

# Standing on Mountains

## Rediscovering & Reclaiming Neglected Guiding Bible Truths

Jesus warned: “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to **observe your own traditions!**” Mk 7:9

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God’s Word declares: “The goal of your faith, **the salvation of your souls.**” 1Pe 1:9

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The very first recorded public spoken word of Jesus (versus its often man-defined traditional gutted and distorted application), “From that time on” continuing through now and beyond:

From that time on Jesus began to preach,  
“**Repent**, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” Mt 4:17

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“The law was given through Moses; **grace and truth** came through Jesus Christ” Jn 1:17

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What is Grace?

Grace is the only word that can be freely interchanged with “Jesus,” in *God’s Word*, and vice versa. Maybe the best way to understand Grace is to say Jesus is His Name and Grace is what He offers us and how He relates to us. In a sense, Grace is our connection to Christ. Like the proverbial penny with head and tail sides, Jesus and Grace are two (inseparable) sides of the Father’s greatest of all possible gifts to us.

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To Only Whom Does God Give Grace (Jesus)?

**God** opposes the proud but **gives grace to the humble.** Pr 3:34, 1Pe 5:5 & Jas 4:6

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“God chose [and still chooses] the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things – and the things that are not – to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him.” 1Cor 1:27-29

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In God’s Word, His best “picture” of salvation against which we can examine ourselves to see if we are in the faith: *Ephesians 2:1-10*:

As for you, **you were dead** in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. **All of us** also lived among them at one time,

gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we **were by nature deserving of wrath. But** because of his great love for us, **God**, who is rich in mercy, **made us alive with Christ** even when we were dead in transgressions – **it is by grace you have been saved.** And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For **it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.** **For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.**

We have been saved:

- FROM death in our transgressions and sins. like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.
- BECAUSE of God's great love and mercy for us.
- TO life with Christ.
- BY Grace.
- IN ORDER THAT in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.
- THROUGH faith – this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.
- NOT by works, so that no one can boast.
- FOR we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

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Jesus says: "The work of God is this: to believe in the One He has sent." Jn 6:29

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"The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart." Heb 4:12

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Missing the Grace and Beauty of a Great & Important Mountain Truth

"What does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the Lord's commands and decrees that I am giving you today

**for your own good?"**

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Jesus says: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." Jn 14:15

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**Today**, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts. Ps 95:7-11, Heb 3:7-19 & 4:1-8

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“I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things?” John 3:12

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Jesus says: “I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

“And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you – you of little faith? So **do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.**” Mt 6:25-33

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“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”

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Maybe the Most Encouraging Verses in *God's Word*

Jesus says: “**All the sins and blasphemies of men will be forgiven them.** But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; he is guilty of an eternal sin.” Mk 3:28-29

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Jesus says: Apart from me you can do **nothing**. John 15:5

I can do **everything** through him [Christ through His Holy Spirit] who gives me strength. Phil 4:13

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**“Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.  
Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.”**

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There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God;  
for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from their works,  
just as God did from his. Hebrews 4:9-10

Christians are now offered (and the Master expects them to live in) a 24/7/365 Sabbath-rest ~ in a sense we are always to be in God’s rest. **God is not stressing Monday – Saturday (much less Sunday) and neither should we be!**

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“Whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that **it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.**” Jn 3:21

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**Examine yourselves** to see whether you are in the faith; **test yourselves**. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you – unless, of course, you fail the test? 2Cor 13:5