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Faith alone in Christ alone

Greetings from all of us here in Cameroon, West Africa. I thank God for His matchless grace toward people of all races. He desires that no one should perish ([1 Peter 3:9](#)), including the people of Cameroon. God makes salvation available to all who desire it. How marvelous and awesome is our great God!

It is important that I ask you the following questions before I go any further. What news are you expecting to hear? Are you expecting to see pictures of our conferences, crusades or classes? Or are you expecting pictures of George Mueller and I standing behind African chiefs? I would advise you to not anticipate any of these things.

Grace Evangelistic Ministries was not formed for the purpose of self-promotion or exaggeration of our Christian activities. Sometimes I wonder what motivates people who make exaggerations concerning God's work. Could it be that they are trying to make their ministry look good? If so, for whose glory? God's? Perhaps not.

It is interesting to observe how our Lord Jesus Christ responded to His disciples' success story ([Luke 10:19](#)). All seventy disciples were rejoicing over their great achievements when the Lord reprimanded them: "Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in Heaven" (Luke 10:20). Written and secured for eternity. That is what He wants them to be excited about.

I could give you the following report: "When we arrived in Cameroon, everyone including the president was waiting for us. One million people attended our crusade. We sang choruses. We danced. We clapped our hands. We shouted J.E.S.U.S.! Even the president and his wife joined in. Over one million people turned their lives over to Christ!" You will be disappointed if this is the report you are expecting. This is not the focus of our ministry. I believe that this type of exaggeration does not glorify God.

We do not have pictures of people who appear to be starving. Nor do we have pictures of people crying and lifting their hands to the sky as if they were about to be taken up into Heaven. What I am saying is that I do not want to manipulate your emotions to get you to contribute to this ministry. In fact, no ministry has the right to use the name of God to tell you how to use your money. When you, as a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, contribute to a ministry on the basis of emotion, it could mean one of two things. It could mean that you are not learning and applying Bible doctrine on a consistent basis. Bible doctrine in your soul gives you wisdom in decision-making. Or it could mean that you are

allowing your emotions to rule your life. Either way, it is not a healthy way to make decisions.

Unfortunately, you and I live in a time when the expressions, "trust in God" and "God will provide" are deemed irrelevant to life. The expressions "trust in man" and "man will provide" are the unreliable replacements. As a result, many of us have fallen by the wayside. It is no wonder that many are under a divine curse. God Himself has unequivocally declared, "Cursed is the man who trusts in man. And makes flesh his strength (source of support) whose heart departs from the Lord" (Jeremiah 17:5).

Therefore, as a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, I want to remind you to be aware of those who put their trust in your money. They spend their time devising ways to appeal to your emotions. On the other hand, the purpose of this ministry is to not only serve God, but to draw attention to the person of Jesus Christ and His finished work on the cross. He deserves all the attention.

Obviously, I think that the time has come for us to wake up. It is time to stop promoting ourselves and start promoting the matchless work of Jesus Christ on the cross. May we begin honoring His substitutionary death on the cross. God, in His immeasurable grace, has purchased us by the priceless blood of His unique Son, Jesus Christ ([1 Peter 1:18-19](#)). May we glorify Him and not ourselves.

Concerning our ministry here in Cameroon, God has been honoring His Word. Our needs are being met. The gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is being presented in a clear manner. The Holy Spirit is consistently faithful to help the unbelievers in Cameroon to understand the bottom line of our message: "Faith alone in Christ alone". The beauty of it is that God continues to be faithful in giving everlasting life to those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ ([John 3:16, 36](#)). In the end, the work of the Trinity has been manifested.

At this time, may I take a moment to thank all of the staff of Grace Evangelistic Ministries for their services to the Almighty God. I would also like to thank all of the supporters of this ministry. I want to let you all know that your prayers are making an impact here in Cameroon. The unbelievers are responding to the gospel. Unfortunately I am not an accountant; I am only an evangelist. Therefore I leave the actual number of those saved up to the Lord.

We hope to see you when the Lord sees fit to temporarily release us to visit you. Please keep on praying for us.

