

The Grace List

by Tim Kimmel

One of the worst enemies of grace
is working overtime to be good for wrong reasons.

The Obedience-based Life

You live to please God (Mt. 19:16-22; Gal. 1:65-10; 2:21)

Focuses on being good (Mt. 12:1-2; 15:1-2; Lk. 15:25-32; Phil. 5:3)

More natural (Lk. 18:18-21)

Is predictable ... like a march (Mt. 15:8-9)

A performance (Ps. 51:16-15; Isa. 1:11-14; Mt. 7:21-23; 23:25-26; Mk. 7:3-4; Phil. 3:1-3; Gal. 1:6; 3:1-3; 4:8-11; Phil. 3:1-3; Col. 2:20-23)

A duty ... as though it's an obligation (Mt. 23:23-24; Lk. 15:29; Phil. 5:3-4)

Promotes fear and creates worry (Mt. 12:22-28)

Guilt that leads to shame (Mt. 21:42-46; 23:15, 27-28; Jn. 9:1-2)

Masked and guarded (Jn. 3:1-2; 9:18-23)

Breeds critical & judgmental spirits (Mt. 7:1-5; 12:9-14; 15:12-13; Lk. 15:1-2; Jn. 8:1-9; Gal. 5:14-15)

Outside-in management (Mt. 23:1-7; Lk. 18:12)

Is exclusive ... for "church" people (Mt. 9:11; Lk. 10:30-33; Acts 11:1-18)

Lends itself to pride & self-righteousness (Mt. 5:20; Mk. 7:6-7; Lk. 18:8-12; Rom. 12:3; Gal. 3:10-11; 6:3-5; Col. 2:8, 20-23)

The Grace-based Life

You live to trust God (Ps. 73:25-26; 91:14-15; Hab. 3:17-19; Rom. 4:16; 8:31-39; 11:33-36; 2 Cor. 12:9; Phil. 5:6; Col. 1:15-17; Heb. 11:6; Jas. 1:2-4)

Focuses on staying new (Mt. 12:1-7; 1 Cor. 3:10)

More supernatural (Acts 20:32; Phil. 3:10; 6:14-15; Jas. 4:6-7)

Is fluid ... like a dance (2 Cor. 8:7; Phil. 4:11-13)

A relationship (Mt. 7:24-25; Phil. 3:12-14; 3:4-11)

A delight ... as though it's an honor (Acts 11:22-24; Rom. 5:2; 2 Cor. 12:9-10; Eph. 3:17-19; Phil. 3:7-10)

Promotes faith and creates calm (Ps. 23:4; 46:10; Hab. 3:17-19; Mt. 6:31-33; 11:28-30; Jn. 9:25; Rom. 1:7; 5:1-5; 16:20; 1 Pet. 5:7)

Conviction that leads to repentance (2 Cor. 7:9-10)

Transparent and vulnerable (1 Cor. 15:9; 2 Cor. 12:9; Gal. 1:13-15)

Breeds compassionate & empathetic spirits (Mt. 25:34-40; Jn. 18:10-11; Rom. 12:8-21; 14:1-13, 19; 15:1-7; Gal. 6:1-2; Eph. 4:31-32; Phil. 2:1-4; 5:13-14)

Inside-out surrender (Rom. 5:20; 8:26-27; 2 Cor. 4:9; Eph. 3:16-17a; Col. 2:6-7, 9)

Is enfolding ... for "whosoever will" (Isa. 9:2, 6-7; Mt. 9:10-13; 11:19; Mk. 2:16; Rom. 12:8-21; 14:1-13; 15:1-7; 2 Cor. 4:15; Gal. 5:14; Eph. 4:1-6)

Lends itself to humility & *organic obedience* (Ps. 13:5-6; 51:10-13; 51:17; 73:25-26; 97:10; 96:7-9; Mic. 6:8; Mt. 23:11; Lk. 18:13-14; Phil. 2:6-11; 5:22; 6:9; Rom. 1:5; 6:1-3; 12:3; 1 Cor. 15:10; 2 Cor. 1:12; Jas. 4:6)