

Gracenomics: Changing the World through giving

Introduction

- Graceconomics part III (Authority and Accountability// Redeeming our time (priceless))
- That we would consume grace and be a people who desire for **God's grace to abound (consumption) and the transfer of grace to others.**
- **Pew Voting Issues 2016:**
 1. Economy (84% of respondents) \$\$
 2. Terrorism
 3. Foreign policy
 4. Health care \$\$
- **Gallup important issues for voters**
 1. Economy \$\$
 2. Dissatisfaction with govt
 3. Unemployment \$\$
 4. Election reform
- **What would our community look like/your neighborhood if your giving and your living was shaped and formed solely by your understanding of God's Grace??**
- If God's grace is not **shaping** how to manage your time and treasure... have you truly experienced His Grace?
- Why so much teaching and preaching on treasure and time? Because I care for your soul. **Where your treasure is there you find your heart.**

Gracenomics: How the Gospel changes my world (Eph. 2:8)

- **Production of Grace**
 - How does God's grace radically reshape my world? We see in Ephesians that THE (article) grace of God saves.
 - We must remind ourselves constantly and consistently that we produce nothing in regards to our salvation. Truly, you never take the first, second, or third, step towards God. Biblical truth teaches us that God sent His Son to give you life and salvation.
 - **We must Quit thinking that we produced our salvation or anything about our salvation! You are not spiritually self-sufficient**
 - This is like a child who bought a gift for his parents b-day with their money thinking they bought the gift with their earned merit.
 - **Grace is the very opposite of merit... Grace is not only undeserved favor, but it is favor shown to the one who has deserved the very opposite. –Harry Ironside**

- He graciously produces everything and this view of salvation spills over into your understanding of gracenomics
- Give (treasure) and Live (time) to show the world He produces grace

- **Consumption of Grace**

- We live in a consumer society. Consumption = the using of a resource, the ingesting of something.
 - Just do it; think different; Loreal- because your worth it; have it your way; melts in your mouth not in your hand; betcha can't eat just one; I'm loving it!
 - We are not afraid to consume the worlds goods—but often we are afraid to consume, to ingest, to freely drink of God's Grace.
 - But we are encouraged to Taste and see that the Lord is Good (Ps 34); if you thirst—let him come to Me and drink (Jn 37). “we were all made to drink of one Spirit (1 Cor. 12:14)
- Don't buy the lie that cultivating condemnation and wallowing in your shame is somehow pleasing to God, or that a constant, low-grade guilt will somehow promote holiness and spiritual maturity. It's just the opposite... It's only when we receive his free gift of grace and live in the good of total forgiveness that we're able to turn from old, sinful ways of living and walk in grace-motivated obedience. —C.J. Mahaney
- God's grace shapes us in that we are turned from consumers of the world to consumers of Grace--- and you can never get enough.... And it never runs out.
 - 1Tim. 1:14 And the grace of our Lord overflowed, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.
 - Consume GRACE! Give and Live to show the world you consume grace not goods

- **Transferring of Grace (2:10)**

- For this reason, by God's salvation you were created. See on John 1:3. The verb originally means to *make habitable*, to people. *God saved you to make you habitable toward people.*
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- For good works. And what is the value of our good works? So what we would be noticed as “good.” Certainly not. We are created for good works – that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven (Matt. 5:16)
 - You were created to be a conduit, a transfer of Grace! We are merely drivers who transport (like the gasoline tankers) His free gift.
 - "Answering a student's question, 'Will the heathen who have not heard the Gospel be saved?' thus, 'It is more a question with me whether we,

who have the Gospel and fail to give it to those who have not, can be saved." – C.H. Spurgeon

- o How often to you make grace transfers? May you Give and Live to transfer Grace.

Gracenomics: How my giving changes the world (1 Tim. 6-11)

1. God's Grace makes you content (6:6 & 8)

- a. The greedy man, the man who gives rarely is a man who is not content. The world is longing to see contentment.
- b. **Contentment** (αὐταρκείας). Only here and 2 Corinthians 9:8. The adjective αὐτάρκης *self-sufficient*, Philippians 4:11. Comp. sir. xl. 18. Αὐτάρκεια is an **inward self-sufficiency**, as opposed to the **lack or the desire of outward** things
 - i. "Giving isn't a luxury of the rich. It's a privilege of the poor," –Randy Alcorn
- c. **Your giving is grace on display --- because it shows that His grace is sufficient.**

2. Your giving is a reminder to others of your true Home (6:7-8)

- a. The statement is: We brought nothing into the world *because* we can carry nothing out.
 - b. The fact that we brought nothing into the world is shown by the **impossibility** of our taking with us anything out of it
 - c. Why can we take nothing out of it? Because we live in a broken, mortal, temporary world.
- They are not of the world, as I am not of the world (John 17:16)
 - IF you are living/giving like this world is your home... maybe it is! Oh that Jesus would save your soul.
 - o Why don't people ask us about our hope? The answer is probably that we look as if we hope in the same things they do. –John Piper

3. Your Treasure and your Time reveal to others your desires

- Giving and Gospel living is the vaccination for greed, materialism, and the insatiable desire for MORE.
- The Bible warns... beware for you who desire: it is not the possession of riches but the love of them that leads into temptation.
- Some of us are playing with the snare and swimming in the deep end and causing you to stray from your faith.
 - o "The desire of love is to give. The desire of lust is to take." --Unknown
 - o Oh that our giving would change the world. That missionaries would abound because of us. That poverty would be eradicated. And that the hearts of the needy would be touched by our Gospel living and Gospel giving.