In His service,
Rev. Moses C. Onwubiko,
President

You shall know the
truth, and the truth
shall set you free.
JOHN 8:32

Doctrine of Salvation

(continued from [volume two](#))

The Role of God the Son in Salvation

The whole purpose of the incarnation of Jesus Christ is to fulfill the Father's plan. That plan calls for His substitutional death on the cross. When man sinned, God the Father rendered a verdict concerning man's disobedience: "For the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). This verse can be expounded in the following manner: For the payment, or consequences, of sin (Adam's original sin) is spiritual death—total separation from God. If you look at Romans 6:23, you would see that the word "sin" is in the singular. Why is this? The apostle Paul was not talking about our personal sins. He was emphasizing the original sin of Adam and Eve, which is the origin of our personal sins. It was this sin that brought condemnation on the entire human race. Paul puts it this way: "For as through the one man's (Adam's)

disobedience the many (entire human race) were made sinners" (Romans 5:19a). He adds, "...in Adam all die..." (I Corinthians 15:22a). Paul is referring to spiritual death as a consequence of the sin. The next question is, who is qualified to pay this price so as to satisfy God? To answer this question there are four points worth keeping in mind. First, only a man can pay for the disobedience of another man. For example, angels could not pay this debt of mankind because they are not a true substitute. Secondly, whoever pays this penalty, must be a perfect man without sin. Thirdly, this person would have to face Satan and be tempted as Eve was in the Garden of Eden. Finally, the individual must remain without sin until God judges the individual.

God looked down from the corridor of eternity to see if there was anyone who could meet the above criteria. What was His conclusion? "There is none righteous, not even one; there is none who understands, there is none who seeks for God; all have turned aside, together they have become useless; there is none who does good, there is not even one" (Romans 3:10-12).

These findings called for the second member of the Trinity to set aside His glory to become a man and meet the criteria to pay the penalty for our sin. Now you have the privilege to pause for a moment and meditate on what it means for One "...though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor (stepped aside from His glory) (II Corinthians 8:9b)" and "who, although He existed in the form of God...emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men" (Philippians 2:6-7). This is exactly what was required for our salvation. Therefore, who do you think you are by trying to add something to the perfect sacrifice of God Himself. Jesus Christ has already met the requirements needed for your salvation.

He came into the world through the virgin Mary. It is important to note that there was nothing special about Mary. It was the grace of God that elected her to be the human mother of Jesus Christ. On the other hand, as mentioned in Volume 2, Adam was the carrier of the sin nature. Therefore, in order for the humanity of Christ to be perfect, Joseph, Mary's would be husband was not involved in the conception process.

The virgin birth paved a way for the humanity of Jesus Christ to come into the world absolutely perfect. He came with one purpose in mind. This purpose was to fulfill the Father's plan. That plan was for Jesus Christ, in His humanity, to go to the cross and be judged for every sin of the human race—and pay man's debt to God.

The human race owes God a debt—spiritual death ([Romans 6:23](#)). The spiritual death of Christ on the cross canceled that debt (please see "Riding the Death Train"). "Having canceled the bond which stood against us with its legal demands; this He set aside, nailing it to the cross" (Colossians 2:14). "For He (Jesus Christ) is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility...abolishing in His flesh the law of commandments" (Ephesians 2:14,15). "...For while we were yet sinners (God's enemies) Christ died as a substitute for us" (Romans 5:8).

When Adam was created in the Garden of Eden, he was perfect because his Creator was perfect. Adam had a body, a soul and a human spirit. Through his human spirit he had fellowship with a holy God. Paul gave us a hint of this phenomena in Romans 8:16: "It is the spirit (Holy Spirit) Himself bearing witness with our spirit (human spirit) that we are children on God..." Without this human spirit it would be impossible for one to communicate or have fellowship with God.

When Adam sinned in the Garden of Eden, he lost this spirit; in other words, his spirit died. This condition is referred to as "spiritual death". This is the only barrier between man and God. This barrier was brought about by sin. And for God to be satisfied, someone without sin had to make an equal payment through his own spiritual death. The question is, how could Jesus Christ, a man without sin, pay for sins He had not committed? Paul puts it this way: "He (God the Father) made Him (our Lord Jesus Christ) who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (II Corinthians 5:21). Peter also writes, "and He Himself (Jesus Christ) bore our sins on His body on the cross..." (I Peter 2:24). Therefore, at the very moment that our Lord Jesus Christ came into contact with sin as a result of the Father judging Him ([II Corinthians 5:21](#)), He died spiritually. His death was a payment equal to mankind's debt to God. This condition is termed "substitutional spiritual death" ([Romans 5:8](#)).

Let us see how Jesus Christ fulfilled the four criteria discussed earlier that were necessary to pay for the sins of mankind. He became a true man through the virgin birth ([Matthew 1:23,25](#)) and He came without sin ([II Corinthians 5:21a](#)). He was tempted by Satan just as Eve was. Satan used similar tactics

with Christ, only in an intensified manner ([Matthew 4:1-10](#)). He was tempted beyond measure and yet did not succumb to sin. He was a perfect Lamb of God all the way to the cross ([John 1:29](#)).

