

SEO SCORE ?

81

SEARCH TRAFFIC ?

n/a

TOTAL IMPRESSIONS ?

n/a




PAGESPEED ?



0s 0 0s 0



The Gospel of Grace — Sovereign Grace Cannot Be Understood with a Law-Based Mind

 **The Gospel of Grace — Sovereign Grace Cannot Be Understood with a Law-Based Mind Revealed as the Hidden Reason You've Struggled to Understand Grace and**

 EN


the Shift That Brings Clarity, Rest, and Revelation

 **By Carl Timothy Wray**

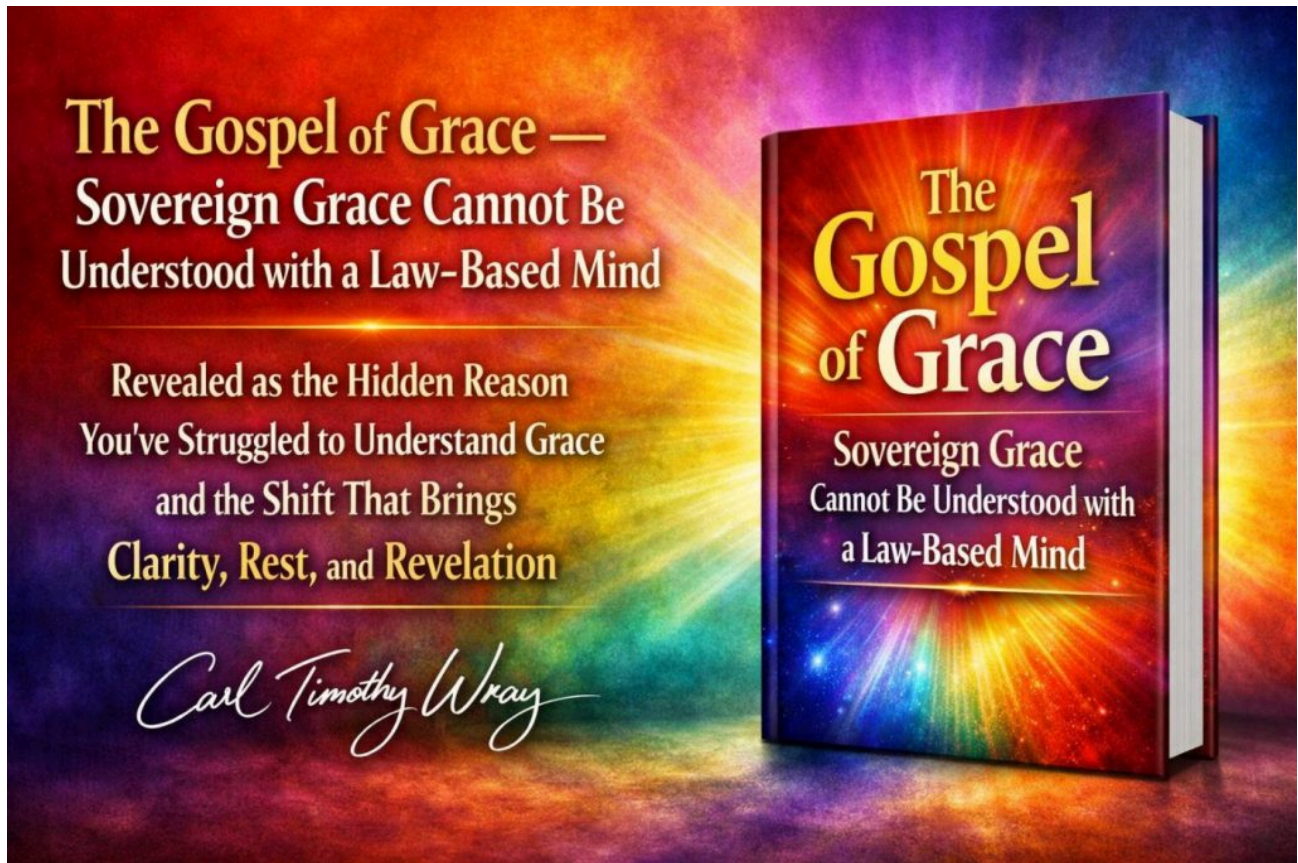
The Gospel of Grace: AUTHOR

[Carl Timothy Wray](#) is a prolific Kingdom author and teacher dedicated to unveiling the Finished Work of Christ through the full counsel of God—from Genesis to Revelation. His writings focus on the Gospel of Grace, the revelation of Jesus Christ, and the transformation of the believer through divine operation rather than human effort. Through hundreds of books, teachings, and resources, he equips readers to move from striving to rest, from confusion to clarity, and from performance to the living reality of Christ within. His message is centered on one truth: what God began, God finished—and what He finished, He now reveals.



The Gospel of Grace — Sovereign Grace Cannot Be Understood with a Law-Based Mind is a powerful, Scripture-rich teaching that reveals why so many believers struggle to understand grace. Anchored in the full counsel of God, this book explains the difference between a law-based, carnal mindset and the mind of the Spirit. By walking through key passages from Genesis to Revelation, Carl Timothy Wray demonstrates how sovereign grace is not something to be achieved, but something already fulfilled in Christ and revealed by the Spirit. This book answers one of the most searched and misunderstood questions in Christianity: *why does*  **EN** *confusing?* If you've wrestled with performance, pressure, or trying to "get

it right," this message will bring clarity, rest, and a renewed understanding of the [finished work of Christ](#).



