

Sola Gratia
Ephesians 2:8-9

1. Our salvation is something that is gifted from God, not in response to anything in us
2. D.L. Moody: "If a man could only work his own way to heaven, you will never hear the last of it"
3. Quotes by J.I. Packer
4. Examining the Scriptures:
 - a. We are dead in our sins and do not have it within us to save ourselves (2:1-3)
 - b. But God who is rich in mercy made us alive in Christ and saves us by His grace (2:4-5)
 - c. By grace you have been saved through faith (2:8-9)
5. Quote: "Justice is getting what we deserve, mercy is getting less than we deserve, grace is getting what we don't deserve"
6. Charles Spurgeon on the relationship between faith and grace in salvation
7. Danger: Many Christians mentally subscribe to sola gratia, but deny it in practice. (See Rom 3:10-12, John 6:44)
8. What if it is not sola gratia? What if our salvation depends on our good works and our faith?
9. Concluding applications
 - a. Be thankful for our salvation that has come to us by the grace of God
 - b. Celebrate God's grace & gift of salvation by telling it to others!

Questions for consideration & reflection

- a. What do you understand by "salvation by grace alone"?
- b. How has this doctrine been often mis-understood even among evangelicals?
- c. What is the relationship between grace and faith in our salvation experience?
- d. Why is it so vital that our salvation must be by grace alone?
- e. What is one way you can apply today's message in your daily living?