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<u>Romans 5:19</u> - For just as through the disobedience of the one man, Adam, many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man, Jesus, many will be made righteous.

Justification by grace through faith isn't fair, that's why it is called grace!

Why you do what you do before God is as important as what you do before God.

If our **efforts** or **works** toward God are to gain his favor and to obtain right standing with him, we will turn our **good works** into **dead works**.

Many Christians do what they do for God out of a heart of guilt trying to earn God's forgiveness.

Penance is unbiblical and dangerous.

Penance – A feeling of regret for one's wrongdoing and a voluntary self -punishment to atone for a sin.

Depending on the severity of the sin and the guilt associated with the sin, a person's entire spiritual life can be destroyed by this unbiblical concept.

Example: How do you atone for an abortion, adultery, stealing, and lying because of an addiction?

Many say this message of God's love, grace, and forgiveness is dangerous ... it will cause people to sin!

- I will do wrong if I'm not afraid of God.
- I need to feel guilty to act right.
- What you are saying is that I won't follow Jesus because I love him, but because I am afraid of him.
- He is our Father God, not "The Godfather."

God's love for us will actually reveal the motive of our service toward God.

What grace actually does is let you live from your heart. Your actions become effortless because they are no longer trying to achieve right standing with God, but are due to our love for him.

We serve those we love with the greatest consistency and sacrifice.

<u>2 Corinthians 9:6-8</u> – 6 Remember this: Whoever sows or gives sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows or gives generously will also reap generously. **7** Let each one sow or give as he has made up his own mind and **purposed in his heart**, **not reluctantly, sorrowfully, in response to pressure, or under compulsion**, for God loves (he takes pleasure in, prizes above other things, and is unwilling to abandon or to do without) a cheerful (joyous, "prompt to do it") giver [whose heart is in his giving.] **8** And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.

<u>Exodus 25:1-3</u> – 1 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: **2** "Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring me an offering. From everyone who gives it **willingly with his heart** you shall take my offering. **3** And this is the offering which you shall take from them: gold, silver, and bronze.

<u>Exodus 36:3-4</u> – **3** Moses gave them the materials donated by the people and additional gifts were received each morning. **4** But finally the workmen all left their task to meet with Moses and told him, "We have more than enough materials on hand now to complete the job!" So Moses sent a message throughout the camp announcing that no more donations were needed. Then at last the people were **restrained from bringing more**!