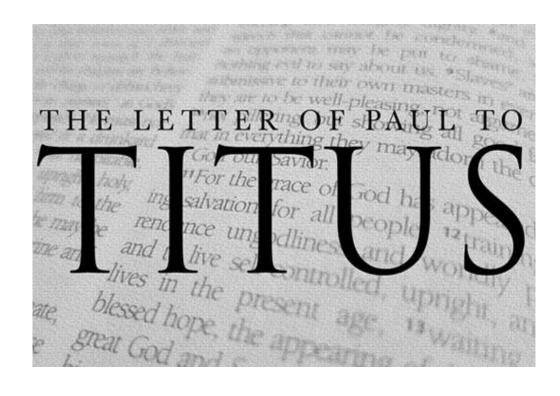
# Let's Worship God

16th-21st March 2020 Titus





#### Monday - Titus 2:11-15 - A Redeeming Christ

When we read of grace in the Bible we should never think of grace as a thing. Grace is the unmerited favour of God towards sinners, and as we read in this section, grace is a He, the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace comes into our lives because Christ redeems us and applies His glorious benefits towards us in our justification, sanctification, adoption, and glorification. No wonder grace is irresistible! For it is nothing less than a saving sight of an irresistible and altogether lovely Christ.

We see here one of the Bible's explicit statements about Jesus, He is our 'great God and Saviour.' He left the throne of heaven to come to this sinful world to redeem us. To redeem means to buy with a price, and the glory of salvation is that the price for our sin is invaluable. The Lord Christ 'gave himself' for us. No one else but the God-man could die in our stead; His manhood for a substitutionary sacrifice, His deity for Calvary's infinite worth. There is no love in this world that can describe the love of God towards sinners.

We must also never think of salvation merely as 'getting saved.' Salvation includes the whole plan of redemption: from conversion to consummation. He saves us 'to purify... a people... who are zealous for good works.' We are 'his own possession', and such is His love and grace that His desire is that we are purified from our sin towards holiness. This we demonstrate with new hearts of grace with a zealous attitude towards pleasing our God with good works.

What a Lord we serve! Because of what He has done and is doing, we have the grace to press on and glorify God. He has redeemed us, and now we daily go forth with hearts of grace to perform good works pleasing in the sight of God. No wonder Paul exhorts Titus to 'Declare these things.' Who would not share such a glorious Christ to our friends and family?

#### Questions

1. What does it mean to redeem?

#### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray for the salvation of friends and family.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

# **Memory Verse**

So that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3:7

Praise: Psalm 15 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



#### Tuesday - Titus 3:1-2 - Good Citizens

In chapter 2 we read of the glory of salvation in Jesus Christ and our blessed hope of eternal life. So to make sure that the Christians of Crete do not become spiritual hermits, Paul reminds 'them to be submissive to rulers and authorities.' Here Paul is referring to state governments; we are to be good citizens of our nations. Often Christians have a tendency to separate themselves from society, but a Biblical Christian is one who shines forth as a light in their community.

Where the laws of the land do not contradict Scripture and cause one to sin, we are to obey our governments. In fact, all Christians should be model citizens. We are to be eager to do good in society, this can be done with charity work or by being involved in community projects. Christians are also to be gentle; we should have the reputation of one who is easy to approach because we are respectful and caring. This caring attitude is such that we hate all forms of racism, sexism, and bigotry. We show 'perfect courtesy towards all people' be they young or old, black or white, Western or Asian, for we 'speak evil of no one.'

We see this attitude reflected throughout church history where John Knox sought to build a school in every parish, American Presbyterians built hospitals for the poor, and William Wilberforce passionately fought against black slavery. In nations all across the world Christians hold high positions of authority due to their reputation as honest, hard working people. And on the street level, there are countless 'ordinary' saints who help and show love to others in their own community. We should all ask ourselves, are we separating ourselves from our society? Or are we, by the grace of God, obeying those over us and endeavouring to be good witnesses by being good citizens?

#### Questions

- 1. Why must Christians be reminded to obey authority?
- 2. Are there examples in your life where you show kindness to others?

#### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray that we would be a good witness in society.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

# **Memory Verse**

So that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3:7

Praise: Psalm 16 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



#### Wednesday - Titus 3:1-3 - Who We Once Were

Yesterday we were commanded to be good citizens and 'speak evil of no one.' You may have thought in your own mind, 'how can we not, have you seen the state of our country? There is nothing but greed, deceit, wickedness, and unbelief.' That is all very true, and being a good citizen doesn't mean we remain silent on these sins and attitudes in our nation. There are times when we must rebuke and bring sinners to Christ. But, at all times we show love and grace towards all. Why, you may ask? Well, one reason is that we were once the very same.

Too often Christians forget what their own hearts were like before God changed them. When we remember who we once were, it should bring us to humility and give us a love for our fellow man. Whether we were religious hypocrites like Paul relying upon our own self-righteousness, or walking by the wisdom of the world, all of us were once strangers to the Gospel. We are not any better than the world; the only difference is free, sovereign grace. Do you remember before your conversion? Were you not disobedient? Did you not lie? Steal? Did you ever have anger in your heart towards another? We were all disobedient; we all break God's law.

And what was your love? What was your desire and passion? Was it sport? Shopping? Alcohol? Was your own family number 1 on your list? You see, we were the very same as the world around us: 'slaves to various passions and pleasures.'

When we see sin, wickedness, and unbelief in our community and nation it should stir us to compassion. If it were not for the grace of God we would be like them, still dead in our sin. So the next time you see sinners and arrogance and hate stirs in your heart, think to what you once were, a sinner in need of Christ.

