What's So Amazing About Grace? By Philip Yancey (review)

For Christians, the word 'Grace' is nothing new. We see it in print and often jump ahead to something, anything, that makes sense in our secular thinking. Philip Yancey explores this subject where the rubber meets the road. One statement in his book that will stick in your memory is, "There is nothing you can do to make God love you more and nothing you can do to make Him love you less." He paints a picture of grace in places where grace would be the last thing one would expect.

In a world that sees justice as getting what one deserves, be it punishment or reward, grace is a vivid exception to that rule. Christians often think of grace as simply a description of forgiveness, but Yancey fills 280 pages with thoughts and examples that tell us that grace, though it may originate from God, is a tool God has given us with which to reach out to the undeserving and show the face of God.

Much of this book is devoted to the concept of ungrace. It pervades our secular world as we strive to be best, get ahead, beat the other guy to promotion, look out for ourselves. Life insists that we earn our way, that nothing comes as a gift and, therefore, God's favor is something we must earn. Yancey puts this mentality to rest.

A One page review cannot do justice to this marvelous book, first published 25 years ago, but still a breath of fresh air. It is now in updated version as of 2021 and available on Amazon.

Peace, Mike Slayter