it will leave us behind as spiritual orphans.

You cannot believe in a lie and at the same time expect to be blessed by the Holy Spirit as well. God does not bless the lies that we tell!

Every true spiritual blessing will always lead us to the foot of the cross!

At the cross human selfishness, human interest will come to a halt. It is only at the cross that you can really discover the depth of your own depravity and truly find God's love and forgiveness.

The cross will always leave us kneeling in awe as we surrender all that we have and all that is within us.

At the cross 'false grace' will be changed into 'real grace' when we discover the full meaning and the impact of God's great plan of salvation.

The cross was the only remedy that God could think of that would effectively deal with our sin!

'True grace' will always lead a man to repentance for only in true repentance there is freedom from sin.

'Grace' that does not expose our sin is 'cheap grace', it is false and superficial and it will never lead us to the very heart of God himself.

'True grace' always starts at the foot of the cross, at the realization that we are lost without the precious blood of Jesus.

'True grace' will lead us into the undeserved presence of God where we can remain until the day when He chooses to take us home to Himself.

But in the meanwhile let us be weary of anyone who comes along with any 'new' revelations, especially if this person can dismiss the past work of the Holy Spirit with proud and boastful words.

'New revelations' that do not line up with the revealed teaching of scripture will always end up glorifying man as we are lead us astray into error and into eventual spiritual death.

Whenever you see a man who has grown very wealthy as a result of his or her ministry you will almost inevitable watch a 'false Sheppard' who will use God's flock for his own selfish material gain.

In order to enrich themselves further such man have even invented a false gospel (the prosperity gospel). This has been the result of the deep seated hunger and lust for more earthly riches, for even greater financial gain.

Riches and comfort were not part of the earthly existence of Jesus.

None of his real disciples had ever used their ministry to money so that they can grow wealthy themselves.

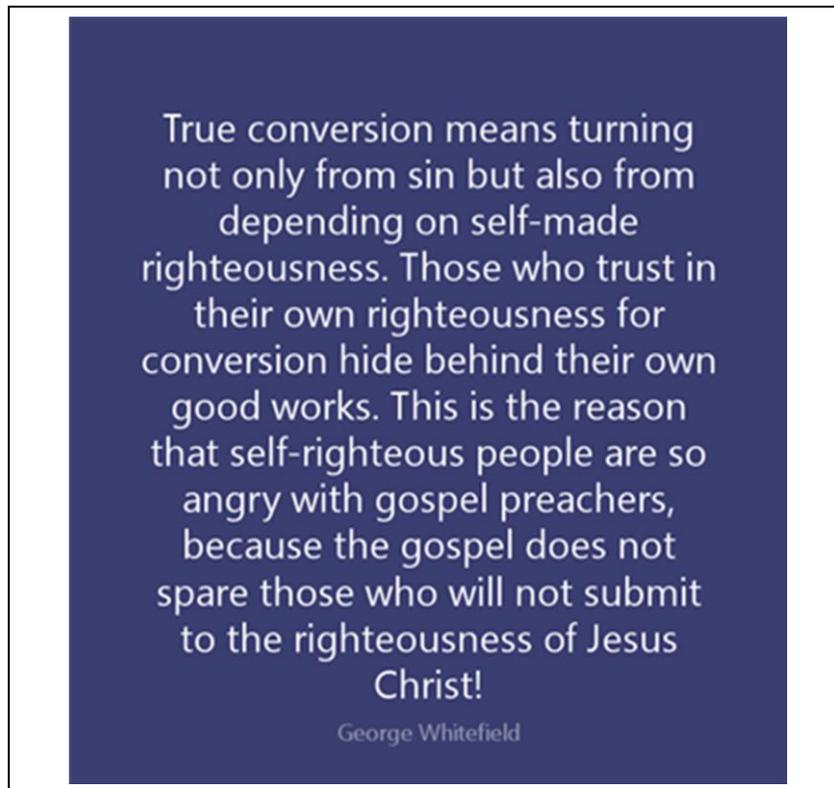
The only disciple who had ever put his hand in the offering bag for his own selfish gain was Judas!

But we have been warned that in the last days many false prophets will come and try to deceive many. They will even attempt to replace God's revealed truth with

their own revelations. And by doing so they will tickle the ears of many and they will gain great status and wealth.

But we have been forewarned, we know what is coming.

Matthew 24:11 “**Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many**”



Judge for yourself- the following are a few statements by **Joseph Prince**

- "The word repentance is from the Greek word metanoia, which literally means change your mind. Preaching the word without using the word repentance, people's minds are being changed all the time from thinking negatively to thinking positively."
- Asking forgiveness for sin is unnecessary for “believers”
- God was perpetually angry in the Old Testament and perpetually happy in the New Testament
- God does not judge nations for wickedness
- If God judges people, cities and nations today, then He should apologize to Jesus for the cross
- We never truly stop sinning but God’s okay with that
- The Word of God and the word of Christ don’t agree on some things
- Part of Jesus’ teaching is not applicable because it’s “Old Testament”

- Confession of sins for believers is about “being open” with God, not about repentance because we are already forgiven
- Even though the book of I John was written to the church, the opening chapter is only for Gnostics and therefore we can disregard the instructions to confess our sin
- Confession of sin is unnecessary because we would have to confess all the time (inferring we would never stop sinning)
- Paul didn’t teach confession of sins
- Christ died to save us from the Old Testament covenant
- Not only should we not teach “the law” from the pulpit, we should only teach grace (even though the New Testament gives 1050 commands for believers to obey, we should still skip that part)
- An evil conscience is one that convicts you of sin and failure (in other words a WORKING conscience)
- The Holy Spirit does not convict us of sin or of judgment
- Satan likes the Ten Commandments
- The law caused Paul to be deceived in sin
- Paul continued in sin but realized he was not condemned anyway
- The prodigal son didn’t really repent, he was just conning his father for food
- We shouldn’t talk about sin, repentance or judgment from the pulpit, we should only talk about the goodness of God
- Abraham had a covenant of grace, but Moses’ had an inferior covenant of works
- Repentance doesn’t involve mourning or sorrow (or confession) for sin, it just means you changed your mind about something
- The doctrine of repentance from sin is not for believers
- Paul “winked” at the sins of Corinth because they were under grace but firmly rebuked the sins of Galatia because they taught the law
- Fasting is unnecessary and is only in the New Testament because fasting enthusiasts added it in later manuscript copies
- “When Satan tempted Jesus to “turn the stones to bread”, he was actually tempting Jesus to get nourishment from the law instead of trusting in the love of God!!!”



Does this sound like a man whose words you can trust?