

LENT DEVOTION

Austin Christian Fellowship of India (ACFI)

March 9th 2019

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“Righteousness” cannot be earned but can only be received freely. Obviously, it is a gift from God. This righteousness results from God's grace. That is why Paul reminds us, “I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing” (Galatians 2:21).

(1) The death of Jesus Christ was a demonstration of God's love toward us - for “God demonstrated His own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). We have been justified (in other words, God declared us “not guilty”) by the blood of Jesus Christ.

(2) The death of Jesus Christ on the Cross was also an act of implicit obedience on the part of Jesus Christ. “For just through the disobedience of the one man many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man many will be made righteous” (Romans 5:21).

God declares that a person has “right standing with God” or in “right relationship with God” when he or she believes and appropriates the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is a privileged standing which Paul calls it: "standing in grace" (Romans 5:2).

Joseph was in the pit but he was ‘standing in grace!’ He was a slave in Egypt but little did he realize that he was “standing in grace.” He was put in prison for no fault of his. But even then he was "standing in grace." It is the greatest assurance you can have. Nothing can separate you or no one has the power to remove you from that privileged position because of God's imputed righteousness in you. You are not affected by anything and everything that happens around you. Because you know for sure that you are "standing in grace." You might have done everything right but to your dismay everything may be going wrong. But be assured of the fact that "you are standing in grace" and you are not alone.