Introduction: How should a proper understanding of “bad grace” versus “good grace” affect our relationship with our mate? The answer to that question will be the focus of today’s message.

Deuteronomy 11:26-28  
26 “See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse; 27 the blessing, if you listen to the commandments of the LORD your God, which I am commanding you today; 28 and the curse, if you do not listen to the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside from the way which I am commanding you today.”

I. LIE #1: Grace Means I Can Marry Whomever I Want.

A. **Good Grace Recognizes That Marriage Must Be With a Member of the Opposite Sex.** (Matthew 19:4-5)

Matthew 19:4-5  
4 “And He answered and said, ‘Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE,’ 5 and said, ‘FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH?’”

B. **Good Grace Recognizes That Our Mate Must Be a Believer.**
(Deuteronomy 7:3-4; 2 Corinthians 6:14)

Deuteronomy 7:3-4  
3 “Furthermore, you shall not intermarry with them; you shall not give your daughters to their sons, nor shall you take their daughters for your sons. 4 For they will turn your sons away from following Me to serve other gods; then the anger of the Lord will be kindled against you and He will quickly destroy you.”
2 Corinthians 6:14  “Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?”

II. LIE #2: Grace Means I Can Cheat Without Consequences.

Psalm 51:1-2  1 “Be gracious to me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; according to the greatness of Your compassion blot out my transgressions,  2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.”

Psalm 32:1-2  1 “How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered!  2 How blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit!”

A. Good Grace Conditions God’s Forgiveness Upon Our Repentance.  
(Psalm 51:17)

Psalm 51:17  “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.”

B. Good Grace Emphasizes the Consequences of Disobedience.  
(Proverbs 6:32-33)

Proverbs 6:32-33  32 “The one who commits adultery with a woman is lacking sense; he who would destroy himself does it.  33 Wounds and disgrace he will find, and his reproach will not be blotted out.”

C. Good Grace Affirms the Benefits of Forgiveness.  
(Psalm 103:12-14)
Psalm 103:12-14  

12 “As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.  
13 Just as a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him.  
14 For He Himself knows our frame; He is mindful that we are but dust.”

Psalm 119:67  “Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep Your word.”

Conclusion