

Grace Greater Than Our Need

“Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the Lord Almighty.”

Malachi 3:7 (NIV)

The amazing thing about God’s grace is the fact that it exists at all.

A popular idea in many people’s minds is that God is rather blessed to have us as His children.

We have the rather puffed up notion that we are really special and God is fortunate that we give Him the time of day.

Scripture teaches us that we have no claim to anything from God with the exception of His wrath for our sins.

But it isn’t politically correct to think of ourselves as sinners. After all, we think we’re no worse than the next person—maybe a little better if it comes to that.

How foolish of us to think we can judge ourselves fit to be in the presence of Almighty God. We’re not in any position to stand tall in God’s presence and consider ourselves deserving of His favour.

The first sentence in our verse today is the judgment of God upon humanity.

God looks back to the time of

our first parents—Adam and Eve—and all He sees is rebellion and resistance to His rule.

The second sentence of our verse today is the real shocker.

In spite of us having such a deplorable track record with the Almighty, He calls us once more to return to Himself. While we have a consistent track record of failure and willful resistance, God would still have us return to Him.

Perhaps you’ve stumbled and fallen from the way of the Lord once more.

You may be ready to give up on yourself. You may find it hard to believe that God could still be interested in you.

Read our verse again.

God is sincere and means what He says in this verse so full of grace.

He will return to you once more—if you truly repent and come back to Him. Never has anyone in history been so gracious as our God. His grace always exceeds our sin.

Read the verse again and again until your disbelief turns to joy. Say to yourself, “God can still love me even after I have done all that.”

Name your sin and tell the Lord you want to be done with it.

It may be that you have a loved one who has again turned away from the Saviour they once confessed. Go to them and plead with them to turn around and confess their rebellion against a loving and gracious God.

Quote verses like the one for today.

Assure them that if they will seek the Lord with all their heart He will hear from heaven (2 Chronicles 7:14) and heal them of all their sin.

Remember that the Lord is always more willing to forgive than sinners are to repent.

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