- 1. New Book
- 2. Download Free PDF

The Gospel of Grace: INTRODUCTION

There is a reason grace has felt confusing.

There is a reason the Gospel—though called “good news”—has often felt heavy, demanding, and just out of reach. You’ve read the Scriptures. You’ve seen the promises. You’ve heard the message of grace... and yet something didn’t quite settle. Something didn’t fully make sense.



EN

the Gospel is unclear.

But because of the lens through which it has been seen.

Most believers have been taught to read the New Covenant with an Old Covenant mind—to interpret grace through the framework of law, requirement, and performance. And when sovereign grace is filtered through a law-based lens, it doesn't produce rest—it produces tension.

Commands feel like burdens. Promises feel conditional. Scriptures that were meant to reveal Christ begin to sound like demands placed back on man.

And the result?

Confusion. Frustration. Quiet striving.

But what if the struggle was never because you were missing something?

What if the tension you've felt wasn't the voice of God—but the result of viewing grace through the wrong mind?

The truth is simple, yet powerful:

Sovereign grace cannot be understood with a law-based mind.

The natural mind turns everything into responsibility.

The Spirit reveals everything as fulfillment.

The law-based mind asks, *"What must I do?"*

The mind of Christ reveals, *"What has already been done?"*

This book is not here to place another demand on you.



remove one.

As you walk through these chapters, the Scriptures will begin to open—not as commands to perform, but as revelations of what God has already accomplished through Jesus Christ. The pressure will begin to lift. The confusion will begin to clear. And what once felt complicated will become simple again.

Not because something new is being added...

But because the right lens is being restored.

You are not being asked to understand grace through effort.

You are being invited to see it by the Spirit.

And when that shift happens—everything changes.

Chapter 1 — The Two Minds: Law vs Grace

Two Ways of Seeing the Same Word

Every struggle you've had with the Gospel traces back to one thing:

the mind you're using to read it.

Not the Scripture.

Not the promise.

Not the truth itself.

through which it is being interpreted.



There are not two gospels—but there are **two minds** that interpret the same Gospel in completely different ways.

One mind turns the Word into **requirement**.

The other reveals the Word as **fulfillment**.

One produces pressure.

The other produces rest.

The difference is not in what is written...

The difference is in **how it is seen**.

The Carnal Mind Cannot Receive Grace

The apostle Paul makes this clear:

“For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.” — Romans 8:5

“Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.” — Romans 8:7

“So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.” — Romans 8:8

The issue is not effort.

The issue is **nature and perspective**.

The carnal mind—no matter how sincere—**cannot process the things of God**



EN

will always interpret divine truth through human ability, human responsibility, and human effort.

This is why grace feels confusing to so many.

Not because grace is unclear...

But because it is being filtered through a mind that **cannot receive it as it is**.

The Natural Mind Turns Everything into Effort

Paul goes even further:

“But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.” — 1 Corinthians 2:14

The natural mind does not just misunderstand grace—it **redefines it**.

When it reads:

- “Be ye perfect” → it hears **performance**
- “Walk in the Spirit” → it hears **effort**
- “Follow Me” → it hears **responsibility**

It cannot help it.

It is wired to interpret everything through the lens of:

☞ *“What must I do?”*

But grace does not answer that question.

Grace reveals something entirely different.



God's Thoughts Are Not Man's Thoughts

The Lord declared long ago:

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord." — Isaiah 55:8

"For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." — Isaiah 55:9

Grace is not just a different teaching.

It is the **revelation of God's mind**.

And until the mind shifts, the message will always feel:

- out of reach
- too good to be true
- or even wrong

Because heaven does not think like earth.

The Conflict Between Flesh and Spirit

This inner tension many have felt is not accidental—it is scriptural:

"For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other..." — Galatians 5:17

Two minds.



EN

tations.

TWO EXPERIENCES.

The flesh says:

☞ *"You must become."*

The Spirit reveals:

☞ *"It is finished."*

The flesh says:

☞ *"Try harder."*

The Spirit reveals:

☞ *"Rest in what has been done."*

This is the conflict that has created confusion for so many believers.

True Worship Is Without Confidence in the Flesh

Paul reveals what it looks like to step out of the law-based mind:

"For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh." — Philippians 3:3

Grace removes confidence in self...

And establishes confidence in **Christ alone**.

The law-based mind says:

☞ *"I must do this."*

The mind of the Spirit says:

☞ *"Christ has done this."*



Beware of the Lens That Distorts Christ

Paul gives a warning that is just as relevant today:

“Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.” —

Colossians 2:8

A law-based lens does not just misunderstand grace—

It **distorts Christ Himself**.

It turns a finished work into an ongoing demand.

It turns a completed salvation into a process of earning.

It turns rest into striving.

And without realizing it, many believers have been trying to live out of a covenant that has already been fulfilled.

The Foundation for Everything That Follows

Before we go any further, this must be settled:

You are not struggling because the Gospel is unclear.

You are not failing because you are not trying hard enough.

The tension you have felt...

Has come from trying to understand **sovereign grace through a law-based mind**.



