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Grace Pt 3 Grace Given by God matches our Gifts

This is our third & final study on grace. In our previous teaching we covered three points– (i) today we are under grace, (ii) grace reigns through righteousness unto eternal life by Christ Jesus, and (iii) Christians have received the abundance of grace– the gift of righteousness. In this teaching we will establish an additional three points– (i) A minister is given the role according to the grace of God given him, (ii) grace is given according to the measure of the gift of Christ, and (iii) gifts given by grace– of prophecy and teaching, differ according the measure of faith, dealt by God.

It is from our search of the scriptures that we establish our points–

1. A minister is given the role according to the grace of God given him
“Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power” (Eph.3: 7).

2. Grace is given according to the measure of the gift of Christ
“But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ” (Eph.4: 7).

3. Gifts given by grace– of prophecy and teaching differ according to the measure of faith– dealt by God.

“For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. [6] Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy] according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching.” (Rom.12: 3 6, 7).

Illustration

At BCNZ students in their last year would share the ministry they were going into. I will never forget the words of a chap that Karen and I studied with– he was going for further training to be a minister in the Methodist church because his wife wanted to be a wife of a minister, and there was a good retirement package!
And we wonder why the failure rate of ministers is so high – perhaps they are self appointed pastors, and not set by God.

Question of the scriptures

What is the difference between those who set themselves in the ministry and those whom God appoints?

Answer from the scriptures

The differences are–

The self appointed ministers are not given the faith they will need, they likely walk in their own faith, whereas those appointed by Christ will be given (by grace), the measure of faith (the faith of Christ – Gal.2: 19) they need .

The self appointed pastors are not given the grace they need, whereas those appointed by Christ will be given the measure of grace required for the ministry they have been given.

The self appointed preacher gets the glory, whereas when the teacher appointed by God is given faith, and grace that he needs – he gives ALLI glory to God–1 Cor.4: 7. Let us all work in the area of ministry we are appointed, and thank the Lord for the grace of God that is given and the measure of grace to do the work, and glorify God!