

THE HUMAN CONDITION

Grace

GRACE/FAVOUR (ΧΑΡΙΣ CHARIS/GRATIA)

- The Greek term (see Hardon, 1-2)
 - Quality which gives joy; the beautiful
 - That which communicates joy and happiness
 - A freely-given quality (Aristotle, *De Rhetorica* II; CCC 1996, 2027)
- Various different ways of describing grace
 - God's interaction with humanity
 - God's preferential action towards humanity
 - Remarkable deeds that God has done
 - Our relationship to God
 - "The grace and peace of God": Connection between grace and well-being
- Grace: free gifts of God
 - God's presence in our lives
 - Aspects of ourselves that result from God's presence
 - Our very existence
 - Creation is undeserved
 - Aspects of our nature are undeserved
 - Grace, properly so called
 - Enhancing of our nature
 - Healing of our nature from the effects of sin

THE BIBLICAL CASTING OF HUMAN EXISTENCE

- Creation
 - All things are described as the result of God's favor receiving God's favor
 - Origin of creation in the goodness of God
- Sin
 - Result of sin: corruption and death
 - Promise of God's favour/grace from the beginning
- Election
 - Election of Abraham as an election in grace
 - Covenant with Abraham
- Exodus
 - Paradigm of human life begin redeemed by God
- Exile & Return: Isaiah
 - Sin, death, and political disruption are on the same level
 - Thirsting for God
 - Messiah
 - Redeemer from the greatest enemy
- Gospel of John
 - Light in the darkness
 - Word in the silence
 - Wine instead of water
 - Water in the desert
 - Life in the place of death
 - Transfiguration

- 1 Corinthians & Letters of John
 - Unity and Love: Fellowship
- Romans & Colossians
 - Transformation of the cosmos
- Letter to the Hebrews & Letters of Peter
 - Presence of God
- Revelation
 - Completion of humanity

TERMS AND ISSUES

ANTHROPOLOGY: WHAT IS THE CHRISTIAN DIFFERENCE?

- Will and Grace
- Understanding human reality
- Methodological issues
- Examining the evidence
- Discarding the neoplatonic

TALKING ABOUT THE HUMAN

- Created, contingent being
- Prelapsarian, original, integral humanity
- Original Sin
- Redemption
- Graced humanity
- Participation in God
- Deified humanity/Beatific vision

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