Three Eternal Principles of God’s Dealing With Man
Romans 1:5

Introduction:
A. Three important words of our text: Grace, Faith, and Obedience.
   1. Words that complement each other.
   2. Words that describe three eternal principles of God’s dealings with man in every age.
B. Three principles are true in all three dispensations.

Discussion:
I. The Patriarchal Age.
   A. Adam and Eve.
         a. Created in image of God (Gen. 1:27)
         b. Placed in garden (Gen. 2:8)
         c. Given a law (Gen. 2:16, 17)
      2. Had to believe and obey (Gen. 3:1-6, 22-24).
   B. Noah.
      1. Grace extended to him (Gen. 6:8).
      2. Had to believe (Heb. 11:7).
      3. Had to obey (Gen. 6:22)
   C. Abraham.
      1. The great promises by grace of God.
      2. Had to believe and obey (Heb. 11:8-10; 17-19).

II. The Jewish Age.
   A. Deliverance of Israel (Ex. 3:7-10).
      1. An act of grace.
      2. Moses and Israelites had to believe and obey.
   B. Looking on the brazen serpent (Num. 21:8, 9).
      1. God’s grace provided plan.
      2. People had to believe and obey.
   C. Naaman’s cure (2 Kings 5).
      1. God, through Elisha provided cure — act of grace (v. 10).
      2. Naaman had to believe and obey (v. 11).

III. The Christian Age.
   A. Grace in this age.
      1. Comes through teaching (Tit. 2:11).
      2. Word is “word of his grace” (Acts 20:32).
      3. Grace and be received in vain (2 Cor. 6:1).
   B. Examples of grace, faith and obedience.
         a. Grace extended to murderers (v. 36).
         b. Believed and obeyed (vv. 37-41).
      2. Eunuch (Acts 8).
         a. Grace caused the Lord to send Philip (v. 26).
         b. Believed and obeyed (37, 38).
         a. Grace bestowed (1 Cor. 15:10).

Conclusion:
A. All three great principles must be respected to please God.
B. Grace and faith demands obedience rather than excluding it.