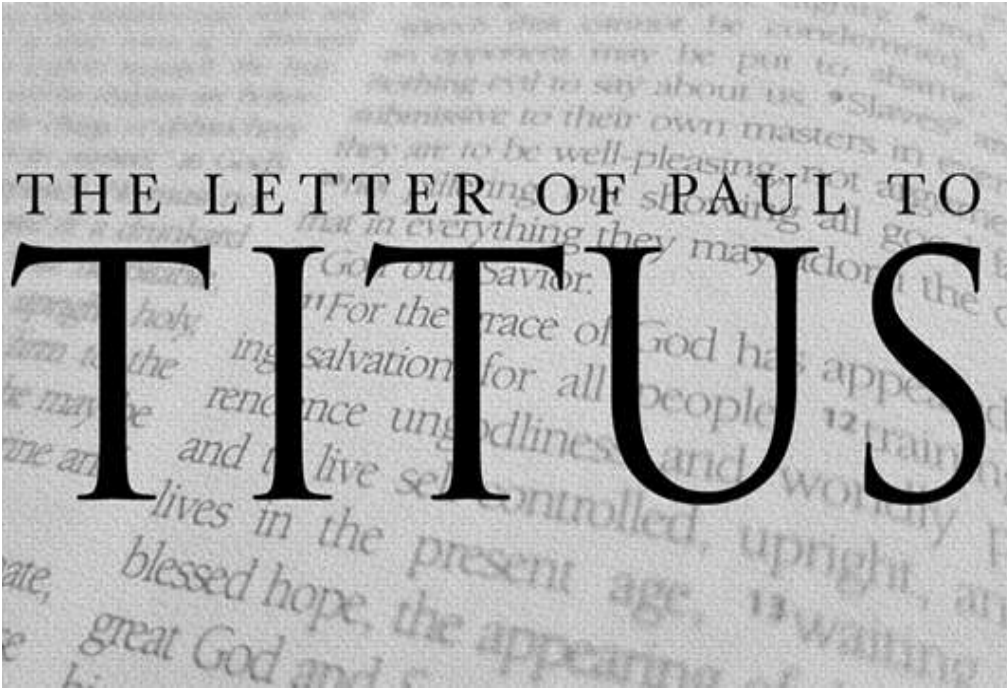


Let's Worship God

9th-14th March 2020
Titus



TITUS

Monday - Titus 2:1 - Godly Speech

False teachers and false Christians will promote ungodly behaviour, no matter how subtle. But how then, is Titus to combat such error? He does so by promoting the spirit of holiness in congregational life. He does this first by practising what he preaches, and then (the rest of the chapter) teaching others to do so likewise. The word 'teach' here is literally 'to speak'; Paul is exhorting Titus to 'speak what accords with sound doctrine.'

If on the one hand we say we believe that we are saved by grace and are called to holy living, yet our speech is full of anger, sniping, and gossip, we can see there is hypocrisy in us. As with verse 1, it is not enough to have a head knowledge of the Bible, true Christianity is a heart transforming experience. What we say with our lips reflects what we really believe. So Titus is being told to speak and act in accordance with sound doctrine. The doctrine here is none other than the Gospel of salvation and living a grace-fuelled life full of holy endeavours.

When Christians read their Bible it affects their life, when they hear a sermon they are to put it into practise, and the key sign of a work of grace is what they say with their lips. Titus, and all Christians, will hear of grace, and their tone of voice will be saturated in humility. The Christian hears of sin, and will hate gossip, maliciousness, pride, and anger. As such, the Spirit of God works in us and causes us to have lips that glorify God and bring comfort to the saints. Does your speech conform to what you believe? Do you think that people can tell the difference between how you speak and an unbeliever? Yes we fail and make mistakes, but when God is doing a work He will make sure we will continue to kill speaking sins and grow with lips full of grace and love as we speak to one another.

