

## Article 145: Grace is Lived.

Grace, to many, is interpreted as a state of being protected or sanctified by the favor of God; it is an excellence or power or state granted by God as an unmerited gift; it is what God is free to do ...and what God does do. Grace that can be bestowed can be earned, and grace that cannot be merited must be unconditional and available to all, for if not available to all, then grace is earned or merited. In classical Greek, grace applied to “the kindness, good fortune, and power bestowed by the gods upon divine men”; ...grace indicated favor. To others, grace indicates God’s favor offered to sinners through Jesus. In these descriptions, it is easy to see that grace, like love, being unconditional, must be available to everyone, not to a select few under particular conditions ...and cannot actually be given or granted ...or received, ...but, like love, grace may be enlivened in others. Just as the gift or enlivening of love enlivens you to your own love, the enlivening of grace enlivens you to your own grace.

*To properly understand what follows,  
leave your judgments here.*

In the Bible, God brought his people out of captivity ...though they had not kept faith with Him, God kept his covenant with Israel even though the covenant was constantly violated by his people, and God loved the people of Israel despite their continuous disobedience; ...all of these actions, it is declared, flowed from God’s grace ...which, if true, are **the deeds or expressions of unconditional love.**

Seeking grace maintains your judgments and denies your unconditional love, while ending your judgments acknowledges your unconditional love, ...and all actions which flow without judgments are gracious expressions of your unconditional love. As you bestow grace unconditionally~actions without judgments~you are grace ...and have grace.

Are you beginning to understand why it is declared that grace cannot be earned or merited? ...because grace, being unconditional love in action, is free of judgments! Grace and judgments do not exist together, for either destroys the other. If you desire grace in any way or form, even through faith, you will maintain your judgments ...and destroy grace. If, however, you end your judgments and live as you truly desire, you live in a state of grace~a state of delight, joy, happiness, and good fortune~for every event, circumstance, situation, and condition, being an expression of the lifeseff you are living, will be as you truly desire. This state of grace is **self-evidencing**, it is always living your free will, it is living without judgments, and certainly it is living without opposing choices, ...for all choices keep you endlessly trapped in judgments without free will; ...be more gracious to yourself than that.

Do not seek grace by ending your judgments, for that will not cause or bestow grace upon you, ...but that will free your grace from the captivity of judgments. Though you had not, before, kept faith with unconditional love, ...just as God freed “his people”, ending your judgments keeps your covenant to live your unconditional love ...though you have violated that covenant many times by judging, ...just as God kept his covenant with Israel ...even though the covenant was constantly violated by His people; and it reveals your love to others in spite of their continued judgments. Grace is yours to live and bestow, ...and in that you are grace. Grace is love in action!

Whether or not you realize it, and regardless of your judgments, you always live in a state of grace, ...in an environment of unconditional love, ...but, by not realizing that this is so ...and by continuing your judgments, you are living in an environment of cruelty, ungraciousness, unkindness, animosity, bad manners, disfavor, ill will, enmity, sternness, and harshness in which people are often unfriendly, remote, unkind, discourteous, rude, impolite, curt, sullen, and frequently cruel, which makes your life unhappy, painful, depressing, tiresome, and filled with afflictions. Are you weary of this? Are you seeking grace as relief from such a life? End your judgments and be an example of unconditional love in action.