

Grace

Valentinus (269 or 270 A.D.)

Valentines Day named after him. February 14th named after him. Was a Priest in Rome. Claudius II declared an edict that no soldier of Rome-may their hearts grow bloodlessly cold-could weaken his will or soften his courage in marriage. Marriages then went underground and Roman soldiers and their betrothed fled to a sympathetic Valentinus and he would marry them. In time Valentinus was caught and his treasonous disobedience duly sentenced by the Prefect of Rome. He was beaten by clubs and beheaded on February 14th in 269 or 270.

Grace in contrast to Law:

Law:

- ❖ Demands righteousness from man
- ❖ Connected with Moses and works
- ❖ Law blesses the good
- ❖ Law Demands blessing be earned

Grace:

- ❖ God Gives righteousness to man
- ❖ Connected with Christ and Faith
- ❖ Grace saves the bad
- ❖ Grace is a free gift.

John 1:17

17 For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

- ❖ In the days of Moses there was grace. (Ex.34:6,7)

Exodus 34:6,7

6 And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,

7 Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear *the guilty*; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth *generation*.

Note: The law was itself was the exhibition of truth; but when Christ came he was the personification of truth and his life and death the supreme manifestation of grace.

- ❖ Grace is the kindness and love of God our savior toward man...not by righteous works we have done. (Titus 3:4,5)

Titus 3: 4,5

4 But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared,

5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

Grace is constantly set in contrast to the law. (Rom. 3:21,22 and 8:4, Phil 3:9)

Under law: God demands righteousness from man

Under Grace: God gives righteousness to man.

Romans 3: 21,22

21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

22 Even the righteousness of God *which is* by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

Romans 8:4

4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Phillipians 3:9

9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

Law Connected with Moses and Works... Grace with Christ and Faith (John 1:17 Rom 10:4-10)

John 1:17

17 For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

Romans 10:4-10

4 For Christ *is* the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

5 For Moses describeth the righteousness which is of the law, That the man which doeth those things shall live by them.

6 But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down *from above*;))

7 Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.)

8 But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, *even* in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Law Blesses The Good, Grace Saves The Bad. (Ex.19:5, Eph. 2:1-9,)

Exodus: 19:5

5 Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth *is* mine:

Ephesians 2: 1-9

1 And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

6 And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:

7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

Note: We are saved by grace, not by faith. Faith is the channel through which flows the Divine stream of saving grace. Grace and Faith are both gifts of God.

9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Law Demands That Blessings Be Earned, Grace Is A Free Gift

(Deut 28:1-6, Eph. 2:8, Rom 4:4-5)

Deuteronomy 28:1-6

1 And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe *and* to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

2 And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.

3 Blessed *shalt* thou *be* in the city, and blessed *shalt* thou *be* in the field.

4 Blessed *shall be* the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

5 Blessed *shall be* thy basket and thy store.

6 Blessed *shalt* thou *be* when thou comest in, and blessed *shalt* thou *be* when thou goest out.

Ephesians 2:8

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God

Romans 4:4-5

4 Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt.

5 But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

Grace Begins With The Death And Resurrection Of Jesus Christ (Rom. 3:23-24 4:24-25)

Romans 3: 24-26

24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

25 Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

26 To declare, *I say*, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus

Romans 4:24-25

24 But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;

25 Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification

The point of testing is no longer legal obedience as the condition of salvation, but acceptance or rejection of Christ, with good works as the fruit of salvation. (John 1:12-13, 3:36, Matt. 21:37, John 15:22,25, Heb. 1:2, I John 5:10-12)

John 1:12-13

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 3:36

36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

Matthew 21:37

37 But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son

reverence=stand in awe of

John 15:22-25

22 If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloke for their sin.

Cloke=excuse

23 He that hateth me hateth my Father also.

24 If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father.

25 But *this cometh to pass*, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause.

Hebrews 1:2

2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

I John 5:10-12

10 He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.

11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

12 He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

The Immediate Result Of This Testing Was The Rejection Of Christ By The Jews And His Crucifixion By Jew And Gentile (Acts 4:27)

Acts 4:27

27 For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together,

The Predicted End Of The Testing Of Man Under Grace Is The Apostasy Of The Professing Church And The Resultant Apocalyptic Judgements (II Tim. 3:1-8)

II Timothy 3: 1-8

- 1** This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.
- 2** For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
- 3** Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,
- 4** Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;
- 5** Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.
- 6** For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,
- 7** Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.
- 8** Now as Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith.

The Twofold Manifestation Of Grace

- ❖ Salvation

Romans 3:24

24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

- ❖ In The Walk and Service Of The Saved

Romans 6:15

15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.