And that will never produce clarity.

But as the mind begins to shift—from flesh to Spirit, from law to grace, from effort to fulfillment—

The same Scriptures that once felt heavy...

Will begin to open as light.

Chapter 2 — The Law-Based Mind Always Sees Requirement

The Default Setting of the Natural Mind

The law-based mind has a default setting:

☞ It turns everything into **requirement**.

It doesn't matter what the verse says.

It doesn't matter what covenant it belongs to.

If the mind is rooted in law, it will always ask:

“What do I need to do to make this happen?”

This is why two people can read the same Scripture and walk away with completely different experiences.

One feels pressure.



EN

els peace.

Not because the Word changed...

But because the **mind interpreting it did.**

The Language of the Law: “If You Will...”

Under the law, God spoke in conditional terms:

“Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant...” — Exodus 19:5

“And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God...” — Deuteronomy 28:1

The structure was clear:

☞ **If you do this → then I will do that**

Blessing was tied to performance.

Obedience was tied to outcome.

This was not error—it was **the design of the law.**

But the problem comes when that same mindset is carried into the Gospel.

Because grace does not operate on “if you will...”

Grace reveals:

☞ **“It is finished.”** — John 19:30



The Law-Based Mind Carries the Old Pattern Forward

Even when reading New Covenant Scriptures, the law-based mind still hears:

- “Be ye perfect” → *I must become this*
- “Love the Lord your God” → *I must reach this level*
- “Follow Me” → *I must measure up*

Let’s look at these passages:

“Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.” —
Matthew 5:48

“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart...” — Matthew 22:37

“This do, and thou shalt live.” — Luke 10:28

To a law-based mind, these are **demands**.

Standards to reach.

Commands to fulfill.

But something deeper is happening.

The Law Reveals Requirement—But Also Inability

Paul explains the true function of the law:



EN

...s describeth the righteousness which is of the law, That the man which
...se things shall live by them.” — Romans 10:5

“For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse...” — Galatians 3:10

“For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.” — James 2:10

The law does not just reveal what is required—

It reveals that man **cannot fulfill it.**

It exposes inability.

It shuts the door on self-effort.

It brings man to the end of himself.

But if you read these Scriptures with a law-based mind...

You will try to do what they were never given for you to accomplish.

The Trap: Turning Revelation into Responsibility

Here is where the tension begins:

God gives a Scripture to **reveal Christ...**

But the law-based mind turns it into a **responsibility for man.**

Instead of seeing:

☞ “Christ fulfilled this”

It hears:

☞ “I must fulfill this”



And the result is:

- striving
- frustration
- cycles of failure
- and quiet condemnation

Not because the Word is wrong—

But because the **lens is wrong**.

The Rich Young Ruler: A Picture of the Law Mind

Jesus encounters a man with a law-based mindset:

“*Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?*” — Luke 18:18

Notice the question:

☞ “*What shall I do?*”

This is the voice of the law-based mind.

Jesus responds within that framework:

“*Thou knowest the commandments...*” — Luke 18:20

And the man says:

“*All these have I kept from my youth up.*” — Luke 18:21

But one thing remains:



“*Sell all that thou hast... and follow me.*” — Luke 18:22

The man walks away sorrowful.

Why?

Because the law-based mind always believes it can perform...

Until it is confronted with something it cannot do.

This is the breaking point.

Why This Creates Exhaustion

When every Scripture becomes a requirement:

- Grace feels unreachable
- The Christian life feels impossible
- The believer lives in constant evaluation

Am I doing enough?

Am I growing enough?

Am I measuring up?

This is not rest.

This is **bondage dressed in spiritual language.**

Grace Does Not Speak the Language of Requirement



Grace does not come saying:

☞ "Do this and live."

Grace reveals:

☞ "Live, because it has been done."

Where the law says:

☞ "*Perform and receive*"

Grace reveals:

☞ "*Receive because it is finished*"

And until this shift is seen...

The reader will continue to turn **every promise into pressure.**

The Turning Point

This is where everything begins to change:

You are not reading the Scriptures wrong because you lack sincerity.

You are reading them through a **law-based pattern that was never meant to interpret grace.**

And once that is seen...

The pressure begins to lift.

Because the question is no longer:



☞ "*What must I do?*"

But:

☞ *"What has Christ already done?"*

🔥 Chapter 3 — Sovereign Grace Reveals Fulfillment, Not Requirement

The Shift from Demand to Completion

Everything changes when you see this:

God is not speaking to you from a place of **requirement**...

He is revealing to you what has already been **fulfilled**.

The law says:

☞ *"This must be done."*

Grace reveals:

☞ *"This has been done."*

Until that shift happens, every Scripture will feel like something you must achieve.

But once it happens...

The same Scriptures become a revelation of what **Christ has already accomplished**.



EN

Did Not Come to Help You Fulfill the Law

Jesus made His mission clear:

“Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.” — Matthew 5:17

He did not come to assist you in completing it.

He came to **fulfill it completely.**

Every requirement.

Every standard.

Every demand.

Not partially...

But entirely.

The End of the Law Is Christ

Paul declares it plainly:

“For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.” — Romans 10:4

Not the improvement of the law.

Not the continuation of the law.

👉 **The end of the law.**



EN

the law is no longer the pathway to righteousness.

Christ is.

