

God's Love, Mercy and Grace

We often study God's Love, Mercy and Grace in the New Testament, but we study these aspects of God much less often in the Old Testament. This unfortunate oversight has caused a lot of people to assume that God's Love, Mercy and Grace were new to the New Testament. The purpose of this Study packet is for us to gain a fuller knowledge of these important aspects of God's nature as they are shown in both the Old and the New Testaments!

God's Love

God's Love in the Old Testament

- I. In Exodus 34:5-9 God proclaims that He abounds in steadfast love (ESV), or lovingkindness (NASB). In what way does the NKJV render this phrase? _____
 - a. What is the Strong's number for the Hebrew word used here? _____
 - b. What is the definition of this Hebrew word? _____
 - c. In this passage what attributes of God are listed alongside God's steadfast love? _____
 - d. According to this passage would God's love prevent Him from punishing evildoers? _____
- II. In Jeremiah 31:3, God uses a form of love three times (depending on your translation). What is the difference between the way the NKJV renders this verse, and the way that the ESV renders it? _____
 - a. What are the Strong's numbers and definitions for the following words in this passage?
 - i. **Loved**: Strong's # _____ Definition: _____
 - ii. **Love**: Strong's # _____ Definition: _____
 - iii. **Lovingkindness**: Strong's # _____ Definition: _____
 - b. Who does this passage say God loved? _____

III. Find all the occurrences of “love” or “Steadfast love” in Deuteronomy 7. Then answer these questions:

- a. Look up the Strong’s numbers for each of these occurrences. Are there any words for “love” in this passage that we have not looked up yet? ☐ Yes ☐ No If so, record the Strong’s number and definition: _____
- b. According to this passage, who does God love? _____
- c. According to verse 7, what is not the reason that God loved them? _____
- d. For what reason did God bring them out of slavery? _____
- e. According to verse 9, with whom does the LORD keep covenant and steadfast love? _____
- f. Who does He repay with destruction? _____
- g. According to verse 12, what did they have to do for God to keep His covenant and loving kindness with them? _____
- h. In verse 13, what goes along with His love? _____

IV. Find all the occurrences of Love in Deuteronomy 10:12-22. Then answer these questions:

- a. How many occurrences of Love refer to God’s love? _____
- b. How many occurrences of Love refer to human’s love? _____
- c. What specific groups of people are mentioned who God loves? _____
- d. Who or what are the people commanded to love in this section? _____
- e. What are the people commanded to do in response to God’s love in verse 16? _____
- f. What are we told about God’s character in verse 17? _____
- g. List all the attitudes that the people are commanded to have toward God in this passage: _____

- V. For each of the following passages list who God is said to love, what He did because of that love, and if applicable what the people were told to do because of God's love.
- a. Deuteronomy 4:32-40, Who is God said to love: _____
What did God do because of that love? _____
 - b. 1 Kings 8:22-26, Who is God said to love: _____
What did God do because of that love? _____
 - c. Ezra 7 (Specifically vs. 27-28, but read the whole chapter for context)
Who is God said to love: _____
What did God do because of that love? _____
 - d. Nehemiah 1 (Specifically vs. 4-6, but read the whole chapter for context) Who is God said to love: _____
What did God do because of that love? _____
 - e. Isaiah 33:10-11 Who is God said to love: _____
What did God do because of that love? _____
 - f. Isaiah 54 (Specifically vs. 7-10, but read the whole chapter for context) Who is God said to love: _____
What did God do because of that love? _____
 - g. Isaiah 61 (Specifically vs. 8-9, but read the whole chapter for context)
What is God said to love: _____
What did God do because of that love? _____
 - h. Joel 2:12-14, Who is God said to love: _____
What did God do because of that love? _____
 - i. Jonah 4:1-3, Who is God said to love: _____
What did God do because of that love? _____
 - j. Zephaniah 3 (Specifically vs. 16-18, but read the whole chapter for context) Who is God said to love: _____
What did God do because of that love? _____

There are far more references to God's love in the Old Testament than what is listed here. But we do not have space to cover them all in this packet.