Then came the big moment. The moment the elect angels had been waiting for. The moment that Satan fought so hard to prevent. This was the moment that the unique Son (God-man) went to the cross to be judged once and for all ([Hebrews 10:12a](#)). This was the moment when Satan's efforts to stop the substitutional death were crushed. At the appointed time, Jesus Christ, although He was God, became obedient and was judged first by man ([Matthew 28:11-20](#), [Mark 15:2-15](#)), and then by God ([II Corinthians 5:21](#)). The first judgment by man meant nothing to Him ([John 18:19-40](#)) but the second judgment delivered from God did. What do I mean by this? In Acts 8:32-33a, Luke quotes from Isaiah 53:7,8 and says, "As a sheep led to the slaughter...so He opens not His mouth. In His humiliation justice was denied Him." Our Lord Jesus Christ was mistreated in many ways by His accusers. He was literally skinned alive with the Roman whip, He was slapped mercilessly ([Mark 15:19](#)), mocked ([Mark 15:31](#)) and spit upon ([Mark 15:19b](#)). Not one time did He react. On the other hand, when the Father placed the judgment for the sins of mankind on Him, He shouted in agony, "...My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me" ([Matthew 27:46b](#)). God forsook Him, "... who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" ([II Corinthians 5:21](#)). Let us glorify Him: "Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority before all time and now and forever. Amen" ([Jude 24-25](#)).

To be continued in the [next issue](#) . . .

THE POWER OF THE "OLD SIN NATURE"

In [Volume 2](#) of our "Grace News Today", we discussed that sin was inherited from Adam. There is nothing anyone can do about this condition we are in. However, it is important for us as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ to not be ignorant of this "old sin nature". It is referred to in the Bible as the "sinful nature" ([Romans 7:18b](#); [Galatians 5:24a](#)), "flesh" ([II Corinthians 1:12](#)), "old self" ([Romans 6:6](#)), and "old man" ([Ephesians 4:22](#)). All personal sins originate from this "old sin nature" which was acquired at birth.

Being born again into the family of God ([Galatians 3:26](#)) does not eradicate this "sin nature" in us. The spiritual birth that occurs when we trust in Christ as Lord and Savior creates a spiritual battle within our souls. We are able to please God only through the power of His Holy Spirit.

Inside the soul of a believer, there are two powerful forces wanting control. One is the Holy Spirit and the other is the "old sin nature". The good news is that neither of these forces overrule your free will or choice. You are the chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of your soul. If you allow the "sin nature" to control your soul by your free will, you will eventually find yourself in a cauldron of confusion and sin. On the other hand, if you choose to allow the Holy Spirit to control your soul, you will find yourself walking in the footsteps of Christ and living to His glory.

"For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death (sin unto death), but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind (when your soul is controlled by the "sinful nature") is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then those (believers) who are in the flesh (controlled by the "sinful nature") cannot please God" ([Romans 8:5-8](#)). Here is a simple formula to remember:

Habitual control by the "sinful nature" = enmity with God + unhappiness + frustration + sin + continued divine discipline + physical death.

Habitual control by the Holy Spirit = fellowship with God + inner happiness + fruits of the Spirit + glorification of God + abundant life.

Testimonies & Gratitude to Our God

We thank God for His continued manifestation of His marvelous grace through this ministry. We also thank God for using His children as tools in providing financial support for Grace Evangelistic Ministries.

News Update

Reverend Moses C. Onwubiko has returned from his missionary trip to Africa. Details about his missionary work will be written in the next issue of "Grace News Today". He reports that the people in Africa were truly hungry for the truth.

Ms. Danette Willis from Berachah Church in Houston, Texas (where Col. R. B. Thieme, Jr. is the pastor) has joined our staff here in Nashville, Tennessee for missionary activities.

Letters to Grace Evangelistic Ministries

Dear Grace Evangelistic Ministries,

I would like to thank you Moses. You were kind enough to send us two copies of your newsletter and we were so impressed with it. We would like to request thirty more if possible. If you don't have that many to spare, I can always copy the ones I have. We have about forty families in our fellowship and they are already wearing the ones out on the bulletin board. In addition, if you could send us four or five copies of the "Comfort in Suffering" and "Riding the Death Train" for our library, we would be grateful to you for them. Please add us to your mailing list as we anticipate news from Moses and George from Cameroon and Nigeria.

