Frustrating the Grace of God

Gal. 2:21

Introduction:

- A. The Grace is rooted in the sacrifice of Christ (v. 20).
- B. It is impossible to be saved without the grace of God (Eph. 2:5,8)
- C. It is possible to frustrate ("set aside" nkj; "make void" asv) the grace of God.
 - 1. To frustrate is to render the death of Christ in vain.
 - 2. Several ways that people effectively render the death of Christ in vain:

Discussion:

I. By Binding the Old Testament Law.

- A. Jesus died to remove the law (Eph. 2:13-16; Col. 2:14).
- B. Jesus died in vain if the law could save (Gal. 2:21; Heb. 7:11; 10:1-4).
- C. Those who seek justification by the law are fallen from grace (Gal. 5:2-4)

II. By Seeking Salvation Without Obedience (Heb. 5:8, 9).

- A. To seek salvation without baptism is to seek salvation without death of Christ.
 - 1. Baptized into death, raised to new life (Rom. 6:3,4)
 - 2. Washed from sins by blood (Rev. 1:5), when baptized (Acts 22:16)
- B. To continue in the grace of God unto salvation requires godly living (Tit. 2:11, 12)
 - 1. Fellowship with God (salvation) requires walking in the light (1 John 1:7)
 - 2. Walking in the light includes applying the blood of Christ to our sins (1 John 1:7,9)

III. By Making the Church Non-essential to Salvation.

- A. Jesus died to save the church -- church is the saved (Acts 20:28; Eph. 5:23-25).
- B. Jesus died to reconcile men unto God in one body by the cross (Eph. 2:16).
 - 1. If many churches acceptable, died in vain.
 - 2. If no church acceptable, died in vain.

IV. By Continuing in Wilful Sin (Heb. 10:25-29).

- A. NASV says, "If we go on sinning wilfully", reflecting the present tense of the verb.
- B. Similar condition to "sin unto death" (1 John 5:16-18)
- C. All repented of and confessed sins will be forgiveness (1 John 1:9).
- D. By going on wilfully sinning one renders the sacrifice, the blood and grace vain.

Conclusion:

- A. Do you believe that Christ died in vain?
- B. He died in vain for you, if you do not obey him.
- C. Are you frustrating the grace of God by continuing in sin?