

"Brethren, What Shall We Do?"

Intro: The purpose of our learning of the qualities called "_____ of Grace" is to discover what godly graces are to characterize those who are _____ of Christ, and to understand that these marks serve not only to glorify God but to assure the believer that indeed God's Spirit is at residence in them and thus, that they are from their sin being _____ by the Holy Spirit of God.

A. And, beyond this, this series is meant to bring _____ and _____ to the life of the believer that we might be in practice what we are in position: children of the living God! And this, of course, to the _____ of God and the subsequent assurance that comes and comforts the believer.

Acts 2:36-41

I. _____ Marks of Grace:

A. _____ is a mark of grace.

1. "Heard" in this verse means more than a mere audible hearing, but it includes _____, comprehension, and _____.

a. Such "hearing" is a gracious gift of God. That's why it is a mark that _____ believers. (Cf. Deut 29:2-4; Prov 20:12; Matt 13:11; Rom 11:5-7; Col 1:9; 2 Tim. 2:7)

B. A pierced (_____) heart is a mark of grace.

1. "Pierced" means penetrated through and through, _____ to the heart. And as the Greek reveals, this piercing was not something they worked in themselves, but was worked in them by an _____.

a. Of this Walvord and Zuck write, "the verb ... means 'to strike or prick violently, to stun.' The _____ work of the Spirit (John 16:8-11) in their _____ was great."

2. Hebrews 4:12, "For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and _____ as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the _____." And if this is true, then by the grace of God every believer upon hearing the Word of God should experience _____! (Cf. 1 Thess. 2:13; James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:23; Ezekial 36:26-27; John 16:7-8)

C. A _____ for answers with a desire to do what is _____ is a mark of grace.

1. When one is pierced with the conviction of sin, there is a _____ to be saved from that sin and made right before the Holy God! In whom God is saving there is a godly desire to know how to escape their sin and _____ made _____ with God.

2. Matt 7:7-8, " _____, and it shall be given to you; _____, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you. 8 "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks _____, and to him who knocks it shall be opened." The answers to our God-inspired questions are granted from God!

D. _____ the _____ of God is a mark of grace.

1. The word "received" is a compound word that includes the attitude of gladness or _____. They kindly received Peter's message by heartily _____ it.

2. They believed the Apostle's doctrine, and this grace (of _____ the Apostle's _____) must mark the life of every believer!

E. _____ is a mark of grace.

1. "Repent" means "to _____ the mind, to relent." Scripturally speaking, repentance involves sorrow and _____ for sin that seeks (and receives) the Lord's _____ and is accompanied by a genuine change of heart toward God.

2. True _____ (that repentance that turns from sin to Christ for the forgiveness of sin) is a vital part of the good news of Jesus Christ. And, that's why repentance is a _____ that must mark the believer for one is not a believer until he has repented and tasted the grace of _____!

3. According to Acts 11:18 & 2 Tim. 2:25, it is _____ who repentance. So, repentance is a grace God grants and this _____ must mark the believer.

Closing: Now church, do these graces mark _____?

Has there been a hearing that pierced your heart with conviction?

And, did that conviction cause you to seek an answer?

And, did you receive the answer (the gospel of Christ) with gladness?

And, did you respond to the good news of Jesus

Christ by repenting for the forgiveness of your sin?

Then you can rest assured in your _____.

But know this, these God-granted graces are to mark the believer.

If they do not mark you, then cry out to _____ for He is the God of all grace and He _____ salvation to all who call upon His name!

What shall we do? Repent for the _____ of sin!

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