

Bible Study
God Like Characteristics (Grace)
November 3, 2021

Grace- grace as the unmerited favor of God toward man.

[Merriam-Webster's list](#) of definitions for grace include:

1. "Unmerited divine assistance given to humans for their regeneration or sanctification"
2. "Approval, or Favor"

In the Old Testament, the term that most often is translated “grace,” is ḥēn; in the New Testament, it is charis.

What is grace?

“Grace is love that cares and stoops and rescues.”([John Stott](#))

“[Grace] is God reaching downward to people who are in rebellion against Him.”([Jerry Bridges](#))

“Grace is unconditional love toward a person who does not deserve it.” ([Paul Zahl](#))

"Grace is God's best idea. His decision to ravage a people by love, to rescue passionately, and to restore justly - what rivals it? Of all his wondrous works, grace, in my estimation, is the magnum opus." ([Max Lucado](#))

Old Testament Examples

- Genesis 6:8. Noah finds “favor in the eyes of the Lord.”
- Exodus 33. There, in the space of six verses, Moses is said to have found favor with God five times, ḥēn being translated either “find favor” or “be pleased with.”
- Moses again speaks of finding favor with the Lord in Numbers 11:4–17.
- Samuel, too, finds favor in the eyes of the Lord (1 Sam. 2:26).
- Esther finds favor in the eyes of the king and is rewarded with the freedom of her people (5:1–8; 7:3; 8:5–8).
- Jeremiah 31. The famous passage about the new covenant (vv. 31–34) is enough of a statement about the grace of God on its own, but it is linked to the ḥēn of God by the occurrence of that word in 31:2.