

## The Balancing Act Part IX; August 13, 2017

### “Grace that Works”

For **by grace you have been saved** through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works**, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. – Ephesians 2:8-10 (ESV)

### Grace will take you **beyond the cross.**

If any of you want to walk My path, you’re going to have to deny yourself. You’ll have to **take up your cross every day and follow Me.** – Luke 9:23 (Voice)

Isn’t it obvious that God-talk without God-acts is outrageous nonsense? I can already hear one of you agreeing by saying, “Sounds good. You take care of the faith department, I’ll handle the works department.” Not so fast. You can no more show me your works apart from your faith than I can show you my faith apart from my works. **Faith and works, works and faith, fit together hand in glove.** – James 2:17-18 (MSG)

### Grace will **Sustain** you beyond the Cross.

Now may the God of peace—who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, and ratified an eternal covenant with his blood—**may he equip you with all you need for doing his will.** May he produce in you, through the power of Jesus Christ, every good thing that is pleasing to him. All glory to him forever and ever! Amen. – Hebrews 13:20-21 (NLT)

No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. – 1 Corinthians 10:13 (ESV)

### Grace will bring **Glory to God.**

Everyone who is called by my name, **whom I created for my glory,** whom I formed and made. – Isaiah 43:7 (ESV)

For we are his workmanship, **created** in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. – Ephesians 2:10 (ESV)

So I went down to the potter’s shop and found him making something on his wheel. And as I watched, the clay vessel in his hands became flawed and unusable. So the potter started again with the same clay. He crushed and squeezed and shaped it into another vessel that was to his liking. – Jeremiah 18:3-4 (Voice)