

Grace That Demands a Response

1. Last Week: Election of Israel According to Grace.
2. Although we are not chosen *by* good works, we are chosen *to do* good works.
3. With Election comes responsibilities and privileges:
Holiness, Humility, Extending God's Grace to others.

I. God asks for Respect and Obedience (10:12-13)

— “Fear” Yahweh...Recognize his sovereignty

— “Walk” with Him (A Faith Walk) and “Love” Him by living an *obedient* Life

⇒ Mt.22:37-40

II. God asks for Circumcision of the Heart (10:14-19)

— God is the Creator; He *loves* His Creation

— Israel has been chosen by a loving God.
This demands a response from the heart [Rom.2:28-29]

— Israel is to be sensitive to those who are outsiders.

⇒ “Remember what it was like to be slaves in Egypt.
Don't treat others as the Egyptians treated you. Treat others as God treated you!”

** Golden Rule of the OT:

Do unto others as God has done unto you

III. God asks for Faithfulness and Loyalty (10:20-21)

— God has been faithful to Israel. They are to be loyal to God

— “hold fast” (*dabaq*) is marriage terminology (cf. Gen.2:24)

NT Connections: Col.3:12ff (Eph.1:4; I Pet.2:9)

— We Are God's Chosen Ones in Christ

— This means we are:

1) Holy 2) Beloved (*Jeshurun*) 3) expected to live by “chosen characteristics”

— We are to extend Grace to others just as we have been given Grace through Jesus

— The ultimate goal is unity manifested in Love. Only God can make this a reality. His Love must be the guiding Principle in our interaction with others.

— The Peace of Christ is to be the final word in every situation. Peace is the *umpire* who calls each 'play.'

Biblical Principles:

OT: Election According to Grace

NT: Election According to Grace

OT: Beloved of God, chosen to live a Holy Life

NT: Beloved of God, chosen to live a Holy Life

OT: God asks for circumcision of the *heart*

NT: God asks for circumcision of the *heart*

OT: Because God has treated me with Grace and Love, I am to treat others with Grace and Love

NT: Because God has treated me with Grace and Love, I am to treat others with Grace and Love

***** Let's live as those who are thankful to be God's Chosen People.**

***** Is our forgiveness in Christ the motive and standard by which we are acting towards others?**

***** Above all, let's seek maturity in Love, Unity in Peace.**

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