

Distortions of Grace

[Romans 6:1; Jude 4](#)

1. Satan's main personal task on this earth is to distort what the Bible teaches about Grace.
2. He distorts Grace when individuals say that Grace means an excuse for licentiousness, emphasizing overt sins. This is condemned in God's Word in [Rom. 6:1, 2](#); [I John 1:9-2:1](#); [Jude 4](#)
3. Grace is sometimes taken as permission to be lazy (especially to skip the study of God's truth). This emphasizes sins of omission. But this idea violates all of the Bible's commands to study, to be diligent.
4. The greatest enemy of Grace is legalism. Grace and legalism are mutually exclusive. [Rom. 11:6](#)
5. Grace means that God does the "work" and receives the glory (credit) for it.
6. Legalism means that man does the work and receives the credit.
7. Grace depends solely on the character of God and entirely excludes human ability, human merit, human achievement, etc. Legalism however, depends on human activity and ability.
8. Grace and legalism have opposite emphasis. Grace emphasizes what God does in the soul of man, free of charge. Legalism emphasizes overt activity for the purpose of gaining credit with God and impressing men.
9. Legalism hinders a person from accepting Christ as Savior ([Gal. 2:21](#)).
10. Legalism neutralizes the believer in the Christian Way of Life ([Gal. 5:2-4](#)).

Distortions of Grace (Continued)

11. God is perfect, and His plan is perfect. Man's work is excluded from the plan of God because man is imperfect. If we could contribute, have a part in the plan, then the plan would be imperfect because we are imperfect. The plan would no longer be stronger than its weakest link.... *AWARENESS OF THE FULL MEANING OF GRACE* is a giant step toward true humility.
12. Grace, then, is the antithesis of human arrogance. An awareness of the full meaning of grace is a giant step toward humility

FOUR TYPES OF PRIDE IN THOSE NOT ORIENTED TO GRACE

1. The one who rejects the security of Grace has pride – he thinks his sins are greater than God's plan. Therefore he thinks GRACE is not sufficient.
2. There is, secondly, pride in the believer who falls apart during suffering. He thinks that his pressures and adversities are greater than the provision and protection of God.
3. There is pride in the believer who enters into a life of false spirituality through legalism or religion. He thinks his works impress God, and are greater than God's plan.
4. There is pride in the emotional believer who thinks feelings and emotions are greater and more real than the Word of God or the Grace of God.