And if Christ is the end of it...

Then righteousness is no longer something you are trying to reach—

It is something that has already been **established in Him**.

“It Is Finished” Is Not Symbolic

When Jesus cried out:

▮ *“It is finished.”* — John 19:30

He was not speaking poetically.

He was declaring the **completion of the work**.

Everything the law demanded... fulfilled.

Everything required for righteousness... accomplished.

Everything necessary for reconciliation... completed.

Not started.

Not in progress.

👉 **Finished.**



EN

fering, Forever Perfected

The writer of Hebrews removes all doubt:

“By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.” — Hebrews 10:10

“For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.” — Hebrews 10:14

Read that again:

☞ *Perfected forever.*

Not gradually being perfected through your effort...

But perfected through **His offering**.

This is sovereign grace.

The Record Against You Has Been Removed

Paul takes it even further:

“Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us... nailing it to his cross.” — Colossians 2:13–14

Everything that stood against you...

Every requirement...

Every failure...



Every accusation...

☞ **nailed to the cross.**

Not managed.

Not negotiated.

☞ **removed.**

Righteousness Is Not Achieved—It Is Given

This is where the law-based mind struggles the most:

“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.” — 2 Corinthians 5:21

You are not working toward righteousness.

You have been **made** righteous in Christ.

Not earned.

Not developed.

Not achieved over time.

☞ **Made.**

And what God has made...

Man cannot improve.



What the Law Could Not Do, God Did

Paul summarizes the entire transition:

“For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son... condemned sin in the flesh.” — Romans 8:3

“That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us...” — Romans 8:4

Notice carefully:

The righteousness of the law is not being fulfilled **by you...**

It has been fulfilled **in Christ**, and now revealed **in you**.

This is the difference between effort and grace.

Why This Breaks the Law-Based Mind

The law-based mind wants:

- ☛ a role
- ☛ a responsibility
- ☛ a contribution

But sovereign grace leaves no room for boasting:

Everything has already been done.

This is why grace can feel:

- offensive



EN

- or even wrong

Because it removes the one thing the natural mind wants to hold onto:

👉 **self-effort**

The Relief Begins Here

This is where the pressure starts to lift:

You are not trying to fulfill what Christ already fulfilled.

You are not working toward what God has already completed.

You are not building what has already been finished.

You are awakening to it.

Receiving it.

Seeing it by the Spirit.

🔥 The Foundation Truth

Let this settle deep:

👉 God is not asking you to complete what He already finished.

👉 He is revealing to you what has already been completed in Christ.



EN

at is seen...

The burden breaks.

Chapter 4 — Why Grace Sounds Wrong to the Natural Mind

The Offense of Grace

If sovereign grace is true...

If the work is finished...

If righteousness is given and not earned...

Then why does it feel so strange—even uncomfortable—to so many?

Because grace does something the natural mind cannot tolerate:

👉 **It removes the role of self.**

The message of grace declares:

- You cannot earn this
- You cannot improve this
- You cannot add to this

And to a mind trained in effort and achievement...

That feels wrong.



EN

Gospel Sounds Like Foolishness

Paul said this would happen:

“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness...” — 1 Corinthians 1:18

“...hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?” — 1 Corinthians 1:20

“Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men...” — 1 Corinthians 1:25

Grace doesn't just challenge human thinking—

☞ it **contradicts it**.

The natural mind says:

☞ “You must earn value.”

Grace declares:

☞ “Your value was established by God.”

And that collision creates offense.

When Truth Sounds Too Good to Be True

Jesus experienced this directly:

“Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?” — John 6:60

“From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.” — John 6:66



EN

Notice that:

They didn't leave because the message was unclear.

They left because it was **too much for their mindset to accept.**

Grace will often sound:

- too complete
- too free
- too final

And the natural response is:

☞ *"That can't be right."*

The Elder Brother Syndrome

Jesus paints this perfectly:

"Lo, these many years do I serve thee... yet thou never gavest me a kid..." — Luke 15:29

The elder brother had a law-based mindset:

☞ *"I have served. I have obeyed. I deserve."*

So when grace was given freely to the prodigal...

He was offended.

Not because grace was wrong—



But because it violated his system of **earning and deserving.**

Grace Breaks the Wage System

Another parable makes this clear:

“So the last shall be first, and the first last...” — Matthew 20:16

The laborers who worked all day expected more.

But everyone received the same.

Why?

Because the kingdom does not operate on wages...

☞ It operates on **grace**.

To the natural mind, this feels unjust.

To the Spirit, it reveals the heart of God.

The Stumbling Stone

Paul explains the root of the offense:

“They stumbled at that stumblingstone...” — Romans 9:32

“For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness...” — Romans 10:3



Grace offends because it removes the ability to:

☞ establish your own righteousness

It declares:

- You cannot build it
- You cannot earn it
- You cannot secure it

It has already been established in Christ.

Why Persecution Follows Grace

Paul makes a powerful statement:

“And I, brethren, if I yet preach circumcision, why do I yet suffer persecution? then is the offence of the cross ceased.” — Galatians 5:11

If the message included human effort...

There would be no offense.

But because grace excludes it completely—

☞ it creates resistance.

Not because it is wrong...

