



Amazed by Grace

Sheri Dew

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Do we believe we are saved by grace? With access to sacred scripture and modern revelation, members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints ought to have special insight into the Atonement of Jesus Christ and the amazing power of grace in our individual lives. Yet how many of us truly understand grace and how to unlock the power it contains?

In *Amazed by Grace*, author Sheri Dew considers four questions: What is grace? What difference can grace make in our lives? How does the Savior make His power available to us? And what must *we* do to gain access to the Savior's power?

Expand your understanding of grace and broaden your gospel horizon with Sheri as she reminds us that "the central, most compelling, most life-changing message of all time is that Jesus Christ already triumphed over sin, death, hell and every kind of misery. Surely there is nothing our Father is more eager for us to understand than the breathtaking scope of the Atonement of His Son and the power the Atonement makes available to us."

Amazed by Grace Details

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From Reader Review Amazed by Grace for online ebook

Lenora says

Great insight and explanation on Grace and a recommended read in my books. Loved the layout of the book, artwork, quotes and real life examples. Also a great help to me as I prepare my lesson on- what is grace - for the YW in my ward.

Julie says

Sheri Dew is like the Holland of female speakers, am I right? Her messages are full of the inspiring "meat" that simultaneously cuts me to the quick and inspires me to do/be better. This is short, but well worth the read. Grace is a beautiful thing, and a power we can access at any time. Great read!

Kathy says

Man what a gem! This is likely from a women's conference or time out for women talk. It's about the right length to have been a talk converted into a book. It's one I want to reread. Grace seems to always be an elusive concept to me. This puts it so simply.

Content: obviously a Christian/LDS title

Melanie says

I was pleasantly surprised by this book. It's a small volume, so I expected a fluffy book filled with feel-good quotes. Instead it's a pithy discussion of grace and what it means to be a disciple. I have read some of the material before in Sheri Dew's talks at Women's Conference, so it's not all new material, but it is a worthwhile read.

Ashley says

I'm pretty darn impressed with this little powerhouse of a book. Makes me want to read it again and do my own study of grace and the love the Savior has for all of us.

Heather says

I LOVED this book! It's a short little book, but full of profound insights and truths that are fundamental to our eternal happiness. ;) But not just our eternal happiness, our happiness now! The gift and power of our

Savior's Atonement and the resulting grace He offers each of us is incredible! This little book helped me to think about that more clearly. I have a greater love for the Savior, a greater appreciation for covenants, a greater desire to study and learn about this power, and a greater desire to be a better disciple of Jesus Christ!

I particularly appreciated the discussion towards the end of the book of "Question #4: What must we do to gain access to the Savior's power?" This is a message of hope and joy and love!

Here are a few of my favorite quotes:

"The key to unlocking the power of His covenant sons and daughters is in His covenant sons' and daughters'" learning to unlock the power of Jesus Christ (p. 3)."

"Jesus Christ has already triumphed over sin, death, hell, temptation, and every kind of misery (p. 4)."

"'Why are you carrying all of this extra weight? You need to let it go. I already paid the price for their sins, your sins, all sins. I have already carried that burden. I did thousands of years ago. You need to let it go.' Tears began to stream down my face, and I felt peace for the first time in several years. Even more, I felt an overwhelming sense of love for God's children—including those who had attacked us. The bitterness was simply gone (p. 9).'"

"The fruit that Nephi said was 'most desirable above all things' is the Atonement, which is the most tangible evidence of the Lord's incomprehensible love for us (p. 10)."

"The Savior empowers us with his grace, not because we've earned it, but because He loves us perfectly (p. 12)."

"When we talk about the grace of Jesus Christ, we are talking about His power—power that enables us to do things we simply could not do on our own (p. 13)."

"Because Jesus Christ atoned, His grace is available to us every minute of every hour of every day. It is this power that ultimately enables us to do what we came to earth to do. What is grace? Grace is divine enabling power (p. 16)."

"The Lord God showeth us our weakness that we may know that it is by his grace, and his great condescensions unto the children of men, that we have power to do these things (Jacob 4:7, p. 18)."

"If we feel unworthy of the Lord's help, we don't understand grace. If the temple endowment remains a mystery and the power there has escaped us, if we don't know how to open the heavens and receive revelation, we don't understand grace. In other words, if we feel as though we're alone and must rely largely or even solely upon our own energy, talent, and strength—we don't understand grace (p. 25)."

"The world's finest education simply pales when compared with the tutelage of God and the education He is willing to give those who seek after Him (p. 41)."