Questions

1. Where can you learn sound doctrine?
2. How does God transform your speech?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would have Godly speech.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ Titus 2:13

Praise: Psalm 9 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

TITUS

Tuesday - Titus 2:2 - Advice for Older Men

In promoting the spirit of holiness, Titus is now to teach according to one's situation. The first section of the congregation to be exhorted is the older men. He starts here because 1) generally, not always, they have been in the faith for a longer period of time, and 2) young Christians will look to them for guidance, so their conduct is of utmost importance.

The characteristics of older men should include 1) a sober mind. The word here refers to one who is moderate in his drinking of alcohol. In the ancient world, as with now, alcohol consumption was endemic in society. As such, the older men lead by example, and if they choose to drink alcohol they do it in moderation. They do so for they are 2) dignified men. You look to these men and they are worthy of our respect for they take life seriously. You can tell they take God seriously by their conduct, because they are 3) self-controlled in what they do. They have the discipline in life to be focused on their responsibilities both temporally and spiritually.

These characteristics are built upon their spiritual foundation: they practise what they believe. They are sound in faith, which is strong in the Lord. They have a heart full of love for their brethren and people, and throughout the trials of life they are steadfast in the Lord.

These are the expectations of older Christians. Are you mature in age? Do you see these characteristics in your life? It is a sad thing to see an older Christian thinking he is 'retired', when there is no retirement in the spiritual life. The elderly are still expected to continue in zeal and bear fruit. Pray that you are used as an example to younger Christians and endeavour to have fellowship with them and impart your life experiences. Never think 'I'm too old', or 'the youth won't listen to me'. Young Christians struggle in life, and your advice and example is invaluable to them.

Questions

1. What are the characteristics of godly older men?
2. If old, do you continue to have zeal for the Lord?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for older Christians in the congregation.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ Titus 2:13

Praise: Psalm 10 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

TITUS

Wednesday - Titus 2:3-5 - Advice for Women

The world seems to think that Christianity disrespects women because they cannot be office bearers, but here we see the value and preciousness of women in the life of the congregation. Paul starts with the 'older women' who are to 'likewise' act with godliness as the older men. As the older man is an example to younger men, an older woman is an example to the younger women. As such, their entire lives are to be 'reverent in behaviour.' This means they know the Lord and fear Him. They delight in serving Him and respect His holy name. Knowing who He is, they will not slander others. Often older women have the stereotype of gossiping. We know from human experience that all humans commit this sin, but here Paul brings this into the experience of older sisters. They are to refrain from such so as to set an example. Additionally, they set an example in moderation by not being slaves to wine. By positive example, because of their experience of being a faithful and loving wife and mother, they are to impart their knowledge to the younger women.

The older women know the foundation to a godly home is love. They are to love their husbands and children. This is the key to a faithful Christian life, the love of the Lord flows through our hearts to every aspect of it. This is demonstrated by being self-controlled when stress sets in, kind when dealing with the family, and out of love for God's pattern submitting to their husbands. It is a glorious and high honour to be a wife and mother, for it is the mother who has the greatest influence upon the spiritual upbringing of the child. Yes it is the man's job to lead, but most of the time will be spent with the mother so her witness is vital.

Questions

1. Why is it important for older women to set an example?
2. Why should younger women be self-controlled in the home?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for Godly older women.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ Titus 2:13

Praise: Psalm 11 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

TITUS

Thursday - Titus 2:6-8 - Advice for Young Men

The third section of the congregation is now addressed, the young men. The advice in verse 6 is brief, but profound. Young men are full of enthusiasm and zeal, these are good characteristics. But due to sin, they are often directed in either non-productive or sinful ways. The key for a young Christian man is to be self-controlled in all his life. The reason why is because it is the young men who are the future leaders of the church. Whether they are ministers, elders, deacons, or members, they will be our future leaders. And if they are not self-controlled the church will fail in the next generation. This challenges the young men to turn their youthful endeavours from futile living, to reading the Bible and good theology. For if they are not sound in doctrine how will they then lead their home and church? Also, they must be self-controlled in their behaviour. When a boy becomes a man he must take responsibility and act like an adult.

