



The Theme of Grace in Genesis

Genesis 1-50

God's judgments display His holiness and grace

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The Book of Foundations

Genesis introduces the great themes that unfold throughout Scripture. One of its central themes is grace: God acts in holiness against sin while mercifully preserving His promise, His people, and His redemptive purpose.

Grace through Genesis

Adam and Eve (Genesis 2-4)	Grace preserves life and gives hope after mankind's fall.
Noah and the Flood (Genesis 6-10)	Judgment comes upon violence and corruption, yet Noah finds favor with God.
Babel (Genesis 11)	God restrains unified rebellion while preserving the nations for His future purpose.
Abraham (Genesis 12-22)	God calls, promises, corrects, protects, and strengthens an imperfect man of faith.
Isaac and Jacob (Genesis 21-36)	God continues His covenant despite weakness, conflict, and failure.
Joseph (Genesis 37-50)	God turns suffering and human evil toward preservation, forgiveness, and life.

Key observation

God's judgments display His holiness and grace. Genesis never treats grace as indifference toward evil. God remains holy, exposes sin, judges rebellion, and at the same time provides mercy, protection, promise, and a path toward redemption.

Grace in the Scriptures

"Now when Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the house... [the people] gave praise to the LORD, saying, 'Truly He is good, truly His lovingkindness is everlasting.'" (2 Chronicles 7:1-3)

"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)

"And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God... having the glory of God... Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life." (Revelation 21:2, 11; 22:14)

Tracing grace

- Grace does not erase God's holiness; it displays His goodness in the midst of judgment.
- Grace preserves the promised line through which the Savior will come.
- Grace repeatedly meets flawed people, calls them to faith, and continues God's purpose through them.
- The glory, grace, truth, and life introduced in Genesis reach their fulfillment in Jesus Christ and the new creation.

Discussion and application

1. Where do you most clearly see both judgment and grace operating together in Genesis?
2. How does God's patience with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, or Joseph encourage you?
3. Why must grace never be separated from truth and holiness?
4. What present failure or difficulty do you need to place under God's gracious purpose?