#### Questions

1. Why should Christians show love towards our neighbours?

#### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray for the salvation of those in your community.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

# **Memory Verse**

So that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3:7

Praise: Psalm 17 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



#### Thursday - Titus 3:3-7 - Who We Are Now

Yesterday we meditated upon the fact that we were once enemies of God, today we turn to who we are now in Christ Jesus. As we think upon the great position we now hold in Christ, let us do so with humility as we confess that all we receive is by the grace of God alone.

We receive the grace of regeneration. This is the sovereign act of God where the Holy Spirit gave us new hearts of faith. We had no ability or power to accept Christ; for we were dead in our sins. Yet the grace of God came towards us in regeneration and gave us a new heart to see the beauty of Christ and His salvation.

We receive the grace of justification. The Holy Spirit dwelt inside us and gave us the gift of faith that would unite us to Christ. By faith alone our sins were imputed to Christ who bore God's wrath on the tree, in turn His righteousness was imputed to our account, so that we may be justified before a Holy God. This grace was the work of God alone. We contributed nothing to salvation, He did it all and had mercy upon us.

We receive the grace of adoption. No longer are we dead in sin. No longer are we rebels against God. By grace, we are not even merely justified, but sons of the living God. And being sons we are 'heirs according to the hope of eternal life.' This is who we are now in Christ Jesus, adopted children of the Living God looking forward to eternal happiness and joy with Christ our Saviour.

What humility and love this should give us all. Know dear believer, that you are loved by your Father in heaven. But be warned, and make the words of Paul your watchword against pride: 'by the grace of God I am what I am' (1 Cor. 15:10).

#### Questions

- 1. What is regeneration?
- 2. What is justification?
- 3. What is adoption?

## **Prayer Points**

- 1. Give thanks for your salvation.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

#### **Memory Verse**

So that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3:7

Praise: Psalm 18 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



#### Friday - Titus 3:8-11 - Edifying Conversation

After explaining the glorious Gospel and the rich blessings we receive in Christ Jesus, Paul states that these are all 'trustworthy' sayings, and we are to 'insist on these things.' The word 'insist' means to speak confidently about something. So what Paul is teaching us here is that our speech and conversation should be full of the glories of Christ. These are good and edifying things because they rebuke us from our sin, remind us of our blessings, and encourage us to do good works. When you meet up with fellow believers do you spend most of your time speaking about worldly matters or spiritual subjects? How spiritual we are can be evidenced by the things we speak most on when we are in fellowship with Christians. A mature Christian is full of the Spirit and can't but speak about Christ. When in fellowship, the Christian is eager to feed his or her soul by discussing with believers 'excellent and profitable' things such as the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

On the other hand, we are warned against conversing about unedifying and foolish things. For Titus's congregation it was the Judaizers and their endless and unprofitable discussion about the law. Questions such as: How many meters can a Christian walk on the Sabbath? Should a Christian read his Bible for 1 hour a day or 2 hours a day? These types of questions are useless and miss the point. There are rich things to discuss and useless questions such as these only harm spiritual fellowship. When we speak to fellow Christians we should ask ourselves, is this edifying to the brethren? Will my question help encourage and strengthen others? If the answer is no, then keep your thoughts to yourself. But if the answer is yes it is edifying, then experience the joy and encouragement of spiritual fellowship as you discuss the glories and excellences of the Christian religion.

#### Questions

- 1. What things should Christian speak about to one another?
- 2. Why is unprofitable conversation harmful?

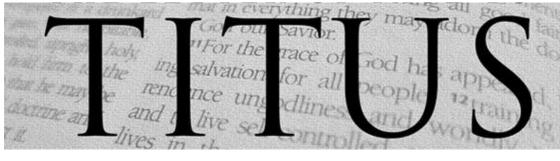
#### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray that we would be an encouragement to others.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

#### **Memory Verse**

So that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3:7

Praise: Psalm 19 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



#### Saturday - Titus 3:12-15 - Conclusion

Paul ends his letter to Titus with a request to meet and spend the winter with him in Nicopolis in Southern Greece. But before Titus travels, he must first settle the church in Crete. Here again we see the importance of church government. Disciples cannot be left alone without elders to oversee and instruct them in the ways of God. If we are members of an established church we then ought to be truly thankful to God for every one of our office bearers. Our deacons serve the church in the material needs that often go unnoticed. Our elders organise and spiritually oversee all the members of the congregation. Our ministers labour in prayer and the Word for hours on end, so that by the Spirit of God we would be fed and learn to live holy and godly lives in the Kingdom of God.

Paul once again turns towards the repeated exhortation for us to devote ourselves to good works. It is important that this command is repeated for we all know that too often we forget how important bearing the fruit of the Spirit in every aspect of life is. The evidence of true saving faith is producing good works. We need to continue in prayer for the grace and opportunity to love and serve our neighbours. But we should never forget the special place a brother and sister in Christ has in our hearts. This is why Paul gives a special greeting to those who 'love us in the faith.' As we receive the Spirit of adoption we enter a worldwide family. Every time we meet Christians our hearts should be filled with love as we meet a new brother or sister. Just as Titus was to show hospitality to all visitors, we likewise should help Christians in need. What a wonderful letter we have read in the last three weeks. May we all receive the grace to love His Word and be a witness for Christ in our lives to the glory of God alone.

#### Questions

- 1. Why does Paul repeatedly exhort us to do good works?
- 2. Do you have a special love for fellow Christians?

## **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**

So that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3:7

Praise: Psalm 20 - 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!

Let's Worship God is produced by the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland.