BEWARE Of

GRACE ROBBERS

COLOSSIANS 2:14-23

Introduction

- A. There are joy robbers
- B. There are peace robbers
- C. There are grave robbers
- D. There are grace robbers

Colossians 2:14-23

- 14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;
- 15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.
- 16 Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days:
- 17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.

Colossians 2:14-23 - continued

- 18 Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,
- 19 And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God.

Colossians 2:14-23 - continued

- 20 Wherefore if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, are ye subject to ordinances,
- 21 (Touch not; taste not; handle not;
- 22 Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men?
- 23 Which things have indeed a shew of wisdom in will worship, and humility, and neglecting of the body: not in any honour to the satisfying of the flesh.



Legalism Legalism is the attitude that I can establish or improve my standing before God by my activities.

Grace Robber #1

The Lie: God Does His Part And I Do My Part

Titus 3:5

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

- A. It is not about what you have done Matthew 19:20-21
- 20 The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?
- 21 Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

- B. It is not about how hard you try
- **Romans 10:1-3**
- 1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.
- 2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.
- 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

- C. It not about making sense or what sounds good to you John 3:3-4
- 3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.
- 4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

D. It is about believing the truth that God has done all things necessary for salvation

John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

Galatians 2:21

I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

Grace Robber #2

The Lie: Everybody's Spiritual Experience Must Be Identical

A. Right with God when following their "right" pattern

B. Not that way in your life

1 Corinthians 12:14

For the body is not one member, but many

- C. Was not that way in the disciples
- **Matthew 10:2-4**
- 2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first,
- Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James
- the son of Zebedee, and John his brother;
- 3 Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the
- publican; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus,
- whose surname was Thaddaeus;
- 4 Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also
- betrayed him.

- D. Should not that way in the church Romans 12:4-9
- 4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office:
- 5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.
- 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

- D. Should not that way in the church
- Romans 12:4-9 continued
- 7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;
- 8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.
- 9 Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

E. Be who God made you to be
1 Corinthians 15:10
But by the grace of God I am what I am: and
his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain;
but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I,

but the grace of God which was with me.

Grace Robber #3

Lie: If I obey God, I'll earn more of His love!

- A. God cannot love you more than He does now John 15:13-14
- 13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.
- 14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.
- 1 Timothy 1:14
- And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

B. Debt denies grace

Romans 4:1-4

- 1 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.

C. Obedience to God is based our love of God John 14:15

If ye love me, keep my commandments

1 John 5:3

For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

- D. The more you obey that more you understand God's love
- **Ephesians 3:17-19**
- 17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,
- 18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;
- 19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

How Does God Feel About You Today?

His Grace Is Found In Jesus