



Grace Snap Shot

"Viewing life through the lens of God's grace!"



Garbage Day

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The other day a button from one of my shirts fell into the kitchen waste bin. I found myself faced with a decision, "Do I abandon the fallen button or go after it?" Without hesitation I reached my arm into a mixture of slimy liquidized items, bones, discarded packaging and left over pasta, for the simple purpose of rescuing and restoring my lost button.

As I was rinsing my hand off, I thought of how our God had made a similar decision. He chose to extend Himself to mankind by lovingly reaching into the cesspool of lost humanity. Jesus himself stepped into the middle of a fleshly mess with the sole purpose of rescuing and restoring people like you and I. I'm so glad God didn't say;

"Clean yourself up and get out of there!"

"There are plenty more where you came from!"

"You want out? You do your part and I'll do mine"

"You got yourself into this mess, you get yourself out!"

"You should be ashamed of yourself. You're on your own!"

No, without hesitation God deliberately went after mankind.

Let's get back to my lost button. The reason I reached into the waste bin was not simply to retrieve the button, clean it up and put it on a counter. No, the real purpose for my dumpster diving was so that I could restore my button to its rightful place by sowing it onto my shirt. That's what it had been made for. Obviously the button couldn't restore itself nor could it earn the right to be restored. It was simply my decision to do so.

Similarly, Jesus chose to step into humanity not simply to clean up a mess but to make a way for you and I to experience a truly restored life. Life like it was intended to be. Jesus' death on the cross took care of a messy sin issue. Jesus' resurrection from the grave took care of a life issue. Salvation is not simply getting cleaned up, it's receiving real life, His complete, eternal life within us. Jesus gave His life for us, so that He could give His life to us, so He could live His life through us, as us.