Christian Doctrine God (Part 12) Attributes: What Is He Like?

God Is Gracious

What Does This Mean?

- God gives mankind "<u>unmerited favor</u>."
- Grace is giving someone something that they do not <u>deserve</u>. In fact, grace is showing someone kindness who in actuality deserves the opposite.
- God has the right to decide who receives His grace.

> Where Do We See This in Scripture?

- Paul recognized the "immeasurable <u>riches</u> of His grace" (Eph. 2:7).
- Concerning salvation: "By grace you have been <u>saved</u> through faith" (Eph. 2:8-9).
- Grace is always given completely separate from doing good <u>works</u>. Grace cannot be earned (Rom. 11:6).
- God determines who will receive His grace: "I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious" (Ex. 33:19).
- All of the <u>blessings</u> we have in Christ are given by God's grace: "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ...for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich" (II Cor. 8:9).

What Does This Mean for Me?

- ⇒ Since grace is offered apart from anything we can do to deserve it, we must recognize that every act of grace is a display of God's great <u>love</u> for us.
- ⇒ We should recognize the acts of God's grace in our lives and take moments on a continual basis to <u>thank</u> Him and <u>show</u> Him our appreciation.
- ⇒ Experiencing salvation should lead to a willingness to show <u>kindness</u> and offer <u>forgiveness</u> to others, even if they do not deserve it.

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