

## Titus 2:11-15

### *Living by Grace in a Broken World*

#### Section 1: 2:11-13 (NASB95)

*<sup>11</sup>For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup>instructing us to deny godlessness and worldly lusts and to live in a sensible, righteous, and godly way in the present age, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.*

As we discussed earlier in chapter 1, all have sinned and all equally need salvation. Our only hope is the grace of God. God has given us His grace through Jesus. Bringing salvation for all people. Unfortunately, many will deny Jesus and never experience the grace of God. They will only experience His wrath. The moment of salvation is when our justification takes place. At the moment you believe you are made just before the Holy God.

In verse 12, we see that salvation brings a new way to experience life. Salvation instructs us to deny godlessness and worldly lusts. The Greek word for “instructing” is a word used for teaching children. The idea is that our salvation will teach us over time to mature. Therefore, over time we learn how to deny godlessness and worldly lust. Becoming a Christian doesn’t remove temptation or hardship from our lives. Through Christ Christians are able to overcome temptations and hardships. Our ability to handle life will grow over time. If you are a new Christian really struggling...take heart. As you continue to seek Christ, your faith will grow and you will grow stronger in your ability to handle temptations and hardships.

In contrast to living a life of godlessness and worldly lusts, Christians are to live a sensible, righteous and godly life. Just as we grow in our ability to weed out godlessness and worldly lusts from our lives, we grow in our ability to add sensibility, righteousness and godliness. This is what we call the process of sanctification. Sanctification is the process in which Christians become more like Christ in attitude and action.

Also, we are waiting for the blessed hope which will be the future glorification. When Jesus returns, we will be given new bodies that are incorruptible. Our hope is that all stains of sin will be removed forever and we will have the privilege of serving and worshipping our heavenly Father for all eternity. We saw in the Lord’s prayer in Matthew 6 that we are to pray for Jesus’ return and the establishment of His eternal kingdom. We pray for our hope to be realized.

#### Discussion Questions

- ❖ How important is the grace of God for our salvation?
- ❖ How can someone experience justification?
- ❖ How can someone experience sanctification?
- ❖ How does our future glorification impact our hope?

#### Section 2: 2:14

*<sup>14</sup>He gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a people for his own possession, eager to do good works.*

Verse 14 is a recap of verses 11-13. (1) Jesus gave himself for our redemption, (2) He redeems us from lawlessness and cleanses us and (3) makes us a people for His own possession.

- (1) Many religions have come and gone throughout human history. And they have had a common theme...man must get to god. Christianity is different. God has come to man. Jesus' life wasn't taken from Him, He freely gave it.
- (2) Through Jesus we have been redeemed. Due to sin, we have an unpayable price to pay. Praise be to God that Jesus paid the price of our sin for us. We truly have been redeemed. The word redeemed should cause us to remember the garden of Eden. Before sin entered the world Adam and Eve walked in the garden with God. There was no brokenness or sin between them. A glorious relationship. Then sin entered the world and the relationship was broken. Man's only hope was to be redeemed, rescued from sin and returned to a life before sin. In Jesus we have this hope.
- (3) In Christ we become a people that belongs to God. Too many times Christians try to live according to their own desires. When we put our desires above God's commands found in Scripture, we are living in rebellion and it's not if but when God will discipline us. As believers we should be eager to do the good works God has for us to accomplish. We were created to work good for God's glory. Ephesians 2:10.

### Discussion Questions

- ❖ Does everyone need redemption? Do you tell everyone they need redemption? Why or why not?
- ❖ How can we help each other through our journey of sanctification?
- ❖ Why does it matter to remember that you are God's possession?

### Section 3: 2:15

*<sup>15</sup> Proclaim these things; encourage and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.*

Titus is told by Paul to proclaim these things. It's important to remember that as Paul is writing it is the Holy Spirit directing his words. Therefore, verse 15 is commanded by God. Titus is given three commands in verse 15: (1) proclaim these things, (2) encourage and rebuke and (3) let no one disregard you.

- (1) Proclaim these things. Titus is to speak these things to the church often and boldly. What things? The direct context is all that we've read from 1:1 to 2:14: elder qualifications, confronting false teachings and teachers, laying out the standards for men and women and explaining justification, sanctification and glorification. While many churches seem to be proclaiming how to have a "happy Monday", the church should be proclaiming these things from Titus 1:1-2:14.
- (2) Encourage and rebuke are two sides of the same coin. For those that are seeking Christ according to His Word will be encouraged by these things and those not living according to His Word will be rebuked by these things. The Word of God always does these two things: encourage and/or rebuke. If you are proclaiming a God that never rebukes the culture...you are not proclaiming the God of the Bible.
- (3) Let no one disregard you. Why is it easy to fall to the common trends of the day or to the pressures of the crowd? I believe it's directly related to your understanding of the importance of God's Word. We need to come to the Scriptures seeking to learn and change. If you come to the Bible with your personal desires, experience and feelings...you will miss the point and be ripe to fall. Our only agenda when approaching Scripture is to know God as He has chosen to reveal Himself. Ultimately, Christians are to fight for the Truth. But you will only be equipped to fight if you are submitting all of your life and beliefs to the Word of God.

### Discussion Questions

- ❖ Why does the message of the church matter?
- ❖ God's Word either encourages or rebukes. Why do so many Christians walk away from the Word of God feeling neither encouraged or rebuked?
- ❖ How are you strengthening your faith so that you can stand strong of fight for the truth?