

Source of the Solution, Continued

The fact believers do not go to “hell” is because of grace. The potential for believers to be rewarded in time and eternity is made possible by grace. The believer is able to make the transition from salvation grace to eternal grace by means of experiential grace.

Resolution of the inner conflict between the two husbands is made possible by grace in action in the soul of the believer. Since grace is the policy of God then the grace of God never fails. There is therefore both negative as well as positive grace.

Negative grace is stated in:

Romans 7:24 - I ... a miserable person.

This is grace. If the carnal or the reversionist did not become miserable because of what they think and do then they would never take corrective action. If they never take corrective action then God cannot bless or reward them in grace.

Therefore, in order to bless and reward through grace, God must goad and discipline through grace. This is how grace is able to function without compromising the integrity of God. Righteousness demands righteousness while justice demands justice.

Definition of Righteousness: The attribute of God that describes the absolute perfection of His character and Person. Righteousness refers to perfect divine standards which define “*rightness*.”

Justice executes what righteousness demands.

Definition of Justice: That attribute of God that describes His infinite fairness in blessing, reward, judgment, and cursing.

Thus, righteousness is the principle of divine integrity while justice is the function of divine integrity. When we submit to the allurements of the first husband, we violate the standards of divine righteousness. Righteousness demands righteousness and we have committed an unrighteous function. Justice therefore demands justice.

Whatever righteousness demands justice must execute.

Violation of righteous standards demands of justice the imposition of goads and the chastisement of discipline. The objective is to gain the attention of the carnal or reversionistic believer for the purpose of motivating corrective action. This form of negative justice is a part of negative grace. God's integrity can only bless righteousness, it can only punish sinfulness.

When the believer orients and adjusts through rebound then righteousness demands of justice that blessings be imputed in place of discipline. Justice executes the requirement by forgiving the believer and restoring him to fellowship.

Consistent advance in the grace plan of God enables righteousness to demand of justice that blessings flow to the plus-R of the positive believer. This is positive grace.

The sovereignty of God established this system at salvation by constructing a grace pipeline from divine essence to the imputed righteousness of the believer. On God's end of the pipeline is His divine justice while on the believer's end is imputed righteousness.

Since justice is our point of contact with the essence of God, then blessings from God can only flow down that pipeline to a righteous target. Failure on our part to conform to divine righteousness shuts down the flow of blessings from the grace pipeline (but not logistical supply).

Justice imposes discipline on the body and is perceived physically as pain and suffering and mentally through such reactions as misery and despair. Thus, whether in blessing or in cursing, grace ensures that divine essence is never compromised.

Romans 7:25a - Grace belongs to God through Jesus Christ our Lord.