In verses 7-8 Titus is included among the young men. Because he is a preacher does not mean that he is any less responsible. As a young man he too must be self-controlled, in fact due to his responsibility he is to be 'a model of good works' in 'all respects'. His attitude, manner, and words, must reflect a man of God who knows the Word and practises it. If he does not, then Satan will stir people to see the hypocrisy and accuse both him and the church. If he is daily guarding his heart and obeying the law of kindness, then no one will be able to accuse and hurt the church of Christ.

Young men have a big responsibility and it is important that they face up to it. The church will struggle into the next generation if they are not growing in the grace and knowledge of the Lord. Look to the older Christians for their example, and discipline yourself in both attitude and doctrine.

Questions

1. Why is it important that young men are self-controlled?
2. How does a young man harness and focus his energy in a godly manner?
3. Do you have a zeal for God's word and sound doctrine?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the young men in the congregation.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ Titus 2:13

Praise: Psalm 12 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

TITUS

Friday - Titus 2:9-10 - Advice for Servants

Paul now speaks to those who are slaves. When we read the word 'slave' we should not import early modern ideas into it. When we hear 'slave' we think of the black slave trade of the Americas, or the sex slaves of the western world. In the 19th century slavery was very different; sometimes it was more of a servant who worked, at other times it was one owned by a master for house-service. Remembering there was no welfare state, many took refuge as slaves, so that rather than starve to death they could have a home, clothing, and food. This is not to defend slavery, but to understand the complex reality of slavery in Biblical times.

Such is the wisdom of God; He chooses the foolish things of this world to save. Often, the 'foolish' of this world is the lowest in society. Many slaves were saved by the Gospel, and now under Christ, Paul exhorts them to a godly life. As Christians they were to work hard, not grumble and complain, and not be argumentative. This would be a witness to their masters as they laboured to the glory of God.

This applies to us today in our employments. In one way or another we are servants in the work place. If we are true Christians then we will be godly in all things to 'adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour.' This means when we have a 15 minute break we do not take 20 minutes, we do not grumble under our breath when our boss give us tasks, and we do not have the attitude of refusing to work an extra five minutes unless we are paid overtime. The Christian sees work as a calling from God, and as such we turn up on time, work hard, endeavour to finish our tasks, and are known for our integrity in the work place.

Questions

1. Why should slaves submit to their masters?
2. Do you see work as an opportunity to glorify God?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would work faithfully in our jobs.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ Titus 2:13

Praise: Psalm 13 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

TITUS

Saturday - Titus 2:11-13 - Transforming Grace

These verses give such hope and comfort to the Christian. Often we think 'how can I be a godly man or woman, there is so much sin and temptation.' The truth of the matter is that we do not live on our own strength, the good news is that the 'grace of God has appeared.' Grace saves us from our sins and guilty consciences, and grace is also given to live the Christian life.

The grace of God gives us the desire to kill sin. When free grace opens our eyes we see the foolishness of all ungodliness. We abhor self-reliance, we reject the wisdom of men, and the things of this world become less attractive to us. As we grow in grace we come to daily put sin to death, knowing how heinous, ugly, and dishonouring to God all sin is.

The grace of God gives us the desire to live holy lives. O how the new principles of grace touch our hearts; under darkness we saw the world as attractive, now the shining light of Christ gives our hearts a love for Christ and His ways. Grace gives us the discipline of self-control, so that we are firm in the faith at work and in the home. The law of God is something we desire to obey, so that we walk by the paths of uprightness. In fact, grace impacts every aspect of our lives to be as godly as possible in all that we say, think, and do.

This life of grace is not one of lethargy, but one of urgency. We know that Christ will come as a thief in the night, so we strive forth 'waiting for the blessed hope' of our Lord's return. As we read in Titus 1:2, this is an assured hope. He will return, therefore we value every day as an opportunity to serve the Lord in every aspect of our lives. How this should encourage us to go on in our Christian lives and shine forth as beacons of Christ in a dark and sin filled world.

Questions

1. What does the word grace mean?
2. How does grace affect our daily lives?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ Titus 2:13

Praise: Psalm 14 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

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