VI. The Psalms spend a lot of time praising God's love. For each of the following Psalms record how many occurrences of Love you can find, and what other attributes of God are being praised along with His love.

a. Psalm 25, Number of Occurrences of Love: _____
Other attributes of God being praised: _____

b. Psalm 31, Number of Occurrences of Love: _____
Other attributes of God being praised: _____

c. Psalm 33, Number of Occurrences of Love: _____
Other attributes of God being praised: _____

d. Psalm 59, Number of Occurrences of Love: _____
Other attributes of God being praised: _____

e. Psalm 69, Number of Occurrences of Love: _____
Other attributes of God being praised: _____

f. Psalm 89, Number of Occurrences of Love: _____
Other attributes of God being praised: _____

g. Psalm 103, Number of Occurrences of Love: _____
Other attributes of God being praised: _____

h. Psalm 107, Number of Occurrences of Love: _____
Other attributes of God being praised: _____

i. Psalm 118, Number of Occurrences of Love: _____
Other attributes of God being praised: _____

j. Psalm 136, Number of Occurrences of Love: _____
Other attributes of God being praised: _____

k. For extra credit, Psalm 119, Number of Occurrences of Love: _____
Other attributes of God being praised: _____

God's Love in the New Testament (we will spend less time on this section because we should be more familiar with the passages about God's love in the New Testament, and because we already had a study packet focused on Love in the New Testament last year)

- I. In John 3:1-21, to whom is Jesus talking? _____
 - a. According to this section, what does God love? _____
 - b. What did God do because of that love? _____
 - c. What is the Strong's number for the word translated "love" here? _____
- II. Which verse in Romans 5:1-11 talks about God's love? _____
 - a. According to this section what does God love? _____
 - b. What did God do because of that love? _____
 - c. Does the object of God's love deserve His love? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 - d. What is the Strong's number for the word translated "love" here? _____
- III. How many times is God's love mentioned in Romans 8:31-39? _____
 - a. Who can separate us from the Love of Christ? _____
 - b. What are we through Him who loves us? _____
 - c. What specific things are mentioned which cannot separate us from the love of God? _____

- IV. Mark in your Bible (or on a printout) every occurrence of the words Love or Loved In the book of 1 John. Make sure to differentiate between God's love and our love (If you did this previously, then you are exempt from this step).
 - a. How many references to God's love did you find? _____
 - b. Which verse says, "God is love"? _____
 - c. According to John, what are some ways that we should respond to God's love? _____

 - d. Does John talk about anything that God does not love? _____ If so, what is it? _____

 - e. Does John talk about anything that we should not love? _____ If so, what is it? _____

God's Mercy

God's Mercy in the Old Testament

- I. In Exodus 33:12-23, to whom is God speaking? _____
 - a. Which verse mentions God's Mercy (NKJV and NASB say "Compassion")? _____
 - b. What is the Strong's number for the Hebrew word translated as "Mercy" or "Compassion" in this section? _____
 - c. What is the definition for this word? _____
 - d. Upon whom does God say He will show mercy or compassion? _____
- II. In Deuteronomy 13:12-18, which verse mentions God's mercy and compassion? _____
 - a. What is the Strong's number for the Hebrew word translated as "mercy" in this section? _____
 - b. What is the definition for this word? _____
 - c. What is the Strong's number for the Hebrew word translated as "compassion" in this section? _____
 - d. What is the definition for this word? _____
 - e. What was to be done to a city that decided to follow different gods? _____
 - f. What were the people to do for God to show them mercy and compassion? _____
- III. Which verse in Jeremiah 16:1-13 mentions God's mercy? _____
 - a. Is God giving mercy or taking it away in this section? _____
 - b. Why is He doing this? _____
 - c. Did God clearly explain why these things would happen? _____
 - d. Could the people have avoided this outcome? _____

