

GROWING IN GRACE

2 Peter 3:18

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How are we saved? By grace through faith *Ephesians 2:8*

Two things that are obstacles to grace

- 1.
- 2.

What does the Bible say about self in its many manifestations?

1. Self worth

While we are more valuable than the lower forms of God's creation –

- *Matthew 6:26*
- *Matthew 12:12*

and we are intimately known by God-

- *1 Samuel 16:7*
- *Psalms 139:13-16*
- *Matthew 10:30*

we still deserve death because of our inherent sinfulness.

- *Romans 5:12*
- *Romans 6:23a*
- *Ephesians 2:1*

It is wrong for us to think that we are worthy in any way to receive God's grace-

- *Romans 5:6, 8, 10*

- *1 Corinthians 1:26-31*

2. Self assurance / self sufficiency

- *Deuteronomy 8:11-18*

Pride – a dependence on myself/possessions instead of God will lead to a fall.

- *Proverbs 11:28*

- *Proverbs 16:18*

- *1 Corinthians 10:12*

- *John 15:5*

- *Proverbs 3:5-6*

3. Self love- we are to love God

- *Deuteronomy 6:5*

- *Matthew 22: 37-38*

Where in the scriptures are we told to love ourselves?

- *Matthew 22:29*

- *Galatians 5:14*

- *Ephesian 5:28-29*

- *2 Timothy 3:1-2*

4. Self assertivness

- *Romans 8:35-39*

- *2 Timothy 1:7*

- *Matthew 6:33-34*
- *Romans 8:28-29*
- *Philippians 4:19*
- *Matthew 20:26-28*
- *Philippians 2:3-4*

5. Self love

- *Proverbs 3:5-7*
- *Jeremiah 9:23-24*
- *1 Corinthians 1:26-31*
- *Proverbs 3:26*
- *Philippians 3:3*
- *2 Corinthians 3:5*

6. Self esteem- Apart from Jesus there is nothing worth esteeming in us.

- *Psalms 90:3*
- *Psalms 144:4*
- *1 Peter 1:24*
- *Jeremiah 51:17a*
- *Isaiah 40:17*
- *Daniel 4:35a*

yet God cares for us – *Psalms 8:4*

7. Self righteousness -

- *Psalms 14:2-3*
- *Ecclesiastes 7:20*
- *Luke 18:9-14*
- *Titus 3:5*
- *Isaiah 64:6*
- *Philippians 3:7-11*

Our true righteousness is based solely on the Lord Jesus Christ.

- *Romans 3:21-22*
- *2 Corinthians 5:21*
- *Romans 5:17*

8. Self Exaltation

- *2 Corinthians 10:18*
- *2 Corinthians 10:12*
- *Isaiah 14:13-14*
- *Matthew 23:12*
- *Psalms 148:13*

We are to boast in

- a) the Lord -*1 Corinthians 1:31*
- b) the cross of Jesus -*Galatians 6:14*
- c) in our weakness -*2 Corinthians 11:30*

God's purpose is not to reduce us to nothing, sin has already done that.

God's purpose is not to destroy us, sin has already done that.

God's purpose is to save us, to redeem us and to cause us, by His grace to become like Jesus.

Matthew 16:25