

It Was All Undeserved

By David Sproule

Sometimes students will complain that they “deserve a better grade.” Sometimes employees will argue that they “deserve a raise.” Sometimes children will claim that they “deserve a treat.” The word deserve means “to do something or have or show qualities worthy of reward or punishment.” Sometimes people get what they deserve. Sometimes people get what they don’t deserve. Let’s consider two monumental examples of the latter.

Jesus didn’t deserve what He received! The Bible says that the Son of God took on flesh and came to live among man (John 1:14; Phil. 2:5-8; Rom. 8:3). What did He deserve? He deserved the highest praise, honor and devotion that humanity could muster. But that is far from what He received!

Scripture records that “He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him” (John 1:11). As Isaiah had foretold, Jesus was “despised and rejected by men,” and rather than “esteem Him,” man “esteemed Him stricken” and “afflicted... wounded... bruised” (Isa. 53:3-5). With “lawless hands,” they “crucified and put to death” the Christ (Acts 2:23). Of all people, Pilate is the one who kept repeating, “I find no fault in Him” (John 18:38; 19:4, 6; Luke 23:22), for He had “done nothing wrong” (Luke 23:41). Jesus did NOT deserve any of this!

We don’t deserve what we’ve received! God created us in His image (Gen. 1:26-27). What a thought that is! Then He took the rest of His creation and “gave” it to us (Gen. 1:29-30) and gave us “dominion” over it (Gen. 1:26, 28). He told us what we needed to do to please Him (Gen. 1:28; 2:15-17), and then we snubbed our nose at Him and did exactly what He told us not to do and then tried to blame others for our failings (Gen. 3:1-6, 11-13). But it wasn’t just Adam and Eve. “Through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned” (Rom. 5:12).

Yet, here is the amazing part! “Even when we were dead in trespasses,” bearing the just guilt for our own sins, God’s “great love with which He loved us” was extended to us through the coming of Christ (Eph. 2:4-7). “God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8), so that we might have “forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified” (Acts 26:18; cf. Eph. 1:7). We certainly did NOT deserve any of this!

If none of this was deserved, why did all of it happen? Simply, it is because of “the exceeding riches of His grace” (Eph. 2:7; 1:7). Our God is “rich in mercy” (Eph. 2:4), and He lovingly allowed Jesus to receive what He didn’t deserve so that we could receive what we don’t deserve! Wow!

Things to know...

Men’s meeting after AM services today

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Help is needed with communion preparation, if you’d be willing, please sign up on the list on the bulletin board by the entrance.

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*Ladies Bible Study - The Crown
Wednesday, March 6th @ 7pm*

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Men’s Meeting after AM services on March 17th

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Family & Friends Day
Sunday, March 24th

We’ll have an egg hunt for the kids and potluck lunch after AM services.

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**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

Alexa Rohr 2/20 Jonathan Rohr 3/12 Doug Seiber 3/26
George Gaynor 2/22 Josiah Rohr 3/12

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Serving AM & PM today and next Sunday AM:

Sunday Rotation	February 18, 2024 AM	February 18, 2023 PM	February 25, 2024 AM
Greeter	Dustin Desarro	Rick Ferris	Tom Muter
Announcements	Tom Muter	Jason Bang	Duane Kemp
Song Leading	Jason Bang	Duane Kemp	Jason Bang
Opening Prayer/Usher Left	Tim Bang	Tom Muter	Tim Bang
Lord's Supper Comments	Duane Kemp	Tim Bang	Jerry Thompson
Scripture Reading	Seth Arrell	Jerry Thompson	Rick Ferris
Sermon	John McGiffin	John McGiffin	John McGiffin
Closing Prayer/Usher Right	Jerry Thompson	Jason Bang	Seth Arrell

This week's Bible Verse

“And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.” Acts 5:42



Remember in Prayer:

- *Our Country & leaders
- *Bible Studies currently being held
- *Phyllis Caldwell - health & comfort
- *Rena Morgan - encouragement & health
- *Ernst & Helen Sherrill (Bro/Sis in Christ from TN) - shut ins with ongoing health issues
- *Larry Bey - dealing with Parkinson's
- *Maxine Jones (Laura McGiffin's mom) - dementia and health issues
- *Debby Braefield (Alena Brown's Aunt) - health
- *Terry McGiffin (John McGiffin's dad) - health & comfort
- *Luanne Listner (wife of Tim Bang's friend, Jim) - health
- *Orville Thompson (Jerry Thompson's dad) - health - prostate cancer
- *Lynn Thompson - health
- *Karen Oyler (Stephanie Bang's friend) - has bronchitis, still having chemo treatments
- *Tom Cruze (Phyllis Caldwell's nephew) - health
- *Laura McGiffin - health
- *Viola Schultz - health
- *Billy Jackson (Stephanie Bang's dad) - recovering from surgery for prostate cancer
- *Paul (Lois Ferris' brother) - having kidney problems
- *Brian Snell (Dustin & Sharon Desarro's neighbor) - may have colon cancer, also prays for her daughter, Amber, who's twins were still born
- *Nathan Clark (friend of Dustin Desarro) - cancer has returned
- *Suzanne Grable (Evelyn Lam's friend) - has stage 4 cancer

How can we be praying for YOU?

Please call, text or email John (jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com) with any prayer requests or announcements you have for the congregation.



Attendance and Contribution Record

Sunday, February 11		Wednesday, February 14	
Bible Classes	33	Bible Classes	23
AM Attendance	39		
PM Attendance	16	Contribution	\$1,252.00



GREENVILLE CHURCH of CHRIST
CHRIST CENTERED. BIBLE BASED. FAMILY ORIENTED.

February 18, 2024

Worship Times:

Sunday Morning Bible class: 9:30am

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30am

Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00pm

Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00pm

Minister, John McGiffin

4599 Children's Home Bradford Rd

Greenville, OH 45331

www.greenvillecoc.org

We are blessed that you have chosen to worship with us. If you are visiting, we would love to have you back with us again. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor's card and let us get to know you.