



Answering Challenging Questions:

“Does the church of Christ believe that Christians are saved by grace?” (Part 1)

The Challenging Accusations & Questions we are looking at in this study:

- Does the church of Christ believe that Christians are saved by grace?
- Does the church of Christ teach a works-based salvation?
- How is grace and works defined?
- Are any works required by God?
- Is baptism a work that earns a person the right to be saved?



Defining the argument for a “grace alone” salvation:

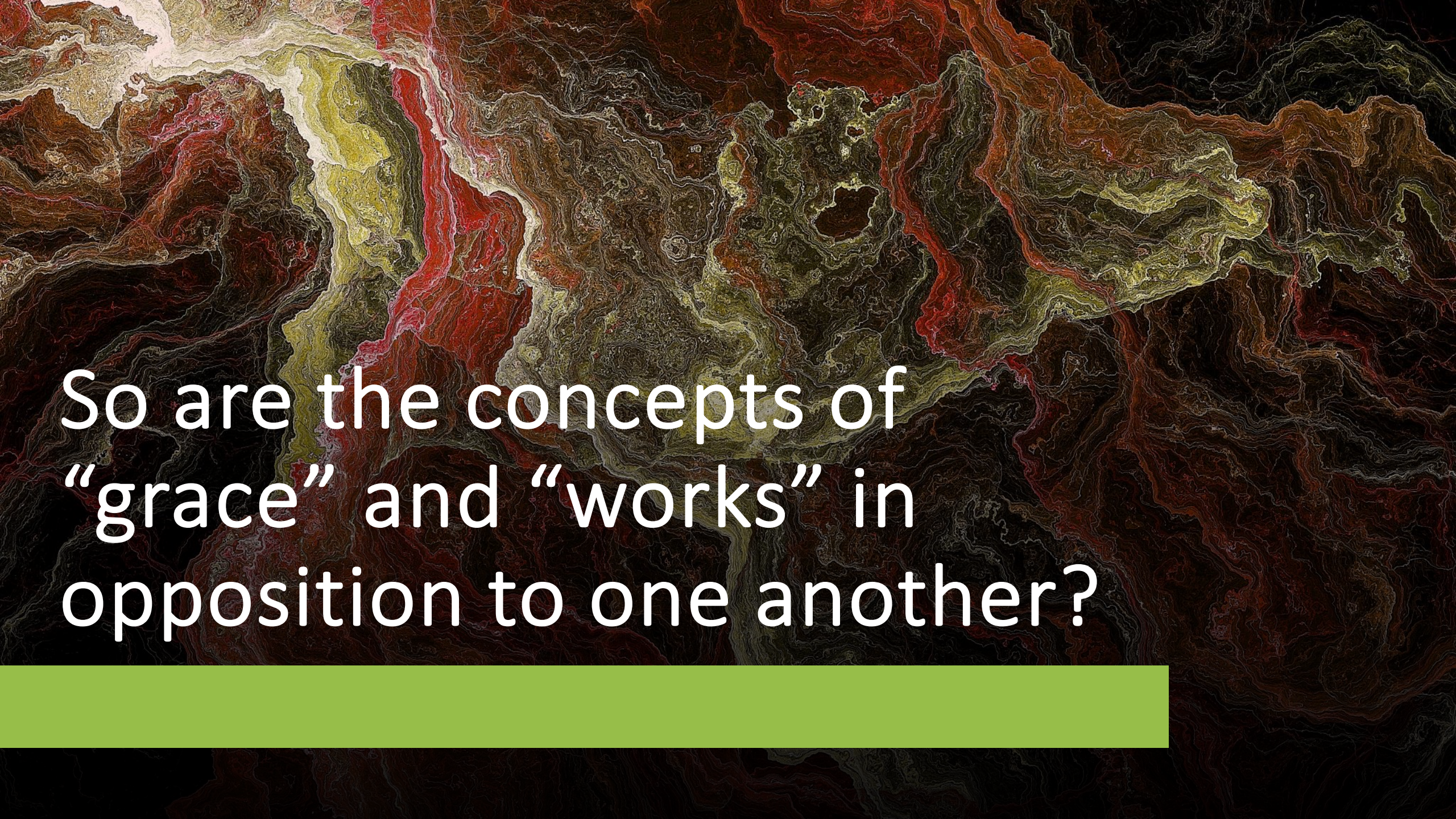
- The Argument:
 - Since all mankind is totally depraved.
 - It requires God’s imputation of His righteousness upon man.
 - Therefore, there is nothing man can do to be saved, which means that man is saved by faith alone.
- Romans 4:1 – 8
- We have already dealt with the false doctrine of “total depravity” in the previous lessons of 10 – 12, we will not discuss it in this series of lessons.
- Therefore, let’s move onto a discussion of the question, “Is the argument of faith alone scriptural?”

How is grace and works defined in the Word of God?

- How is “grace” defined?
- Ephesians 2:8 – 10
- Defining the Greek term:
- It is the Greek term “charis” (khar'-ece)
- It is defined as, “graciousness (as gratifying), of manner or act (abstract or concrete; literal, figurative or spiritual; especially the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life; including gratitude):--acceptable, benefit, favour, gift, grace(- ious), joy, liberality, pleasure, thank(-s, -worthy).”
- It can be simply defined as “getting something you do not deserve.”