But because it **removes the pride of man.**



Grace Removes Boasting

Scripture makes it plain:

“Where is boasting then? It is excluded.” — Romans 3:27

The law-based mind wants to say:

☞ “I did this.”

Grace declares:

☞ “God did this.”

And that is where the offense lies.

Why This Matters for You

If grace has ever felt:

- too easy
- too complete
- too good to be true

You are not alone.

You are encountering the same tension seen throughout Scripture.

But here is the truth:

☞ The problem is not the message.



EN

lem is the mindset trying to interpret it.

The Breaking Point

Grace will never make sense to a mind that needs to contribute.

It will always feel:

- offensive
- uncomfortable
- or incomplete

Until the mind is renewed.

And once that shift happens...

What once felt wrong...

Becomes the most beautiful truth you've ever seen.

Chapter 5 — The Law Mind Reads Commands, the Spirit Reveals Christ

The Same Scripture, Two Interpretations

The Word of God has not changed.

But the way it is **read** determines everything.



EN

reads the Bible and sees:

 commands

- ☞ standards
- ☞ expectations

Another reads the same Bible and sees:

- ☞ Christ
- ☞ fulfillment
- ☞ finished work

The difference is not the text.

The difference is the **mind interpreting the text.**

Searching the Scriptures—But Missing the Person

Jesus said something that exposes this clearly:

“Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.” — John 5:39

“And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.” — John 5:40

They had the Scriptures...

But they missed Christ in them.

Why?

Because they were reading the Word as:

☞ a means to perform



Instead of:

☞ revelation of a Person

The Letter Kills, But the Spirit Gives Life

Paul draws the line clearly:

“Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.” — 2 Corinthians 3:6

The “letter” is not just the Old Testament...

It is any reading of Scripture that turns it into:

☞ requirement without revelation

The Spirit does something different:

☞ He reveals Christ as the fulfillment of what is written.

The New Covenant Is God Working, Not Man Performing

God declared the New Covenant long before it came:

“I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts...” — Hebrews 8:10

“And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.” — Hebrews 8:12



EN

...make a new covenant...” — Jeremiah 31:31

Notice the language:

☞ **"I will..."**

Not:

☞ "You must..."

The law-based mind reads Scripture and hears:

☞ *"You need to do this."*

But the New Covenant reveals:

☞ **God is the One doing it.**

God Causes What He Commands

The prophets spoke this clearly:

| *"A new heart also will I give you..."* — Ezekiel 36:26

| *"And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes..."* —
Ezekiel 36:27

This is everything.

What the law commanded...

☞ grace **causes**.

So when the law-based mind reads:

☞ *"Walk in righteousness"*



It hears:

☞ *"You must produce this."*

But the Spirit reveals:

☞ *"God is producing this in you."*

Christ in You: The Real Meaning of the Word

Paul brings it home:

| *"Christ in you, the hope of glory." — Colossians 1:27*

| *"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me..." — Galatians 2:20*

The Scriptures are not calling you to become something apart from Christ...

They are revealing:

☞ **Christ is the life within you.**

So every command, every promise, every standard—

Finds its fulfillment in Him.

Why the Law Mind Misreads Everything

When the law-based mind reads Scripture:



...ates itself from Christ

- It takes responsibility for what only God can do
- It turns revelation into obligation

And the result is:

- ☞ pressure
- ☞ confusion
- ☞ striving

Because it is trying to live out something that was never meant to come from self.

The Spirit Reveals Fulfillment in Every Verse

The Spirit reads the Word differently:

- “Be holy” → Christ is your holiness
- “Walk in love” → Christ is your love
- “Be perfect” → Christ fulfilled perfection

This is not ignoring Scripture—

☞ This is **seeing Scripture correctly**.

Everything points to Him.

Everything flows from Him.

Everything is fulfilled in Him.



☞ **The Key That Unlocks the Bible**

Here is the key:

👉 The Bible is not a book about what you must become.

👉 It is a revelation of what Christ has already become for you—and now reveals in you.

Until that is seen:

The Word will feel heavy.

Once that is seen:

The Word becomes life.

The Shift Happens Here

You are not being called to:

- perform Scripture
- fulfill commands
- measure up to the Word

You are being awakened to:

👉 Christ as the fulfillment of the Word within you.

And once that shift happens...

The entire Bible begins to open.



Chapter 6 — The Struggle Comes from the Wrong Lens

You Were Never the Problem

Let this settle right at the beginning:

You were never the problem.

Not your sincerity.

Not your hunger.

Not your desire to understand.

The struggle did not come from a lack of effort...

It came from trying to see grace through a **law-based lens**.

And that lens will always produce tension.

Trying to Live Grace Through the Law

Paul exposes this clearly:

"But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter." — Romans 7:6

The believer is no longer called to live out of:



 the oldness of the letter (law-based interpretation)

But in:

☞ the newness of the Spirit (grace-based revelation)

Yet many have tried to live the New Covenant...

With an Old Covenant mindset.

And that produces strain.

Grace Interrupted by Self-Effort

Paul confronts this directly:

“O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you...?” — Galatians 3:1

“Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?”

— Galatians 3:3

They started in grace...

But shifted back into effort.

This is where the tension comes from:

☞ starting in what God does

☞ then trying to finish it yourself

And the moment self-effort enters...



