

Unbalanced Grace

Ephesians 1:7-12 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace 8 which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight 9 He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him 10 with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him 11 also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, 12 to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory.

Here's a link showing the history of pandemics in our world:

<https://www.visualcapitalist.com/history-of-pandemics-deadliest/>

Proverbs 17:22 A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit saps a person's strength.

1. We have _____ that is undeserved.

Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood...

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Titus 3:5 state, "He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit."

2. We have _____ that is comprehensive.

Ephesians 1:7-8

- Cornelius Plantinga: "We can never arrive at any definition of grace without sin as our point of departure. Cheap grace trivializes the cross of Christ. How can we avert our eyes from a cross that is drenched in holy blood? It was for sin that God, clothed in flesh, writhed in agony on our behalf. It was for iniquity; for wickedness; for every manner of wretched, despicable evil that He submitted to beating and humiliation and finally the obscenity of death itself."

- Pause the video and make a list of ten of the worst sins that come to mind. Let everyone share before restarting the video.

1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

3. We have an _____ that is eternal
Ephesians 1:11

1 Peter 1:3-4 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you.

Stop the video and take just a moment a read Revelation 21

Revelation 21:7 He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son.

4. We have _____ that is dependable.
Ephesians 1:13-14

- The Bible points to 3 aspects or tenses of our salvation:
 - o a past tense – We were saved from the _____ of sin
 - o present tense – We are being saved from the _____ of sin
 - o future tense – We will be saved from the _____ of sin.
- Stop the video for a moment and share examples of times when you need to make a deposit or down payment and what that means.

You can read more about John Newton at the following link:
<https://bit.ly/2UCuQ4j>

Follow the link to listen to a song about God's grace written by William Cowper and sung by Shane and Shane: <https://bit.ly/3dhEVfd>