

Study Guide Numbers 15 *Grace is Awesome*

- 1. Grace to Begin Again. Read Numbers 15:1-2. Notice that God is still speaking to Israel and including them in His purposes. They will still be involved in securing the Promised Land for their seed. Share why it's so important for us to know that God still loves us and speaks to us despite our failures. (see also Lam. 3:22-23; Rom. 5:20b).
- 2. Future Grace. Read Numbers 15:3-21. Notice this reads like a recipe. These are table offerings. It's describing a future scenario of fellowship with God in the Promised Land. How does telling the story of our future (heaven) diminish shame and cut the 'nerve' out from under our sins. Discuss.
- 3. Wide-ranging Grace. Read Numbers 15:14-16. Notice that God's grace extends to all nations, no matter what these people had done (child-sacrifice; idol-worship; murder; rape...). God's grace also extends beyond all failure. Read Romans 11:12. Notice how the failures of Israel have opened more grace for Gentiles. Discuss the concept that God can re-engineer our sins for good.
- 4. Pardoning Grace. Read Numbers 15:22-29. Many of us sin, but we don't want to. Discuss the impact in your life of knowing that you are forgiven (see also 1 Tim. 1:13; Luke 23:34; 1 John 2:2).
- 5. Unpardoned Sin. Read Numbers 15:30-36. To 'revile' God is to 'taunt' Him. Someone who knows full well what not to do, and sins with a defiant attitude. It's the equivalent of the unpardonable sin. To desecrate the holy character of God with a high hand. In God's grace, the one who defiantly violated the Sabbath was executed, as an example not to cut off the hand that feeds you. Discuss the grace in that.

- 6. Helpful Grace. Read Numbers 15:37-40. Notice that Tassels in royal blue, were a visible reminder of the royalty of God's people. What can you implement in your life to remind you of your dignity as a child of God, and to help prevent sin? Discuss.
- 7. Ultimate Grace. Read Numbers 15:41. Here is what makes grace so awesome. God has committed Himself to us, at great cost. We belong to Him, even if it cost Him His life. How does that impact you? Discuss.

Numbers 15

Big Idea: Grace is Awesome!

A. Grace to Begin Again (15:1-2)

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ² "Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, 'When you come into the land you are to inhabit, which Lam giving you,...'"

Deuteronomy 8:3

"And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, ...that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord."

Lamentations 3:22a-23b "His mercies ...are new every morning." Romans 5:20b "but where sin abounded, grace abounded all the more."

B. Future Grace (15:3-21)

³ and you offer to the Lord from the herd or from the flock a food offering or a burnt offering or a sacrifice, <u>to fulfill a vow</u> or as a <u>freewill offering</u> or at your appointed feasts, to make a pleasing aroma to the Lord,

Lamb- 16 cups of flour; 4 cups of butter; 4 cups of wine. Ram- 32 cups of flour; 6 cups of butter; 6 cups of wine. Bull- 48 cups of flour; 8 cups of butter; 8 cups of wine.

C. Wide-ranging Grace (15:14-16)

¹⁴ And if a <u>stranger</u> is sojourning with you, or <u>anyone is living permanently</u> among you, and he wishes to offer a food offering, with a pleasing aroma to the Lord, he shall do as you do. ¹⁵ For the assembly, there shall be one statute for you and for the stranger who sojourns with you, a statute forever throughout your generations. You and the sojourner shall be alike before the Lord. ¹⁶ One law and one rule shall be for you and for the stranger who sojourns with you.

1. For all Nations

2. For all Failures

Romans 11:12

"Now if their [Israel's] trespass means riches for the world, and if their failure means riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their full inclusion mean."

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D. Pardoning Grace (15:22-36)

²² "But if you sin unintentionally, and do not observe all these commandments that the Lord has spoken to Moses, ²³ all that the Lord has commanded you by Moses, from the day that the Lord gave commandment, and onward throughout your generations, ²⁴ then if it was done unintentionally without the knowledge of the congregation, all the congregation shall offer one bull from the herd for a burnt offering, a pleasing aroma to the Lord, with its grain offering and its drink offering, according to the rule, and one male goat for a sin offering."

D. Pardoning Grace (15:22-36)

David: Psalm 19:12- "Declare me innocent from hidden faults."

Paul: 1 Timothy 1:13- "I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief."

Jesus: Luke 23:34- "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

GRACE- God's Riches At Christ's Expense

1 John 2:2- "He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins,"

D. Pardoning Grace (15:22-36)

Unpardonable Sin (15:30-36)

³⁰ But the person who does anything with a <u>high hand</u>, whether he is native or a sojourner, <u>reviles the Lord</u>, and that person shall be <u>cut off</u> from among his people. ³¹ Because he has despised the word of the Lord and has broken his commandment, that person shall be utterly cut off; his iniquity shall be on him.

E. Helpful Grace (15:37-40)

³⁷The Lord said to Moses, ³⁸ "Speak to the people of Israel, and tell them <u>to make tassels</u> on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a cord of blue on the tassel of each corner. ³⁹ And it shall be a tassel for you to look at and remember all the commandments of the Lord, to do them, <u>not to follow after your own heart and your own eyes</u>, which you are inclined to whore after. ⁴⁰ So you shall remember and do all my commandments, and be holy to your God."

F. Ultimate Grace (15:41)

⁴¹ I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God: I am the Lord your God.

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