IV. In Ezekiel 39:25-39, what is God going to do with His mercy? _____

a. In what way is God going to do this? _____

b. In what way does God say the people will respond to this? _____

V. In which verse from Daniel 2 does Daniel ask for God's Mercy? _____

a. Why was He asking for God's mercy? _____

b. Did God grant Him mercy? ☐ Yes ☐ No,

c. If so, then in what way? _____

VI. God's mercy in the Psalms:

a. In Psalm 23, which verse mentions God's mercy? _____

i. Is the Psalmist asking for mercy, or praising God for His mercy? _____

ii. What attributes are mentioned along with God's mercy? _____

b. In Psalm 25, which verse mentions God's mercy? _____

i. Is the Psalmist asking for mercy or praising God for His mercy? _____

ii. What attributes are mentioned along with God's mercy? _____

c. In Psalm 28, Which verse mentions God's mercy? _____

i. Is the Psalmist asking for mercy or praising God for His mercy? _____

ii. What attributes are mentioned along with God's mercy? _____

d. In Psalm 30, Which verse mentions God's mercy? _____

i. Is the Psalmist asking for mercy or praising God for His mercy? _____

ii. What attributes are mentioned along with God's mercy? _____

- e. In Psalm 40, Which verse mentions God's mercy? _____
i. Is the Psalmist asking for mercy or praising God for His mercy?

ii. What attributes are mentioned along with God's mercy? _____

- f. In Psalm 51, Which verse mentions God's mercy? _____
i. Is the Psalmist asking for mercy or praising God for His mercy?

ii. What attributes are mentioned along with God's mercy? _____

- g. In Psalm 116, Which verse mentions God's mercy? _____
i. Is the Psalmist asking for mercy or praising God for His mercy?

ii. What attributes are mentioned along with God's mercy? _____

- h. In Psalm 123, Which verse mentions God's mercy? _____
i. Is the Psalmist asking for mercy or praising God for His mercy?

ii. What attributes are mentioned along with God's mercy? _____

- i. In Psalm 130, Which verse mentions God's mercy? _____
i. Is the Psalmist asking for mercy or praising God for His mercy?

ii. What attributes are mentioned along with God's mercy? _____

- j. In Psalm 142, Which verse mentions God's mercy? _____
i. Is the Psalmist asking for mercy or praising God for His mercy?

ii. What attributes are mentioned along with God's mercy? _____

God's mercy in the New Testament

- I. In Romans 9 has how many occurrences of the word "mercy"? _____
 - a. What is the Strong's number for the Greek word translated as "mercy" in verse 15? _____
 - b. What is the definition of this word? _____
 - c. What is the Strong's number for the Greek word translated as "mercy" in verse 23? _____
 - d. What is the definition of this word? _____
 - e. What Old testament passage does Paul quote, referring to God's mercy, which we have studied already in this study packet? _____
 - f. According to this section, on whom does God have mercy? _____
- II. In Romans 15:8-13 which verse mentions God's mercy? _____
 - a. In this section, who received God's mercy? _____
 - b. In what way should they respond to God's mercy according to this section? _____
- III. In 1 Timothy 1:12-17 who received mercy? _____
 - a. According to verse 13, what was the reason that this person received mercy? _____
 - b. According to verse 16, what was the reason that this person received mercy? _____
 - c. What this person's response to God's mercy? _____
- IV. In Titus 3:1-11, which verse mentions God's mercy? _____
 - a. To whom did God show mercy? _____
 - b. What did God do because of His mercy? _____
 - c. By what means did He do this? _____
- V. In Hebrews 4:14-16, Who can receive mercy? _____
 - a. Where is that mercy found? _____
 - b. Why must we hold fast our confession? _____

- VI. How is the quantity of God's mercy described in 1 Peter 1:1-9? _____
- a. What has God done according to His mercy? _____

- b. Through whose power does this come about? _____
- VII. In 1 Peter 2:4-12, which verse talks about God's mercy? _____
- a. Please list all the ways this section refers to those who received God's mercy: _____

- b. In what way should those who receive God's mercy conduct themselves? _____

- VIII. How many times is "mercy" mentioned in Jude? _____
- a. How many of these occurrences refer to God's mercy? _____
- b. To what does the mercy of God lead according to Jude? _____

God's Grace

God's Grace in the Old Testament

- I. According to Genesis 6:8, who found grace (NKJV) or favor (ESV, NASB) in God's eyes? _____
- a. What is the Strong's number for the Hebrew word translated as Grace or Favor? _____
- b. What is the definition of this word? _____

- II. How many occurrences of "favor" or "grace" are in Exodus 33:12-23? _____
- a. Who found favor or grace in God's sight in this section? _____

- b. How many occurrences of Gracious are found in this section? _____
- c. What is the Strong's number for the word translated "gracious?" _____
- d. What is the definition of this word? _____