The Weight Was Never Yours to Carry

Jesus gives a direct invitation:

“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” —
Matthew 11:28

“Take my yoke upon you... for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” — Matthew
11:29–30

If it feels heavy...

☞ it didn't come from Him.

The burden people feel is not the Gospel—

It is the result of carrying something they were never meant to carry.

There Remains a Rest

The writer of Hebrews confirms this:

“There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.” — Hebrews 4:9

“For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works...” —
Hebrews 4:10

Rest is not inactivity—



EN

of **self-effort as the source.**

It is the realization that:

☞ what God required, God supplied.

Man-Made Effort Cannot Produce Spiritual Life

Paul warns again:

"Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world... why... are ye subject to ordinances...?" — Colossians 2:20

"Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom... but are not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh." — Colossians 2:23

Human effort can look spiritual...

But it cannot produce life.

It creates activity without transformation.

The Real Source of Frustration

This is the turning point:

You were trying to produce what only God can produce.

You were trying to fulfill what Christ already fulfilled.



EN

ing to carry what grace already completed.

And that will always result in:

- exhaustion
- confusion
- inner conflict

Not because you failed...

But because the **lens was wrong**.

Grace Calls You Back to Freedom

Paul declares:

“Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.” — Galatians 5:1

The yoke of bondage is not always obvious sin...

It is often:

👉 returning to self-effort as the source

Grace calls you back to:

👉 **freedom from that system entirely**



The Pressure Breaks Here



EN

where many will feel it lift:

You are not behind.

You are not failing.

You are not missing something you need to achieve.

You have been trying to see and live grace through a lens that was never designed to understand it.

And once that is seen...

👉 the burden breaks.

The New Question

The question is no longer:

👉 *"What do I need to do to fix this?"*

The question becomes:

👉 *"What has God already done that I am now seeing?"*

And that question...

Leads to rest.

Chapter 7 — You Cannot Produce What



EN

Already Finished

The Illusion of Contribution

At the core of the struggle is this belief:

☞ *"I must contribute something to this."*

Maybe not everything...

But at least something.

A little effort.

A little obedience.

A little strength from yourself.

But sovereign grace removes that idea completely.

Because if God finished it...

☞ there is nothing left for you to produce.

Without Him, You Can Do Nothing

Jesus said it plainly:

| *"I am the vine, ye are the branches... for without me ye can do nothing." — John 15:5*

Not "a little."

Not "less."

☞ **Nothing.**



The branch does not produce life.

It receives life.

And what flows from it...

Is the result of what it is connected to.

God Is the One Working in You

Paul confirms this:

*"For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." —
Philippians 2:13*

Even the desire...

Even the doing...

☞ comes from God.

This removes the foundation of self-effort entirely.

You are not the source.

You are the vessel.

The Work Was Finished Before You Began

Hebrews makes a powerful statement:



"Although the works were finished from the foundation of the world." — Hebrews 4:3

Before you ever tried...

Before you ever struggled...

Before you ever asked how...

☞ the work was already finished.

This is sovereign grace.

Saved by Grace, Not Sustained by Effort

Paul makes it unmistakable:

“For by grace are ye saved through faith... not of works, lest any man should boast.”
— Ephesians 2:8–9

“For we are his workmanship...” — Ephesians 2:10

You are not the builder.

☞ You are the workmanship.

The same grace that saved you...

Is the same grace that sustains you.

Grace and Works Cannot Mix



This must be clear:

"And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace." —

Romans 11:6

It's not:

☞ mostly grace, a little effort

It's not:

☞ grace to start, effort to finish

It is:

☞ **grace from beginning to end**

The moment works enter as the source...

Grace is no longer being understood.

Even Paul's Labor Was Grace

Paul says something that settles this completely:

"But by the grace of God I am what I am... and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me." — 1 Corinthians 15:10

He labored...

But it was not him.



☞ It was grace working through him.

This is the difference:

Not inactivity...

But **divine activity through you, not from you.**

Jesus Is the Author and Finisher

Hebrews declares:

“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith...” — Hebrews 12:2

Not just the author.

👉 **The finisher.**

If He started it...

And He finishes it...

Then where does self-effort fit?

It doesn't.

🔥 The Root of Striving

Striving comes from one belief:



EN

“Produce something God is waiting on.”

But the truth is:

God is not waiting on you to produce.

He has already finished the work in Christ...

And now reveals it by His Spirit.

The Release

You are not:

- producing righteousness
- generating holiness
- creating transformation

You are:

- ☞ receiving
- ☞ seeing
- ☞ yielding to what God is doing

And what flows from that...

Is real.

Because it is not coming from you.



EN

Foundation Truth

Let this settle:

- ☞ You cannot produce what God already finished.
- ☞ You cannot improve what Christ already completed.
- ☞ You cannot add to what grace has already supplied.

And once that is seen...

Striving loses its power.

🔥 Chapter 8 — The Mind of the Spirit Sees God as the Source

If You Are Not the Source... Who Is?

By now, one thing has been made clear:

You are not the source of this life.

Not your effort.

Not your willpower.

Not your ability.

So the question becomes:

☞ **If not you... then who?**



is simple—and this is where the mind of the Spirit begins to see clearly:

☞ **God is the source of everything.**

Not partially.

Not occasionally.

