

Biblical Economics

The Grace and Substitution of Jesus

2 Corinthians 8:9 NKJV

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9 AMPC

“For you are becoming progressively acquainted with *and* recognizing more strongly *and* clearly the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (His kindness, His gracious generosity, His undeserved favor and spiritual blessing), [in] that though He was [so very] rich, yet for your sakes He became [so very] poor, in order that by His poverty you might become enriched (abundantly supplied).”

2 Corinthians 8:9 Passion Translation

“For you have experienced the extravagant grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that although he was infinitely rich, he impoverished himself for our sake, so that by his poverty, we become rich *beyond measure*.”

The Grace on Jesus

I. Do we really know the _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ?

John 1:17 NKJV

For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

A. Most confuse _____ with _____.

1. _____ is not receiving a penalty for some wrong doing.

2. _____, in contrast, is

a) Receiving a reward without _____.

b) Being supernaturally _____, without qualification.

B. Grace is the power of God offering mankind the _____ of what Jesus obtained through _____.

1. It is important we realize God’s grace, in the life of His children, is His supernatural _____ to do what is humanly impossible.

Ephesians 2:8 NKJV

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

a) Grace for _____.

Titus 2:11-12 NKJV

**11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men,
12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live
soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,**

b) Grace for sanctified, _____ living.

Ephesians 4:7 NKJV

But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.

c) Grace for _____.

C. Faith _____ what grace _____.

1. Grace offers salvation; faith says, "I _____ that."

a) Does God _____ it? Did Jesus _____ for it?

b) Then, it is our _____ to receive that by faith.

2. It is not God's responsibility to automatically make His promises a
_____ in our lives. _____ does that!

3. Whether or not the _____ of grace appear in your life is more up to
you than it is God.

Poor or Rich Jesus

II. Was Jesus rich or poor?

A. _____ He came to Earth?

B. What about during His _____ on Earth?

C. Tough Scriptures people use to say Jesus was _____ :

1. Consider the _____ state of the family to whom he was born.

a) The nativity scene demonstrates the lack of _____ :

(1) Born in a _____ city without family or friends

(2) Placed in a _____ - literally a feeding trough

(3) Visited by _____, considered by most to be the outcasts
of society.

b) Luke's gospel reports Mary and Joseph, when presenting Jesus to be
circumcised, offered _____ as a temple sacrifice.
(Luke 2:22-24).

- (1) Leviticus 12:7-8 explains that the usual sacrifice at the time of circumcision was to be a _____.
- (2) However, if the birth mother could not afford a _____, they will take two turtledoves or two pigeons - one for a burnt offering and one for a sin offering.
- (3) Apparently, Jesus' parents were too poor to offer the customary _____.

Luke 9:58 NKJV

“Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.”

2. This saying is also found in Matthew 8:20.
 - a) Bible interpretation _____ involves
 - (1) _____ said it.
 - (2) To _____ was it said.
 - (3) _____
 - (4) Other supportive Scriptures to _____ the value or principle.
 - b) So, Jesus said it to a scribe as to his _____ about following Him.
 - (1) Jesus did NOT say He was _____.
 - (2) Jesus said He didn't sleep in the same place often because of the _____ upon His life to get the message out.
3. Much of Jesus' material needs were apparently met by _____ from a group of devoted women who accompanied Him as well as many others. (Luke 8:2-3 & Mark 15:40-41).

D. Scriptures to support Jesus was _____.

1. As noted, Jesus family was poor around His birth. Yet, three years later when the magi visited bringing very costly gifts, Jesus' family was living in a house - indicating _____ in His parent's economic status. (Matthew 2:11)
2. Luke 2:41-51 explains that Mary and Joseph had enough financial _____ to travel as a family to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover - a journey only required of adult males, not entire families. (Exodus 23:17)
3. Historians tell us that Nazareth was a _____ town, especially for tradesmen, due to the fact it was situated near Sepphoris, a luxurious Roman vacation destination constantly under construction.
4. Jesus demonstrates abundance over _____.

Matthew 17:24-27 NKJV

24 When they had come to Capernaum, those who received the temple tax came to Peter and said, "Does your Teacher not pay the temple tax?" 25 He said, "Yes." And when he had come into the house, Jesus anticipated him, saying, "What do you think, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth take customs or taxes, from their sons or from strangers?" 26 Peter said to Him, "From strangers." Jesus said to him, "Then the sons are free. 27 Nevertheless, lest we offend them, go to the sea, cast in a hook, and take the fish that comes up first. And when you have opened its mouth, you will find a piece of money; take that and give it to them for Me and you."

- a) Does the text say Jesus did not have _____ to pay the taxes?
 - b) Why wouldn't Jesus just _____ the tax, if He had it?
 - c) In Matthew 22:19-22, Jesus teaches, "_____ unto Caesar that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."
 - d) The monies He had were probably _____ to His ministry (God's); He may have not wanted to pay their taxes (temple or Caesar's) with money designed for ministry.
5. If Jesus was poor, why did He have a _____?
- a) Often Jesus sent Judas on errands to _____ to the poor - the assumption at the time of the betrayal.
 - b) John 6:5-7 they had 200 denarii (200 days wages for agricultural workers) in the _____ at the time of the feeding of 5000.
 - c) They had enough money passing through the treasury for Judas to _____ without drawing attention to himself.
6. Jesus experienced both lack (early childhood) and abundance, but never _____ wealth nor poverty.

Jesus our Substitute

2 Corinthians 8:9 NKJV

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

- III. So, when did Jesus become _____?
- A. In the plan of redemption, Jesus was made to be _____ (2 Cor 5:21).
 - B. He also carried our _____ and our _____ (Matt 8:17, 1 Pet 2:24).
 - C. He became _____ in keeping with the theme.

D. _____ did Jesus become all this?

1. Some would have us believe that He bore this in His _____.
2. Some suggest that He suffered this while He _____ on the earth.

E. _____ did Jesus become our sacrifice?

1. He became this when He was _____ for us.
2. The Roman soldiers did not make Him to be _____.
3. The stripes were laid upon His back, but that _____ didn't heal us.
4. God had to put these things upon Him

IV. _____ did He suffer?

A. _____ did Jesus suffer our sin?

B. Jesus suffered our sin in His _____.

1. He suffered our sickness and disease in His _____.
2. He had to suffer poverty in His _____.

C. God cleanses sin from your _____.

1. God gives healing _____ to your spirit.
2. We receive _____ in our spirit.

V. What God gives _____ will manifest in the _____ world.

A. Doesn't the power God gives at salvation break the sinful _____?

1. But it _____ in the spirit.
2. It _____ in the natural.

B. When God gives _____ power, He gives spiritual power to our spirits.

1. Again, it _____ in the spirit.
2. It _____ in the natural.

C. Isn't the Baptism of the Holy Spirit a _____ experience that manifests in the _____?

D. So, when God gives material wealth, He gives that _____ to our spirit.

1. It will _____ in the natural.
2. Too many look to the natural first _____ God has given anything.

Conclusion

Jesus became poor in order for His disciples to have the ability to prosper materially. By seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, every need, both great and small, will be met by the abundant grace that was on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!