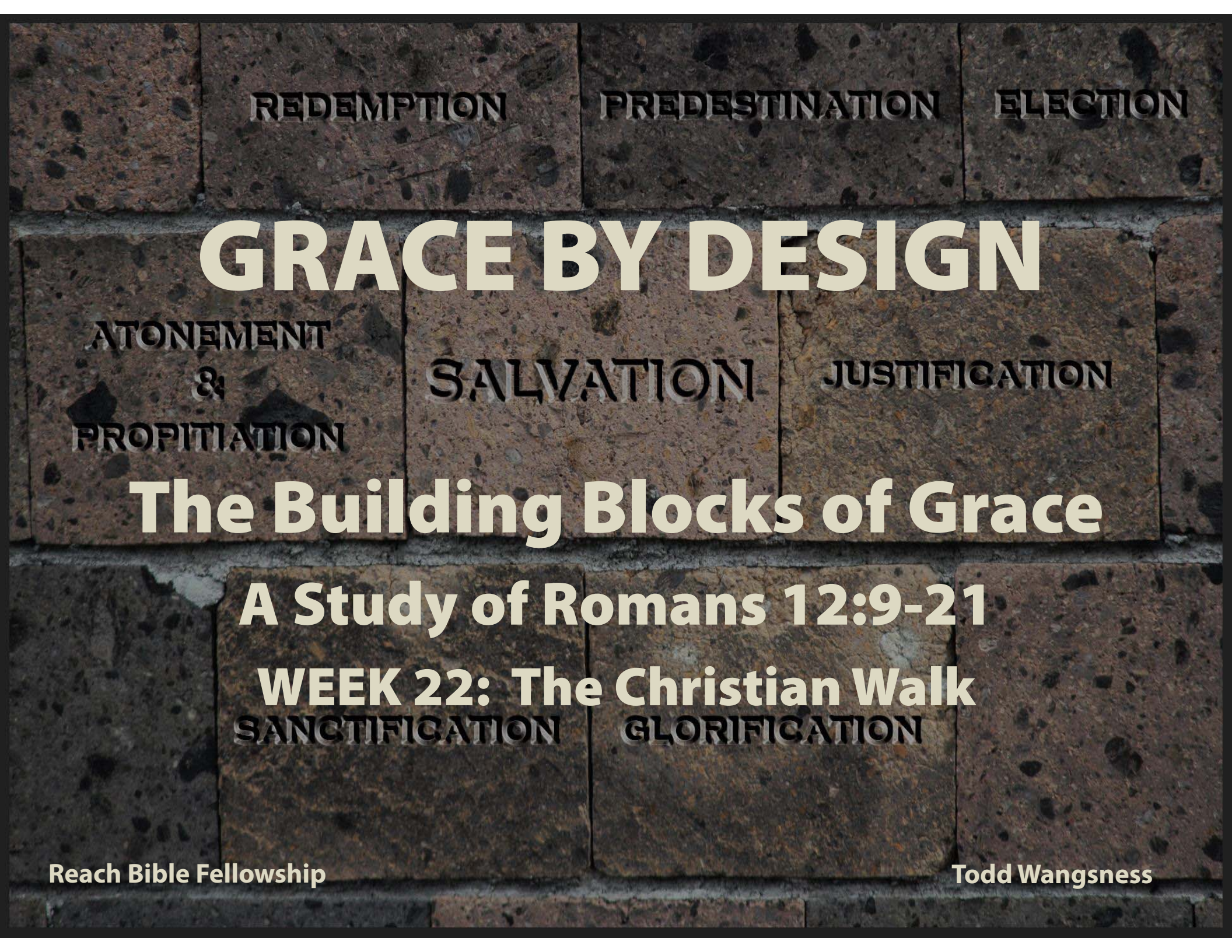

REDEMPTION
PREDESTINATION
ELECTION
GRACE BY DESIGN
ATONEMENT & PROPITIATION
SALVATION
JUSTIFICATION
The Building Blocks of Grace
A Study of Romans 12:9-21
WEEK 22: The Christian Walk
SANCTIFICATION
GLORIFICATION
Reach Bible Fellowship
Todd Wangsness

