

**Conflict of Options; Romans 7:25a, Source of the Solution****Romans 7:25: The Conflict of Options**

Sentence #1: "Source of the Solution"

Sentence #2: "Recognition of the Options"

The verse begins with the nominative singular of exclamation from the noun: *charis* - "grace."

NOTE: The Greek language provides a way to stress a thought by means of its grammar. It is accomplished by placing the word which needs emphasis in the nominative case and then eliminating the verb, a technique known as ellipsis.

We just saw Paul use this technique in Romans 7:24 where he says, "*I ... a miserable person.*"

The verb *eimi*, translated "*am*," is elliptical thus placing emphasis on the nominative case found in the following adjective *talaipwros*, translated "*miserable*."

When a believer is functioning in status-quo carnality the emphasis in his life will always center on his misery. In the recovery process emphasis is placed on the grace policy of God.

In Romans 7:25 we begin with the noun "grace" followed by the indirect object, the personal pronoun: *theos* - "to God."

There is no verb but the ellipsis demands *eimi*, the verb "*to be*." "*Grace be to God*" is a possible translation but what sounds smoother in the English while at the same time is easier to understand is, "*Grace belongs to God.*"

The word emphasized by this ellipsis is the title of God's plan for the human race, *charis* - grace.

This is followed by the prepositional phrase: *dia* + the genitive of the proper name and Messianic titles of our Lord: *Iesous Christos Kurios* - "*through Jesus Christ our Lord*" "*Grace belongs to God through Jesus Christ our Lord.*"

Please note that the solution to all human problems is appropriated through God's grace. This grace is possessed by God, therefore the solution is not ours but God's. Grace is the title of God's plan and constitutes the policy observed by the integrity of God in managing the conflict between the two husbands in the ongoing struggle for control of the soul. This grace is made available to the believer in only one way and that is through the personal volitional decision to believe in Jesus Christ for salvation.

Belief in Jesus Christ constitutes the acceptance of His identity: He is both undiminished deity and true humanity in one Person. While functioning in the Incarnation, Jesus utilized the sustaining ministry of the Holy Spirit to face, renounce, and endure the same temptations we face yet without sin.

Arriving at the cross impeccable, Jesus was qualified to become our substitute before the justice of God. This was the climax of His mission to fulfill the salvation plan of God. Presenting Himself as the perfect Lamb of God, He became sin for us as divine justice imputed our sins to Him and judged them in His own body on the tree.

Since our sin problem has been removed through the work of Christ on the cross then all God asks us to do in order to receive His grace gift of eternal life is to believe that Jesus saves. Saves from what? Eternal condemnation and separation from any fellowship with God!

In order to understand the statement in Romans 7:25 “*Grace belongs to God through Jesus Christ our Lord,*” we must establish the procedure by which Jesus Christ connects us with the grace of God.