

The Wonderful Grace Of God.

Jude 1:6 - 7 "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. (7.) Even as Sodom and Gomorrhah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire."

A. Introduction.

1. As believers how blessed we are to have been the object of God's grace.
2. Angeles are not afforded that grace. When Satan fell from his high position as the Angel of God, the dragon in his fall drew one third of the stars of heaven with him in his revolt. **Revelation 12:3 - 4** "And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. (4.) And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born."
3. Jude tells us that these fallen angels are "reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day." **Jude 1:6** "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day." - Here see what the condition of fallen angels is: they are in chains, bound under the divine power and justice, bound over to the judgment of the great day; they are under darkness, though once angels of light; so horribly in the dark are they that they continue to fight against God.
4. These Angels, and Satan had no grace, we beloved had, and continue to have grace.
5. Peter concluded with this. **2 Peter 2:4 - 6** "For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; (5.) And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in

the flood upon the world of the ungodly; (6.) And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;"

B. A Sobering Lesson for us as Christians.

1. "God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell." — He has reserved them "in everlasting chains of darkness unto the judgment of the great day." – that is Gods righteous judgment for sin.
2. The fall of the angels described in this Book seems almost impossible, doesn't it? It seems unbelievable. It is hard to believe that they could experience heaven in the presence of God and yet fall with Lucifer into a state of eternal darkness, bondage and damnation. These things are written for our learning and warning. May God the Holy Spirit cause us to learn from them and be reminded by them. They simply were not supplied the grace to not sin.
3. The only position of security for our souls is the position of grace of God that is in Jesus Christ.
4. **Romans 5:1 - 2** "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: (2.) By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God."
5. The rule of God is as found in **1 Corinthians 1:29** "That no flesh should glory in his presence."
6. But thanks to God and His grace than changed for us. **1 Corinthians 1:30 - 31** "But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: (31.) That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord."
7. The angels who sinned were angels in heaven. Yet, they were ruined forever, because "they kept not their first estate." Man kept not their first estate but we had grace.

C. Oh, The Wonders of Grace.

1. I want you to see that these fallen angels are also held before us in the Word of God to remind us of and cause us to admire the wisdom, goodness, and wonders of God's sovereign, free grace in Christ.
2. Let me point out the angels did not fall by a representative, but one by one. No grace was given to them. No hope of mercy was set before them, only darkness, wrath, and judgment. But things are different with man. Man fell by a representative man in Adam. This very fact inspires hope of redemption, grace, and salvation. All our race fell by the sin of one representative man. And all God's elect are saved by the obedience of one Representative Man, the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. **Romans 5:12 - 13** "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: (13.) (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. (14.) Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come. (15.) But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. (16.) And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification. (17.) For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.) (18.) Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. (19.) For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. (20.) Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: (21.) That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord."

D. Oh, how we ought to admire and rejoice in the blessed sovereignty of our God in the exercise of his grace.

1. **Hebrews 2:16** “For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham.”
2. When our Lord Jesus Christ came to save fallen creatures, he passed by the fallen angels and laid hold upon the seed of Abraham. He did not take hold of the seed of Adam, but he took hold of the seed of Abraham, God’s elect, and delivered them from the bondage of death by the irresistible power of his grace.
3. We were lost, rushing headlong to destruction, until Christ reached down the hand of His Sovereign Power and delivered us. Snatching us out of the jaws of hell, snatching us out from among perishing men by sovereign mercy and irresistible grace of God.

E. In conclusion.

1. We must all the days of our life be reminded, it was never the desire or intention of our Lord to save fallen angels, so too, it was never the intention, desire, or purpose of the Son of God to save all men. But you were chosen and saved by God.
2. What a wonder of grace this is! The angels that fell are “reserved in chains of darkness until the judgment of the great day.” But we, who are saved, are sealed by his Spirit unto the resurrection. **Ephesians 1:12 - 13** "That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. (13.) In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,"
3. Paul went on to write in **Ephesians 4:30** “And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.” John Gill defined this verse this way. “something done that is offensive to him; and he may be grieved, not only by unconverted persons, by their stubborn resistance and opposition to the Gospel and means of grace, and by their contempt of his person, office, and grace, but by believers themselves, and who are here

spoken to; and which may be done both by their words, lying, angry, and corrupt ones, before cautioned against, and by their actions, their behaviour towards God, their conversation in the world, and by their carriage to one another.”

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