Grace By Design: Study Outline

Week 1:	Romans	Overview of Grace and Salvation
Week 2:	Rom 1:1 – 1:17	Introduction to Romans
Week 3:	Rom 1:18 – 2:16	Justification – Ignorance is not an Excuse
Week 4:	Rom 2:17 – 3:20	Justification – Knowledge isn't Good Enough
Week 5:	Rom. 3:21 – 3:24	Justification – Righteousness of God Revealed 1
Week 6:	Rom. 3:25 – 3:31	Justification – Righteousness of God Revealed 2
Week 7:	Rom. 4:1 – 4:25	Justification – Faith vs the Law
Week 8:	Rom. 5:1 – 5:11	Sanctification – Peace with God 1
Week 9:	Rom. 5:12 – 5:21	Sanctification – Peace with God 2
Week 10:	Rom. 6:1 – 6:14	Sanctification – The Christian's Struggle with Sin 1
Week 11:	Rom. 6:15 – 6:23	Sanctification – The Christian's Struggle with Sin 2
Week 12:	Rom. 7:1 – 7:25	Sanctification – The Law Can't Save (But the Spirit Can!)
Week 13:	Rom. 8:1 – 8:17	Sanctification – Life in the Spirit
Week 14:	Rom. 8:18 – 8:30	Glorification – From Suffering to Glory
Week 15:	Rom. 8:31 – 8:39	Glorification – God's Everlasting Love
Week 16:	Rom. 9:1 – 9:33	Israel's Rejection and God's Purpose
Week 17:	Rom. 10:1 – 10:13	Israel and the Mystery of the Church 1
Week 18:	Rom. 10:14 – 10:21	Israel and the Mystery of the Church 2
Week 19:	Rom. 11:1 – 11:36	The Salvation of the Jewish people
Week 20:	Rom. 12:1 – 12:2	Living the Transformed Life
Week 21:	Rom. 12:3– 12:8	Gifts of the Spirit
Week 22:	Rom. 12:9– 12:21	The Christian Walk
Week 23:	Rom. 13:1 – 13:14	Love Fulfills the Law
Week 24:	Rom. 14:1 – 14:21	Not Judging the Weak in Faith
Week 25:	Rom. 15:1 – 15:25	Bearing One Another's Burdens
Week 26:	Rom. 16:1 – 16:25	Conclusion and closing remarks

Grace By Design: The Christian Walk

Notable quotes on Chapter 12:9-21

"When your humanness is confronted by the magnificence and holiness of God, you are made so aware of your need for God's grace… Romans 12 teaches us how to live this life of worship and love, using our gifts to serve others selflessly."

- **Oswald Chambers**

"The love which Paul describes here is not a cold, dutiful affection but a warm, sincere devotion, free from hypocrisy. It is to be marked by a genuine abhorrence of evil and a tenacious clinging to what is good. This love expresses itself in brotherly affection, where Christians are to outdo one another in showing honor—not in a spirit of competition, but in a mutual eagerness to esteem others above themselves. Such love creates a community where self-seeking is replaced by self-giving, and where the honor of others is prized above personal ambition."

- **John Stott**

"We must never minimize the suffering of another. Scripture's mandate to us is, 'Weep with them that weep' (Romans 12:15). True Christian love extends even to those who persecute us, reflecting Christ's call to bless, not curse, our enemies."

- **Billy Graham**

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Chapter 12:9-21 Overview

- **Verses 9-16: Genuine Love and Devotion to those within the Church**
  - **Paul calls for sincere love, marked by hating evil and clinging to good. Believers should show brotherly affection, honor others above themselves, and maintain zeal in serving God. They are to rejoice in hope, be patient in affliction, pray persistently, contribute to the needs of others, and practice hospitality, reflecting a life devoted to God and community.**

- **Verses 17-21: Love toward those outside the Church**
  - **Paul instructs believers to bless, not curse, those who persecute them, showing empathy by rejoicing with the joyful and weeping with the sorrowful. They should live in harmony, avoid arrogance, and associate with the humble. Rather than repaying evil with evil, Christians are to do what is honorable, seek peace with all, and leave vengeance to God. Paul emphasizes overcoming evil with good, even by serving enemies (e.g., giving food or drink), trusting God's justice.**

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12:9-16 ***Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. 10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; 11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; 13 distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. 16 Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.***

- **Paul mentions nineteen facets of genuinely demonstrating "love" to fellow Believers**

1. ***"Let love be without hypocrisy":*** **Greek '*agapē*'. Love of the will, not just emotion, unconditional, sacrificial love.**
   - **Unfeigned and sincere love for fellow believers resulting in action**

2. ***"Abhor what is evil"*: Greek '*apostygeō*'. To have a horror of. To utterly detest.**
   - **The believer is to have a sensitivity to sin. We are to be repelled by that which is evil.**

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3. *"Cling to what is good"*: **Greek '*kollaō*'. To join one's self to, cleave to.**
   - **The believer is to be 'glued' to that which is intrinsically good…things of God**

4. *"Be kindly affectionate to one another …"*: **Greek '*philadelphia*'. Brotherly love.**
   - **The believer is to love fellow believers with a 'family' love. Tenderly loving.**

5. *"In honor giving preference to one another"*: **Greek '*time*'. Literally 'price', having value.**
   - **Believers are to outdo each other in giving preference to one another. Demonstrating that others within the Body are truly, sincerely valued.**

6. *"Not lagging in diligence"*:
   - **The Believer is not to be idle or half-hearted, but to put forward his/her best effort and enthusiasm in serving others**

