

GRACE BE UNTO YOU! (Colossians 4:18; John 3:16-17)

Intro: More than a religious: "it's alright"

I. GRACE BE UNTO YOU

- A. 2/3's of the New Testament begins or ends with this phrase (Rom.1:7; II Cor. 1:2; Eph. 1:2; Phil. 4:23; Col. 1:2; 4:18)
- B. This was a common phrase in Greek culture:
 - toasts & business letters
- C. <u>Jesus</u> is God's Grace in the flesh (Jn. 3:16-17)
 - God's Riches At Christ's Expense
- D. Grace does not make everything alright in this life
- E. Grace enables us to look reality in the face & know God won't let us down

II. GOD'S GRACE IS PURE GIFT (Eph. 2:8-9)

- A. Grace is <u>pardon</u> to forgive sins
 - The Lord's Supper
- B. Grace is <u>power</u> to change lives
 - Don Quixote
- C. Grace is His <u>promise</u> for the future (Matt. 28:20; Rom.8:31)

III. WHY DO WE CALL GOD'S GRACE AMAZING?

- A. Because it is contrary to all common sense
- B. Because it is ours whether or not we deserve it, recognize it, or appreciate it
- C. Because it expresses the very heart of our Triune God-Father, Son & Holy Spirit

Conclusion: What is there left to say, but - "GRACE BE UNTO YOU!"