

08/15/12 - Reigning Grace

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Romans 5:16-21

In Romans 5, verse 21, Paul doesn't write about living grace or dying grace. He presents a unique concept: "reigning grace." That suggests royalty, power and authority. Picture a king on his throne. Who has that kind of grace? Not us! It must be God's grace. Our "grace" is different from his. We display grace often to impress. We want others to think well of us. God uses his grace to redeem, transform, purify.

God's grace is expressed by love in action. "God so loved . . . that he gave . . ." (John 3:16). But we're also recipients of God's grace within us. His grace must be allowed to "reign" to be effective in our lives. Then, it becomes an integral part of us, not just an attribute we possess. B. Edgar Johnson once told of God's proposition to him: "If you will give me all there is of you, I will give you all you need of me." Now, that's a great partnership!