7. *"Fervent in spirit"*: **Greek '*zeō*'. Root of English word 'zeal'. Boil over or be hot.**
   - **The Believer is to be ardently, passionately, and deeply committed to the Lord and fellow believers**

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8. *"Serving the Lord":* **Greek '*douleuō*'. Bondservant or to voluntarily become a slave.**
   - **Refers to one who voluntarily relinquishes the right to self-government**

9. *"Rejoicing in hope":* **Greek '*chairō*'. To exceedingly rejoice and be glad.**
   - **Believers are to continuously rejoice in the Hope we have … if we do so, it will actually result in realizing the fullness of that in which we hope.**

10. *"Patient in tribulation":* **Greek '*hypomenō*'. To endure, bear bravely and calmly all persecution, affliction and distress.**
    - ***Rom 5:3-4 "… but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; 4 and perseverance, character; and character, hope.***

11. *"Continuing steadfastly in prayer":* **Greek '*proskartereō*'. To persevere and not to faint, steadfastly attentive unto, to give unremitting care.**
    - **Believers are to be devoted to prayer**
    - **Our ability to be able to rejoice in hope and patient in tribulation is in direct proportion to the amount of time we spend on our knees**

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12. *"Distributing to the needs of the saints"*:
    - **Believers are to actively participate in contributing to the needs of the saints**

13. *"Given to hospitality"*: **Greek '*philoxenia*'. Demonstrating love to strangers. Aggressively pursue.**
    - **Believers are 'pursue like a hunter pursues its prey' being a help to others**

14. *"Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse"*: **Greek '*eulogeō*'. Speak well of or praise.**
    - **Each time that believers are opposed and spoken against, they should repay their adversaries by blessing them**

15. *"Rejoice with those who rejoice"*:
    - **Literally, the Greek says to rejoice with those who are rejoicing.**

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16. *"Weep with them who weep"*:
    - **Believers are also to genuinely empathize and share sorrow with those who are mourning over a loss or a catastrophe**

17. *"Be of the same mind toward one another"*:
    - **Believers are not to develop cliques that in any way exclude any member of the Body of Christ. We are to be like-minded to all and treat each other as we would want to be treated.**

18. *"Do not set your mind on high things but associate with the humble"*:
    - **Believers are not to be haughty in mind. We should be able to readily engage with other members of the Body, irrespective of social class.**

19. *"Do not be wise in your own opinion"*:
    - **Again, an admonition to not be prideful or arrogant. It's so easy for us to get puffed up. Paul addressed at least three points herein geared towards our pride.**

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Love toward those outside the Church

12:17-21 Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. 18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. 20 Therefore, "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

- **Paul elaborates on six exhortations of how we – as Christians – are to conduct ourselves as emissaries of Christ to non-believers**

1. *"Repay no one evil for evil":* **Greek '*apodidōmi*'. Give back or return.**
   - **We are NOT to ever pay back evil for evil to anyone.**

2. *"Have regard for good things in the sight of all men":* **Greek '*pronoeō*'. To foresee.**
   - **The Believer is to plan ahead and have forethought to act properly in God's Will.**

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3. *"If possible … live peaceably with all men"*: **Greek '*eirēneuō*'. Bring to peace.**
   - **Peace is a mutual relationship that can be broken by either party. Believers are NOT to be the party that ever breaks the peace. Some conflict is inevitable, but we – as Believers – are held to a higher standard in God's eyes.**

4. *"Do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath … Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord"*: **Greek '*ekdikeō*'. To punish a person for something**
   - **We are NOT to ever pay back evil for evil to anyone, but allow God to work things out to accomplish His sovereign Will**

5. *"If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head."*:
   - **The focus here is that Believers aren't to be instruments of punishment**
   - **Rather we are to treat enemies kindly in hopes they will repent of evil and be encouraged to turn to the Lord**

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6. ***"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good"*: Greek '*kakos*'. Evil in the widest sense. The inner malice that emanates from a morally corrupt character.**
   - **Believers are to actively keep a check on their attitude and not allow the spirit of anger and malice take root when we experience hostile actions/words against us**
   - **Evil is either allowed victory in us or it is driven into submission**
   - **If it is overcome, it is due to the corrective influence of love and power of God**

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Questions to Ponder

- *"Let love be without hypocrisy"*
  - **What are the differences between 'agapē' love and 'philadelphia' love?**
- **Is there a limit to what we do for or give to fellow believers?**
  - **If so, what factors should we consider when a brother or sister ask us for something that requires a significant demand on our time or resources?**
- *"Abhor what is evil"*
  - *Rom 7:19 "For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice."*
  - **How do we juxtapose our sin nature's "bent" towards sin with Paul's command (via the Holy Spirit) to "abhor what is evil"?**
- *"Do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath"*
  - **How do we regard an individual that commits an atrocious act against one of our family members, e.g., a rape and murder of a daughter?**
    - **What are God's expectations of us in such a situation?**