☞ **Entirely.**

Life Comes from the Spirit, Not the Flesh

Paul draws the line clearly:

“But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you...” — Romans 8:9

“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you... he shall also quicken your mortal bodies...” — Romans 8:11

The life you are living is not sourced in the flesh—

It is sourced in the **Spirit of God within you.**

This changes everything.

You Have Received the Mind of Christ

Paul makes an astonishing statement:



EN

... have received... the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things freely given to us of God.” — 1 Corinthians 2:12

“But we have the mind of Christ.” — 1 Corinthians 2:16

You are not trying to figure this out through human reasoning.

You have been given the capacity to:

- ☞ **see as God sees**
- ☞ **know what He has already given**

Grace is not discovered through effort—

It is revealed through the Spirit.

God Finishes What He Starts

This truth anchors everything:

“Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.” — Philippians 1:6

God does not begin something and leave it unfinished.

He does not start a work and then wait on you to complete it.

- ☞ He **begins it**
- ☞ He **continues it**
- ☞ He **finishes it**

That is sovereign grace.

Kept by the Power of God

You are not maintaining this life:

“Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling...” — Jude 1:24

“...that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power.” — 2 Thessalonians 1:11

God is not just the initiator—

- ☛ He is the **keeper**
- ☛ the **sustainer**
- ☛ the **finisher**

This removes the fear of failure.

God Works In You and Through You

The writer of Hebrews confirms:

“Now the God of peace... make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight...” — Hebrews 13:20–21

God is not standing outside of you, waiting for performance.

- ☛ He is working **in you**
- ☛ producing what pleases Him

This is the difference between law and grace:



- Law: “Do this.”

- Grace: *"I am doing this in you."*
-

God Ordains the Outcome

Even the results are His:

"Lord, thou wilt ordain peace for us: for thou also hast wrought all our works in us." —
Isaiah 26:12

Let that settle:

☞ *"Thou... hast wrought all our works in us."*

Not some.

☞ **All.**

Everything that is truly of God...

Comes from God.

Why This Changes Everything

When you see God as the source:

- Pressure disappears
- Fear loses its grip
- Striving comes to an end



EN

are no longer looking to yourself to produce anything.

You are resting in:

- ☞ what God is doing
 - ☞ what God has done
 - ☞ what God will complete
-

The Shift of the Mind

The law-based mind says:

- ☞ *"I must make this happen."*

The mind of the Spirit sees:

- ☞ *"God is making this happen."*

This is the shift.

And once this becomes your view...

Everything stabilizes.

The End of Self-Dependence

You are not:

- sustaining your walk
- holding your position
- maintaining your righteousness



EN

God is.

And what God sustains...

Cannot fail.

The Foundation Truth

Let this settle deep:

👉 God is not helping you do His will.

👉 God is doing His will in you.

And once that is seen...

Rest becomes natural.

Chapter 9 — The Renewal of the Mind Unlocks Grace

Truth Must Be Seen to Be Lived

By now, the truth has been declared:

- The work is finished
- Christ fulfilled it all



EN

the source

But here is the key:

☞ **Truth must be seen to be experienced.**

Not created.

Not earned.

Not produced.

☞ **Seen.**

And that happens through the **renewal of the mind.**

Be Transformed by Renewing the Mind

Paul gives the instruction:

“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind...” — Romans 12:2

Transformation does not come from effort.

It comes from **seeing differently.**

The word “transformed” here speaks of a complete inward change—

But it is triggered by:

☞ **a renewed mind**



Putting Off the Old Way of Thinking

Paul continues:

“...*put off concerning the former conversation the old man...*” — Ephesians 4:22

“...*and be renewed in the spirit of your mind.*” — Ephesians 4:23

“...*and that ye put on the new man...*” — Ephesians 4:24

The “old man” is not just behavior—

☞ it is a **way of thinking**

A law-based pattern.

A performance-driven lens.

A mindset rooted in self-effort.

And that must be put off.

Putting On the Mind of the New Man

Colossians says:

“...*ye have put off the old man with his deeds; and have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.*” — Colossians 3:9–10

The new man is not trying to become something.

He is being **renewed in knowledge**.



EN

to see what is already true.

You Already Have the Mind of Christ

Paul reminds us:

“*But we have the mind of Christ.*” — 1 Corinthians 2:16

This is not something you are trying to obtain.

It is something you are learning to:

- ☞ **walk in**
- ☞ **see from**
- ☞ **live through**

The renewal of the mind is not becoming something new—

It is awakening to what has already been given.

Righteousness Is Received, Not Achieved

Paul makes this shift clear:

“*...that I may win Christ, and be found in him, not having mine own righteousness... but that which is through the faith of Christ...*” — Philippians 3:8–9

The renewed mind stops trying to:

- ☞ establish righteousness

And begins to:



- ☞ receive righteousness

This changes the entire experience of the believer.

Casting Down Wrong Thoughts

Renewal requires confrontation of false patterns:

"Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God..." — 2 Corinthians 10:5

Every thought that says:

- "You must do more"
- "You are not enough"
- "You need to fix this"

Must be brought into alignment with:

☛ **what God has already said and done**

Truth Sets You Free

Jesus said:

"If ye continue in my word... ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." — John 8:31–32

Freedom does not come from trying harder.