"Elder Dallin H. Oaks said that 'in contrast to institutions of the world, which teach us to know something, the gospel of Jesus Christ challenges us to become something.' Our access to divine power hinges upon who we are becoming (p. 42)."

"The very idea of 'after all we can do' can easily trip us up. None of us are capable of doing our very best

work or being our very best selves or giving our very best effort constantly, without variation. We're mortals, dealing with the drag of the natural man, and from day to day our best efforts vary (p. 42)."

"Both our Father and His Son understood that in a fallen world, we would sin and make mistakes, some of them over and over again. We would get tired, be sad, lose our patience, hurt each other, get enamored with the superficiality of the world, succumb to pride, and basically have to engage in an exhausting, unrelenting kind of hand-to-hand combat with the natural man. 'All we can do' is not about sequence or timing, nor is it about feverishly working our way through an exhaustive list of good works. Elder Bruce C. Hafen wrote that 'the Savior's gift of grace to us is not necessarily limited in time to 'after' all we can do. We may receive His grace before, during, and after the time when we expend our own efforts (p. 43).'"

"Jesus Christ endured and completed His eternal, infinite Atonement so that you and I could change (p. 45)."

"A true, enduring transformation of the heart that leads to permanent change isn't possible on our own (p. 46)."

"Through the Atonement of Jesus Christ and His grace, our failures to live the celestial law perfectly and consistently in mortality can be erased and we are enabled to develop a Christlike character. Justice demands, however, that none of this happen without our willing agreement and participation....Thus, salvation is certainly not the result of divine whim, but neither does it happen by divine will alone (Elder D. Todd Christofferson, p. 46)."

"'Doing all we can do' is all about discipleship (p. 47)."

"Mortality is a short-term proposition. None of us will stay here long. Doesn't it make sense to devote as much energy as possible to things we can actually take with us into the eternities? To covenants, eternal relationships, our knowledge of truth, and the blessings that come from devotion to the Lord? And those blessings are remarkable (p. 51)."

"When we turn our lives over to the Lord, the power behind us is always greater than the obstacles before us (p. 53)."

"The Lord is not saving up His grace or power for one dramatic display at the Final Judgment, nor is grace something that kicks in at the end of an ordeal. It is there from the moment we exercise even a 'particle of faith' and ask for His help. Jesus Christ is Alpha and Omega, literally the beginning and the end, which means He'll stick with us from start to finish (p. 56)."

"When disciples do their best, whatever that is at a given moment, the Lord magnifies us (p. 57)."

"Make no mistake about it: notwithstanding all we can do and despite the little we actually do, it is the Savior's grace that will ultimately save us. We can never earn exaltation. But we can indicate by the choices we make and the way we live our lives that we want to be part of the kingdom of God more than we want anything else. And that is discipleship (p. 58)."

"'Something is going to be asked of this dispensation that's never been asked before....[We] must be ready to present the Church of the Lamb, to the Lamb, and when that happens, we must be looking and acting like His Church (Elder Jeffrey R. Holland, p. 59).'"

“The more we unlock the power available to us as covenant-making men and women, the more vibrant our impact will be in the work of salvation (p. 62).”

“I was far too preoccupied with myself—which is what happens when we try to lift our burdens alone (p. 63).”

“Life would have crushed me long ago if I hadn’t learned how to access the Savior’s power. He has carried me and healed my heart again and again (p. 65).”

“The path of discipleship is actually the easiest path. It is the path that allows us to partake most fully of the Lord’s love for us (p. 67).”

“Ultimately, for every one of us, the Savior is our only chance. Our only chance to overcome self-doubt and catch a vision of who we may become. Our only chance to repent and have our sins washed away. Our only chance to purify our hearts, subdue our weaknesses, and avoid the adversary. Our only chance to obtain redemption and exaltation. Our only chance to find peace and happiness in this life and eternal life in the world to come. The Lord knows the way because He is the way. He is our only chance for successfully negotiating mortality. His Atonement makes available all of the power, peace, light, and strength that we need to deal with life’s challenges. I do stand all amazed at the love Jesus offers us. And I also stand as a witness that the Lord’s grace is real and that He visits His people in their afflictions, in their weaknesses, and in their infirmities (p. 68).”

Courtney Hatch says

I freaking love Sheri Dew.

Allyson says

I just reread this book, it's been a few years. This has practical tools for accessing the grace of the Savior. Sheri Dew is inspiring. Loved every word.

Lynn says

This is a book I will again and again and again--there is so much to absorb about the enabling power that we call grace.

