*Friday, August 5, 2011*

**Grace Works**

Romans 4:1-5 What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? (2) For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. (3) For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. (4) Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. (5) But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. (KJV)

What it comes down to this week can be summed up by the fact that whatsoever is not of faith is sin. The reason that we have peace with God, as well as building a confidence and trust in His word, is because we allow Him to work on our behalf and no longer try to figure out how we can work on His behalf. However, when you step out in faith then you put yourself on our Lord’s turf, which then allows Him to manifest in a way that you could not have ever asked or even begun to think about.

Psalms 28:3-5 Draw me not away with the wicked, and with the workers of iniquity, which speak peace to their neighbours, but mischief is in their hearts. (4) Give them according to their deeds, and according to the wickedness of their endeavours: give them after the work of their hands; render to them their desert. (5) Because they regard not the works of the LORD, nor the operation of his hands, he shall destroy them, and not build them up. (KJV)

These verses accurately describe many religious organizations today who profess to know God but in works deny Him. As you can see there is a difference between mans work and allowing God to work on our behalf.

John 3:19-21 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. (20) For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. (21) But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God. (KJV)

You know, by the deeds of the flesh shall no man be justified, thus the reason why God is shining a spiritual light on our deeds so that we can let the Lord take over. Only the truth will set one free, which then sets the Lord free to work in and through you as well so that you can truly experience the grace of God.

Isaiah 59:17-19 For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloke. (18) According to their deeds, accordingly he will repay, fury to his adversaries, recompence to his enemies; to the islands he will repay recompence. (19) So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him. (KJV)

You know, sometimes we think or picture an adversary of God as some mean wicked person that just escaped from prison and is on the loose. However, anything or anyone outside the realm of grace through faith is considered to be an adversary of our Lord no matter how nice they may seem. Remember what our Lord said about our own righteousness? Filthy rags as I recall, and not the armor that He provided for His people as we see above in verse 17.

Revelation 2:20-22 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. (21) And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. (22) Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. (KJV)

Remember who this is written to Church, and heed the warning. God’s own people, if they don’t stay awake and continue in the faith, and rightly divide the word of truth, can be seduced and end up in spiritual adultery. You are saved by grace through faith and no longer of your works so that someone who really works can take over and lead you home. God bless Church, and stay out of the way so that someone else can have His way.