

The Essentials of Our Faith

Titus 2:15 makes it clear that the summary of the Christian life that Paul has just offered Titus in the preceding verses consists of "these things" that should comprise his pastoral message. In fact "these things" describe the central features of Paul's ministry as a whole and are invaluable to us today in thinking about our own ministry and the faith we seek to nurture and grow.

Our common faith is a faith that is...

1. Practically Expressed
 - a. Faith is not merely cognitive!
 - b. The relationship of faith and works
 - c. The relationship of repentance and obedience
2. Eternally Oriented
 - a. What are we "waiting for" as we pursue godly living?
 - b. What is the event horizon of your discipleship and ministry?
3. Centered on Christ
 - a. As our Redeemer!
 - b. Who justifies us
 - c. Who sanctifies us

Application:

1. Have you been redeemed from lawlessness? Are you zealous for good works?
2. What worldly passions is God calling you to renounce? Where is he calling you to be self-controlled?
3. Is your hope set firmly in heaven?