Tebafin says

insightful and thought provoking - will probably reread again and again

Michelle Llewellyn says

Only 69 pages long and chock-full of little bits of wisdom and good advice from Sheri Dew, this handy little book is a very easy read. In a religion that places so much emphasis on good works and accountability, grace is a topic that most members of the church have no idea how to approach.

Four questions about grace are addressed: What is grace? What difference does grace make in my life? How does the Savior make (grace) available to us? How do we gain access to it (grace)?

The simple answer to all these questions is unlocking the power of the atonement in our lives. Sheri includes stories from both her own life and words of wisdom from various church leaders on how we can better understand one of the simplest, most beautiful beliefs that needn't be so overcomplicated. Footnotes are listed in the very back. The last nine pages contain some of the best advice. Read it and pass it on.

Tressa (Wishful Endings) says

Amazed by Grace was such a wonderfully uplifting book. It expanded my knowledge of grace and reminded me of what I already know. It strengthened my beliefs and my desire to do as I should and to rest my troubles, challenges, and weaknesses where I should, with the Savior. I loved what it focused on: "what is grace," "what difference can grace make in our lives," "how does the Savior make His power available to us," and "what must we do to gain access to that power?" Each section was short, sweet, and direct in its answer of each question.

Let me share some of my favorite parts:

The author shared a story about a man who was struggling with hurt and anger and related an experience he had one day while out cycling where a voice clearly said to him: "Why are you carrying all of this extra weight? You need to let it go. I already paid the price for their sins, your sins, all sins. I have already carried that burden. I did it thousands of years ago. You need to let it go."

(p. 9-10)

"Thus, grace is divine power that enables us to handle things we can't figure out, can't do, can't overcome, or can't manage on our own."

(p. 15)

"He rarely moves the mountains in front of us, but He always helps us climb them."

(p. 21)

There were several other sections that I loved and that touched me personally as well. I loved the stories and personal experiences that the author shared and the lessons she gleaned from them that she then, in turn, shared in the book. It was definitely an enjoyable and rewarding period of reading, and one that made me turn to reflecting on my own life.

I would recommend Amazed by Grace to all Christians looking to feel more grace in their lives and to better understand it. It would make a wonderful gift, especially with Mother's Day coming up.

Source: I would like to thank Deseret Book, the publisher, for my complimentary copy, which did not affect my review in any way.

Danielle says

Short but filled with wonderful quotes and plenty to think about. Sherri Dew has done it again. I love her.

Ryan Stoddard says

If you read something from Sheri Dew you can pretty much guarantee that it will be powerful and that you almost have to underline every sentence. This is no exception. The message is short, but the impact lasting and inspiring. Grace is a subject that I have often neglected and taken for granted. This book dramatically shifted my perspective and opened my understanding and knowledge on this miraculous doctrine.

Jenny says

This is short, but it is a gem. It helped me understand grace better than I have before. I love the pages with quotes with illustrations behind them. I think nearly every page had a quote that stood out to me. Here are just a few that I want to remember.

"The Savior empowers us with His grace, not because we've earned it but because He loves us perfectly."
(12)

**I love the idea of replacing the word grace with the term enabling power.

"When we feel unexplainable peace or hope, love or strength, when we want to linger somewhere because the feeling is sweet, the Lord is manifesting His grace." (13)

"He rarely moves the mountains in front of us, but He always helps us climb them." (22)

"with His help, you can leave your past behind. With His help, you can become your true self. With His help, your capacity and energy can increase. With His help, you can be happy again. ...His grace can change our very nature and over time transform us from who we are into who we can become." (22-23)

**felt chastised about the reminder that if we feel like we are alone and must rely on ourselves, then we don't understand grace.

Love this quote from Bruce C. Hafen, "the Savior's gift of grace to us is not necessarily limited in time to 'after' all we can do. We may receive His grace before, during and after the time when we expend our own efforts." (43)

"Jesus Christ endured and completed His eternal, infinite Atonement so that you and I could change." (44). And that after all we can do is really about becoming disciples.

"When we turn our lives over to the Lord, the power behind us is always greater than the obstacles before us." (53)

"Ultimately, for every one of us, the Savior is our only chance. Our only chance to overcome self-doubt and catch a vision of who we may become. Our only chance to repent and have our sins washed away. Our only chance to purify our hearts....our only chance to find peace and happiness in this life and eternal life in the world to come." (68)

And finally, my most favorite quote of all:

"The path of discipleship is actually the easiest path. It is the path that allows us to partake most fully of the Lord's love for us." (67)
