

Soteriowhat?

Taken from Wayne Grudem's Systematic Theology, Chapter 31: Common Grace

Common Grace

A. Introduction and Definition

Grudem: Common grace is the grace of God by which he gives people innumerable blessings that are not part of salvation. The word common here means something that is common to all people and is not restricted to believers or to the elect only.

B. Examples of Common Grace

1. The Physical Realm – **Psalm 145:15–16; Acts 14:16–17**
2. The Intellectual Realm – **Acts 17:22–23; Ecclesiastes 3:11**
3. The Moral Realm – **Psalm 81:12; Romans 2:14–15**
4. The Creative Realm – **Exodus 25–30; 35–40**
5. The Societal Realm – **Genesis 5:4; Romans 13:4**
6. The Religious Realm – **Matthew 5:44; Psalm 145:8–9**
7. Common Grace and Special Grace Influence Each Other
8. Common Grace Does Not Save People

C. Reasons for Common Grace

1. To Redeem Those Who Will Be Saved – **2 Peter 3:9–10**
2. To Demonstrate God's Goodness and Mercy – **Mark 10:21; Psalm 145:9**
3. To Demonstrate God's Justice – **Romans 3:19**
4. To Demonstrate God's Glory – **Psalm 19**

D. Our Response to the Doctrine of Common Grace

1. Common Grace Does Not Mean That Those Who Receive It Will Be Saved – **Philippians 3:18–19**
2. We Must Be Careful Not to Reject the Good Things That Unbelievers Do as Totally Evil
3. The Doctrine of Common Grace Should Stir Our Hearts to Much Greater Thankfulness to God

Scripture Memory Passage

Luke 6:35–36: But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

Hymn

“All People That on Earth Do Dwell” (William Kethe, 1561)

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with fear, his praise forthtell,
Come ye before him and rejoice.

The Lord ye know is God indeed;
Without our aid he did us make;
We are his folk, he doth us feed,
And for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
Approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless his name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good,
His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.