EN

m:

👉 knowing the truth

And the truth is not:

👉 what you must do

The truth is:

👉 what Christ has already done

🔥 The Real Meaning of Renewal

Renewal is not:

- becoming more disciplined
- trying harder to obey
- improving your performance

Renewal is:

👉 seeing clearly what was already finished

And once you see it...

You stop striving for it.

🔥 The Shift Is Internal



EN

ward changes first.

The shift happens here:

- ☞ in the way you see
- ☞ in the way you interpret
- ☞ in the way you understand

And once the mind is renewed...

The experience follows.

The Result of a Renewed Mind

When the mind is renewed:

- Scripture becomes clear
- Grace becomes simple
- Rest becomes natural

Because you are no longer filtering truth through:

- ☞ a law-based mindset
-

The Foundation Truth

Let this settle:

- ☞ You are not trying to become something new.



Seeing what has already been made true in Christ.

And that sight...

Changes everything.

Chapter 10 — Resting in Sovereign Grace

The Journey Ends Where It Was Always Meant To

From the beginning, this has been the destination:

☞ Rest.

Not striving.

Not pressure.

Not constant self-evaluation.

But rest in what God has already completed.

Every chapter has led to this moment—

Where the mind is no longer divided...

And the heart is no longer burdened.

There Remains a Rest



EN

e declares:

“There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.” — Hebrews 4:9

This is not a future promise only.

It is a present reality.

A rest that comes from knowing:

☞ nothing is left undone.

Ceasing from Your Own Works

The writer continues:

“For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works...” —
Hebrews 4:10

Rest is not inactivity—

It is the end of:

☞ self-effort as the source

You are no longer:

- trying to become
- trying to qualify
- trying to complete something

You have ceased from your own works...



Because God has already finished His.

The Invitation Still Stands

Jesus still speaks:

“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” —
Matthew 11:28

“For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” — Matthew 11:30

If it is heavy...

It is not Him.

If it is pressure...

It is not grace.

True grace produces:

- ☞ lightness
- ☞ peace
- ☞ assurance

Be Still and Know

The psalmist writes:

“Be still, and know that I am God...” — Psalm 46:10



EN

...where striving ends.

Where the soul no longer tries to:

- ☞ control
- ☞ fix
- ☞ produce

But simply:

- ☞ knows

Knows that God has done it.

Knows that Christ finished it.

Knows that the Spirit is revealing it.

Perfect Peace Is Found Here

Isaiah reveals:

▮ *"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee..."* — Isaiah 26:3

Peace is not something you create.

It is the result of:

- ☞ where your mind rests

A law-based mind produces anxiety.



EN

ewed mind produces peace.

Justified and Standing in Grace

Paul confirms:

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God...” — Romans 5:1

“...and have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand...” — Romans 5:2

You are not trying to enter grace.

☞ You are **standing in it**.

Already.

Fully.

Completely.

Let Peace Rule

Paul writes:

“And let the peace of God rule in your hearts...” — Colossians 3:15

Peace is not something you chase—

It is something you allow to **rule**.



EN

when:

- 👉 the mind stops striving
 - 👉 the heart stops fearing
 - 👉 the soul stops trying to produce
-

Grace and Truth Came by Jesus Christ

John declares:

“For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.” — John 1:17

The law gave requirements.

Grace revealed fulfillment.

Truth did not come to burden you—

- 👉 it came to free you.
-

🔥 The Final Revelation

Here it is, plain and complete:

- 👉 You were never called to understand grace through effort.
- 👉 You were never called to fulfill what Christ already fulfilled.
- 👉 You were never meant to carry what God already completed.



ways meant to:

- 👉 rest in it
- 👉 see it
- 👉 live from it

🔥 The Pressure Is Gone

You are not behind.

You are not failing.

You are not trying to reach something that hasn't been given.

You are awakening to what has already been finished.

And in that awakening...

- 👉 the pressure is gone

🔥 The Landing Place

The journey ends here:

Not in striving.

Not in confusion.

But in this:


EN

shed it.
led it.

The Spirit reveals it.

You rest in it.

Call to Rest

You don't have to:

- figure it out
- fix yourself
- produce something for God

You can rest.

Right here.

Right now.

Final Word

The Gospel of Grace is not:

☞ what you must do

It is:

☞ what God has already done

And once that is seen...



EN

...changes.

The Gospel of Grace — Sovereign Grace Cannot Be Understood with a Law-Based Mind

By Carl Timothy Wray





EN

gospel of Grace Series

1. [**The Gospel of Grace — The Finished Work Proclaimed**](#)
2. [**The Gospel of Grace — The Top 10 Law-Based Passages Exposed**](#)
3. [**The Gospel of Grace — If You Love Me, Keep My Commandments**](#)
4. [**The Gospel of Grace — How Grace Is Administered from the Throne**](#)
5. [**Join Our Facebook Page and Group**](#)

Leave a Reply

Logged in as Carl Timothy Wray. [Edit your profile.](#) [Log out?](#) Required fields are marked *

Comment *

Post Comment

Connect With Zion University

Follow and share the revelation across every channel — the voice of

...ing to all
...ns.



 Website

 YouTube

 Facebook

 Instagram

 TikTok

 Pinterest

 Medium

 LinkedIn

 Archive.org

© 2026 THE FINISHED WORK OF CHRIST - WordPress Theme by [Kadence WP](#)



EN