

“The Educating Power of Grace and Glory”

Titus 2:11-15

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I. Introduction

- A. We come now in our study of Titus to the heart of the letter.
 - 1. Paul has been instructing each member of the church.
 - a) The aged men
 - b) The aged women
 - c) The young women
 - d) The young men
 - e) Titus himself
 - 2. “That they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things” (v.10)
- B. Now, Paul tells us what that doctrine is
 - 1. Paul moves from our duties to sound doctrines.
 - 2. From behavior to belief
 - 3. *“Paul bases all the exhortations of the chapter upon a summary of gospel truth which, for beauty and depth and significance, is possible unsurpassed.”* – Charles R. Erdman
- C. What is the doctrine that Paul bases our holy living upon?
 - 1. The two comings of Christ, which he calls “epiphanies” or “appearing.”
 - a) “Christ’s first coming” (v.11)
 - b) “Christ’s second coming” (v.13)
 - 2. At Christ’s first coming, He came to save us from sin’s penalty (past)
 - 3. At Christ’s second coming, He will save us from sin’s presence (future)
 - 4. Now, between His two appearances, He saves us from sin’s power (present)
 - 5. The key to living holy lives now is looking back at His epiphany of grace (v.11)
 - a) We look forward to His epiphany of glory (v.13)
 - b) The educating power of grace and glory (v.12)

II. The Appearing of Grace (Titus 2:11-12)

- A. This is not saying that grace came into existence when Christ came. God has always been gracious (Old Testament and New Testament)
 - 1. At Christ’s first appearing, God’s grace appeared incarnate in the person of God, the Son, Jesus Christ.
 - a) “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth” (John 1:14).
 - b) “For the Law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ” (John 1:17).

B. Four truths about this appearing grace

1. It's a sovereign grace.
 - a) "The grace of God" (v.11)
 - b) It comes from and pours out from the sovereign, eternal, self-existent heart of God, and no power on earth or in Hell can frustrate it.
2. It's a saving grace.
 - a) "...that bringeth salvation..." (v.11)
 - b) Grace is unmerited favor. Getting something we don't deserve.
 - c) As undeserving, guilty sinners, we are all saved by grace.
 - 1) "For by grace you are..." (Ephesians 2:8-10)
 - d) How?
 - 1) By Christ's death on the cross (v.14)
 - 2) We are saved by God's sovereign grace.
3. It's a sufficient grace.
 - a) "Hath appeared to all men" (v.11)
 - b) This does not mean that all men will be saved. Universal salvation is not taught in the Bible.
 - c) What does it mean?
 - 1) It means that the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ on the cross is sufficient for all. It is sufficient only for those who believe or put their faith in Jesus Christ.
 - 2) (John 3:16)
 - 3) "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13).
4. It's a transforming grace (v.12)
 - a) Not only has God's grace appeared, but grace also appeals.
 - b) "Teaching us" (v.12)
 - c) Grace also becomes our teacher. It is the School of Grace.

C. What does grace teach us?

1. It's negative
 - a) To say no to ungodliness and worldly passions
 - b) "Denying ungodliness and worldly lusts" (v.12)
 - c) It's the acid test of true conversion.
 - d) Grace does what the Law could never do.
 - e) "*Twas grace that taught my heart to fear...*" – John Newton
2. It's positive
 - a) "We should live soberly, righteously and godly in the present world." (v.12b)
 - b) God's grace saves us, but it also sanctifies us.
 - c) Grace teaches us to live holy lives in this present, evil age, or world.
 - d) Remember, the world is not our home.
 - 1) We are strangers or pilgrims.

III. The Appearing of Glory (Titus 2:13-15)

- A. It's the believer's blessed hope (v.13)
 - 1. Jesus came from Heaven (He appeared)
 - 2. Jesus, after His crucifixion and resurrection, went back to Heaven in His ascension.
 - 3. Jesus will reappear in His Second Coming.
 - 4. He's coming back in glory
- B. Is this the Rapture or Second Coming?
- C. Jesus is God
 - 1. Don't lose your hope (looking for Heaven)
 - 2. Grace saves us and sanctifies us
 - 3. Grace will bring us to Heaven (glory)
 - a) Saved from sin's presence
- D. What is the foundation for our blessed hope?
 - 1. "The cross of Christ" (v.14)
 - a) His death
 - b) Jesus gave Himself voluntarily (v.14)
 - c) Jesus gave Himself for us (substitutionary) (v.14)
 - d) Jesus gave Himself to redeem us (v.14)
 - 1) To purify us
 - 2) To make us His own
 - 3) Good works all for His glory (to perfect us)
 - 2. Paul's charge to Titus
 - a) "Speak" of God's grace and glory
 - b) "Exhort"
 - 1) Illustration- Holy Spirit
 - c) "Rebuke"
 - 1) Correct or reprove of sin
 - 2) "With all authority" (v.15)

IV. Conclusion

- A. Grace for salvation (v.11)
- B. Grace for sanctification (v.12)
- C. What begins with grace leads to glory!