DAY 21: VENEDA WHITE

"PORTRAITS OF GRACE"
MAY 21, 2019

The Effects of Redeeming Grace

Romans 3:24-26

My name is Veneda Williams White, MK from Mexico. I studied at Tennessee Temple University. Married my husband, Troy White in December 1981, and arrived back in Mexico in 1983. We now have 36 years of service in Mexico.

I am sure that all of us would agree that redeeming grace has to be the first and far most important aspect of grace in general. Justification, reconciliation, and sanctification are effects of redeeming grace in our lives. However, we as God's children refuse to sanctify ourselves causing others to reject that redeeming grace.

They say that the slave market of many years ago where some of the bought slaves were set free is a picture of redemption. Although a good comparison, spiritual redemption is so much more. To be released from our bondage of sin by the purchased price of the blood of Jesus Christ is to be purchased, forgiven, and justified (Rom. 3:24-27; I Peter 1:18-19).

Now justification and reconciliation are two of the first effects of redeeming grace. Justification is, according to Strong's Concordance, "acquittal" (for Christ's sake). Simply put, not guilty! (II Cor. 5:19). We become righteous in God's sight. He no longer sees our sins. It is as if we had never sinned (II Cor. 5:21). This is where reconciliation comes in (Col. 1:20-22). God puts us in the right relationship with Him for Christ's sake (Eph. 2:8-9).

Sanctification from the Greek "Hagiasmos" means "consecration, purification, and the effects of consecration". The effect of sanctification is being holy, just, pure, righteous, and godly. Titus 2:12 tells us "Teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world." I John 2:15-17 confirm this. Why then is sanctification and consecration not practiced in our lives and in our churches any longer? God Himself says in Lev. 20:7, "Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy…" In I Peter 1:15-16 "… Be ye holy, for I am Holy."

Ladies, I cannot stress enough the need we have to maintain a Godly testimony. We MUST be Christ like. How can we show the world the need for redemption when we look like them (dress, tattoos, body piercings, etc.), do and act like them (Rom. 1:29-31), go to the same places as they do (casinos, movie theaters, etc.), and many "churches" look like discos, with that type of music. We have changed to "fit in" or to "make them feel comfortable". NO! I tell you, we MUST live Godly in this present world! We MUST tell sinners they are on their way to hell and their need for Redeeming Grace. Teach it as it truly is: God sent His Son to die for all sinners; He shed His precious, just and holy blood for all who would repent and believe on Him. He took our place and paid the only price available for our sins. THAT IS REDEEMING GRACE!

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