Conclusion

God sees your finances and your faith as inseparable.

Oh that you will experience the joy of giving today! To hear the words well done good and faithful servant!

Will you take the next step?



We have spent the majority of our time this morning on the topic of giving. Let us return full circle to the gift. The gift

For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift—

- By sitting in your seat you are agreeing that you are right with God and do not today need to profess Him as Lord.
- Do you have a Savior Story?

Why does it Matter?

- We have been justified (made right before the Lord) and accepted
- We receive forgiveness (redeemed)
- We escape God's wrath (reconciled)
- We are adopted in to a new family
- We gain a new identity (New Creation)
- **Believe, Confess, Faith, Baptism**

Notes

- My dear friend Dixie Fraley told me, “we are most like God when we are giving,” 31.
 - God keeps an account open for us in heaven, and every gift given for His glory is a depot in that account, 41.
 - Because we give, eternity will be different – for others and for us, 41.
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 - Jesus raised the spiritual giving bar – he never lowered it, 63.
 - Giving isn’t a luxury of the rich. It’s a privilege of the poor, 29.
 - life is wasted if we do not grasp the glory of the cross, cherish it for what it is, and cleave to it as the highest price of every pleasure and the deepest comfort in every pain, 41.
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- Why don’t people ask us about our hope? The answer is probably that we look as if we hope in the same things they do, 109.

8 For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God’s gift—

- Grace has an article so it is : for by THE grace
- Gift: here God is emphatic. So: of God is the gift.
- Grace, without any respect to human worthiness, confers the glorious gift (Wesley).

9 not from works, so that no one can boast.

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- Neither this faith nor this salvation is owing to any works you ever did, will, or can do (Wesley).
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10 For we are His creation, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time so that we should walk in them. Eph 2:8

10. For we are His workmanship. A reason why no man should glory. If *we* are God’s workmanship, our *salvation* cannot be of ourselves. *His* is emphatic. *His* workmanship are *we*.

Created (κτισθέντες). See on John 1:3. The verb originally means *to make habitable, to people*. Hence *to found*. God is called κτίστης *creator*, 1 Peter 4:19, and ὁ κτίσας *he that created*, Romans 1:25. Compare Revelation 4:11. Κτίσις is used of the whole sum of created things, Mark 10:6; Romans 8:22.

- When it comes to grace you produce nothing. That is why it is grace: something you do not deserve
- Although we do not produce grace we can participate in Grace. Because it is by His grace through faith (in Jesus) that you find and obtain salvation of your soul.
- Why? To transfer grace to others (good works)

- God's grace found you because it is going to someone else

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6 But godliness with contentment is a great gain.

Contentment (ἀνταρκείας). Only here and 2 Corinthians 9:8. The adjective ἀνάρκης *self-sufficient*, Philippians 4:11. Comp. sir. xl. 18. Ἀνάρκεια is an inward self-sufficiency, as opposed to the lack or the desire of outward things. It was a favorite Stoic word, expressing the doctrine of that sect that a man should be sufficient unto himself for all things, and able, by the power of his own will, to resist the force of circumstances. In Ps. of Solomon 5:18, we read: "Blessed is the man whom God remembereth with a sufficiency convenient for him" (ἐν συμμετρία ἀνταρκείας); that is, with a sufficiency proportioned to his needs

1Tim. 6:7 For we brought nothing into the world,
and we can take nothing out.

8 But if we have food and clothing,
we will be content with these.

And it is certain we can carry, etc. Omit *and* and *certain*. Rend. ὅτι *because*. The statement is: We brought nothing into the world *because* we can carry nothing out. The fact that we brought nothing into the world is shown by the impossibility of our taking with us anything out of it; since if anything belonging to us in our premundane state had been brought by us into the world, it would not be separated from us at our departure

from the world. Comp. Job 1:21; Ecclesiastes 5:15; Psalm 49:17.

1Tim. 6:9 But those who want to be rich fall into temptation, a trap, and many foolish and harmful desires, which plunge people into ruin and destruction.

They that will be rich (οἱ βουλόμενοι πλουτεῖν). Better, *they that desire* to be rich. It is not the *possession* of richness but the *love* of them that leads men into temptation.

Drown (βυθίζουσι). Only here and Luke 5:7, note. A strong expression of the results of avarice.

10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and by craving it, some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

1Tim. 6:11 But you, man of God, run from these things, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness.

Illustrations

- What if I gave you money what would be obsolete in 3 weeks?
 - But what if I told you everything that you spent for the king would turn into an eternal treasure

Application

- Work has dignity because it is something that God does and because we do it in God's place, as his
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