Woodbridge, Virginia

Dear Grace Evangelistic Ministries,

How very thankful we are for a ministry on the mission field that is communicating the truth. It will be our privilege to share in this ministry through prayer and also giving, whenever possible. We would like very much to be placed on your mailing list.

In His Grace,

Georgetown, TX

Dear Grace Evangelistic Ministries,

I so much liked volume 2, which I received. Please send Vol 1 and any others that are now available. The world so much needs to hear the clear, lucid message of Rev. Moses Onwubiko.

My prayers will be with this dynamic ministry.

In Christ,

Hemet, CA

**SPECIAL NEWS TO THE
SERVANTS OF GOD**

"God will provide" was Abraham's reassurance to his confused son, Isaac ([Genesis 28:8](#)). When God gives an assignment to us as His servants (slaves), He is under obligation to provide for the job. When God does not provide, it could mean one of three things. One, God may not want the job accomplished at that particular time. Two, it could mean that those who are to carry out the mission are not prepared to do so yet. Lastly, it could be a sign that God does not want to have any part of the ministry. Therefore, it is absolutely foolish and arrogant for us as believers to try to devise a way to accomplish a task in the name of God when He has already rejected it. For example, when we use gimmicks to manipulate people to contribute money, we are not glorifying God. It is blasphemy on our part to think that God does not know how to provide for the work which He has assigned. Take a moment and think about the following question: when we work to accomplish a job which God has rejected, who will be glorified in the end? God? Or me?

Would You Join Us in Prayer?

As we pray . . .

1. That God will continue to lead us in the right direction.
2. That God's Word may have a dynamic impact here in America and abroad.
3. For our staff members - that God will continue to give them clear vision in all aspects pertaining to this ministry.
4. For open doors for the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
5. For our supporters - that God will continue to meet their needs.
6. For the financial needs of this ministry.
7. For God's protection as we travel.
8. For an office and its funding.
9. For America as a nation, especially government officials.
10. For the peace of Jerusalem.
11. For the unbelievers around the world - that they may have the opportunity to hear an accurate presentation of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Budget Sheet

Estimated Costs for Audio Tape Duplication Center in Africa-1998

One-Time Costs:

1. Duplicating machine (one-time cost)	\$1700.00
2. Two years facility rental (amount required up-front)	\$1500.00
	<hr/>
	\$3200.00

Monthly Costs:

1. Facility rental	\$62.50
2. Facility utilities	\$100.00
3. Personnel salary	\$450.00
4. Office supplies	\$100.00
5. Postage costs	\$450.00
6. Blank cassettes	\$1750.00
	<hr/>

Financial Policy

Grace Evangelistic Ministries does not solicit funding. We believe that God in His grace will continue to meet our financial needs as they arise.

We do not charge for books or audio tapes. No money is requested. Anyone desiring to receive our books, tapes or other spiritual materials can receive them at absolutely no cost.

When gratitude for the Word of God and understanding of the need to reach the unsaved souls with the simple grace gospel and sound Bible teaching motivate you to contribute, you have the privilege of giving and sharing in the dissemination of the Word of God. This is a grace ministry.

Bible Doctrine for Thought

Some believers have been enthralled by what I call, "personality powerful speakers". They may say, "But how can Dr. X be wrong?" or "We love Dr. X, he is a wonderful man. He smiles all the time." Dr. X has erroneously been judged by his charismatic personality. A message should not be judged by its presenter. It should be judged by its content. In the same manner, one should not judge the accuracy of Bible doctrine on the basis of who presents it. One should determine its accuracy by allowing the Holy Spirit to shine the light of truth in their soul.

The Good News

When our Lord Jesus Christ was on the cross, He had you on His mind. There was never a sin committed that was not poured out on Jesus Christ on the cross ([I Peter 2:24](#)). He endured all afflictions so that He might pave a way for you to have life more abundantly through Him. Regardless of how sinful you have been in the past or are now, you can be forgiven and your slate wiped clean by God. How? By telling God right now that you are believing in His Son, Jesus Christ. The moment you put your entire trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, you will automatically become a regenerate person before God forever. The Bible says, "But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:31). "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31). Will you believe in Him today? Or will you reject Him? The decision is totally up to you.

A Note to Our Supporters

Grace Evangelistic Ministries will be printing their newsletter on a bi-monthly basis for now. If you wish to be on our mailing list to receive this bi-monthly newsletter or other materials that are of spiritual value, please write to the following address:

Grace Evangelistic Ministries

P. O. Box 17246

Nashville, TN 37217-7246

or

call us at **(615) 365-0015**

or

you may visit our web site

on the Internet at:

<http://www.gracemissions.org/>

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