How is grace and works defined in the Word of God?

- How is the term “works” defined?
- Romans 4:1 – 8
- Defining the Greek term: (Two terms)
 - The first Greek term for works (vs 2) is “ergon” (er'-gon)
 - It is defined as, “toil (as an effort or occupation); by implication, an act:-- deed, doing, labour, work.”
 - The second Greek term for works (vs 4) is “ergazomai” (er-gad'-zom-ahee)
 - It is defined as, “middle voice from 2041; to toil (as a task, occupation, etc.), (by implication) effect, be engaged in or with, etc.:--commit, do, labor for, minister about, trade (by), work.”

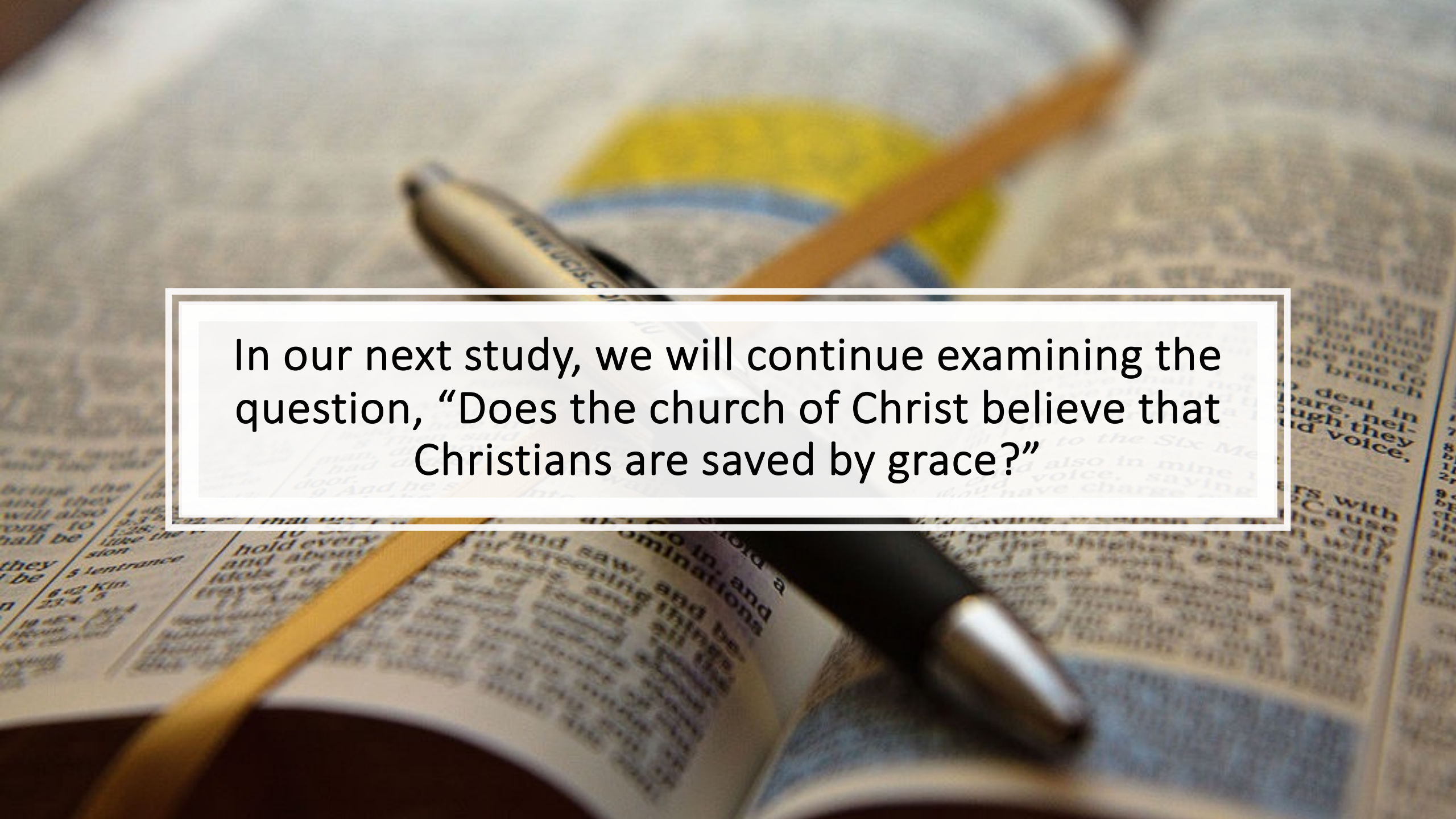
The background of the image is a complex marbled paper pattern. It features swirling, organic shapes in a variety of colors, including deep reds, earthy browns, muted greens, and dark greys. The overall effect is dense and textured. At the bottom of the image, there is a solid, horizontal green bar that spans the width of the page.

So are the concepts of
“grace” and “works” in
opposition to one another?

Are any works required by God?

- Matthew 10:32 – 33
- Mark 16:16
- Acts 17:30 – 31
- Hebrews 10:26
- James 2:14 – 26





In our next study, we will continue examining the question, “Does the church of Christ believe that Christians are saved by grace?”