- e. To whom would God be gracious? _____

- III. According to Psalm 84:10-12 Who bestows favor or grace? _____
- a. What else is bestowed along with favor or grace? _____
- b. What will He not withhold from those who walk uprightly? _____
- IV. In Jeremiah 31:1-6 who found grace? _____
- a. Where did they find this grace? _____
- b. With what type of love did God love them? _____
- V. In Zechariah 12:10, God would pour out what? _____
- a. Upon whom would God pour this? _____
- b. Over what would they mourn and weep? _____

God's Grace in the New Testament

- I. In John 1:14-18, how many times does the word "grace" appear? _____
- a. What is the Strong's number for this Greek word? _____
- b. What is the definition of this Greek word? _____
- c. In this section, who was full of grace? _____
- d. This person was full of what else? _____
- e. What contrast is given in verse 17? _____
- II. Which verse in Romans 3:21-26 mentions grace? _____
- a. What have all done according to this section? _____
- b. What is the Strong's number and definition for the Greek word translated as "Justified" in verse 24? _____
- c. Through what do people receive the gift of grace? _____
- d. What is the Strong's number and definition for the Greek word translated as "propitiation" in verse 25? _____
- e. According to this section who is it that justifies people? _____
- f. Who is it that will be justified according to this section? _____

- III. How many occurrences of grace are found in Romans 5? _____
- a. Through whom have we obtained grace? _____
 - b. According to verses 1-5, in what things can we rejoice?
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - c. What contrast is expounded on in verses 12-17? _____

 - d. According to verse 18-21, grace reigns through what? _____
 - e. This leads to what? _____
- IV. How many occurrences of Grace do you find in Romans 6? _____
- a. According to this chapter, can we sin as much as we want to because God have given us the free gift of His grace? Please explain your answer: _____

 - b. According to verse 14, what should not have dominion over you? _____
 - c. According to this chapter, how do we decide to whom or what we are slaves? _____
- V. How many occurrences of grace are in 2 Corinthians 8? _____
- a. How many of these refer to God's grace? _____
 - b. How many of these refer to grace shown by people? _____
 - c. Please explain how God's grace acts as an example for the grace that Christian show in this section: _____

- VI. According to Galatians 5:1-15 is it possible to fall from grace? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- a. Specifically, in verse 4, what would cause a person to fall from grace? _____

 - b. If a person tries to bring back one part of the Old Law, how much of that old law are they obligated to keep? _____
 - c. What specific part of the Old Law does this section mention? _____

- VII. What does Titus 2:11-14 say that Grace has brought to all people? _____
- a. What does the grace of God train us to renounce? _____

- b. What good things does the grace of God train us to do? _____

- VIII. According to Titus 3:4-8, did God save us based on works that we have done in righteousness? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- a. Fill in the blanks: "that having been _____ by His grace we should become _____ according to the hope of _____."
- Titus 3:_____ NKJV
- IX. According to James 4:6, to whom does God give grace? _____
- X. In 1 Peter 1:13 what should we set fully on the grace that will be brought to us at the revelation of Jesus Christ? _____
- XI. How many occurrences of Grace are in 1 Peter 5? _____
- XII. In Jude 1-7 What were some people trying to pervert God's grace into? _____
- a. What label is given to the people who do this? _____
- b. What Old Testament examples does Jude give for how God reacts to people doing this? i. _____
ii. _____ iii. _____
- XIII. Grace is often used as a greeting at the beginning of a letter, or a blessing at the end. Scan the introduction and closing statements of the New Testament epistles and record which ones have Grace used as a greeting or a blessing.
- _____

God's Love, Mercy and Grace Working Together

As you have probably already seen, God's love, mercy and grace are not completely separate from each other. They work together and flow to and from each other. This section will examine that connection.

- I. In Ephesians 2, how many occurrences of the following words do you find? Love (Loved): ____ Mercy: ____ Grace: ____
 - a. In what way is the quantity of God's mercy described? _____
 - b. In what way is the size of God's love described? _____
 - c. Explain the connection between God's love and God's Mercy in verse 4? _____

 - d. For what reason did God make us alive together with Christ (Look for the "because of" in the proceeding verses)? _____
 - e. How many times is the phrase "by grace you have been saved" repeated? _____
- II. Having studied this passage as well as all the others we have studied in this packet, can God's Love, God's Mercy and God's Grace be separated from each other or are they inextricably connected? Please explain your answer: _____

