

Ministry of The Holy Spirit

Titus 3

Last time...after elders to minister to the spiritual needs of the people, order in the church,
continued

1. older men
2. older women
3. children – young women and young men

Order and sound doctrine in the Church in this present world because we have
a blessed hope.

This time...With order in the Church, the Church is to be orderly in this present world,
being mindful of Whose we are and why we are here

Understanding the times (1 Chron 12:32), some current historical context of “this present
world” for our application of God’s truth in this chapter

We live in the

- Days of Noah...rampant violence
- Days of Lot...militant sexual perversion
- days of deception...lies lies lies (words and images, Photoshop, AI generated)
truth has fallen in the street,
fairness does not exist, justice depends on who you are,
good is called evil and evil is called good

as the world is hurtling toward the 70th Week of Daniel

- Islam, the spirit of antichrist, has invaded Western Civilization, which has
rolled over and is protecting the invaders instead of its own citizens
i.e. is conquered from within

In England, the mayor of	London	is Muslim
	Buckingham	
	Leeds	
	Blackburn	
	Sheffield	
	Oxford	
	Luton	
	Oldham	
	Rochdale	

There are 4 million Muslims in a population of 66 million (6%)

Riots and gang warfare in the streets in the UK between the invading
Muslim immigrants and “native” English people.

The UK's Labour Government confirmed that Jewish synagogues and Christian churches will not receive any emergency security support during the riots. However, the British Home Secretary announced that emergency security will be provided for all mosques in the UK.

In USA, violent and destructive protests and riots in cities and college campuses by pro-Hamas Muslims and their useful idiots are unrestrained by "law enforcement"

Muhammad Musri, president of American Islam and Chairman of the Board of the Islamic Society of Central Florida discussed in his June 21, 2024 Friday sermon plans to buy up abandoned churches and turn them into mosques. He said that Muslims are turning churches into mosques in order to serve the same community, because one day they will become Muslims. Musri said that 1000 years ago Christians invaded Islamic countries and built missionary schools, destroying mosques and Islamic schools. He added that now the Muslims are "returning the favor" by converting churches into mosques and turning the local schools (by getting elected to School Boards) into Islamic schools. Musri stated: "This is an election year, but we are not going to be happy with either candidate, we have to be happy when Islam becomes the best candidate for us." He added: "I ask Allah to give Islam victory in this country."

- Islam is literally slaughtering Hindus in Bangladesh; only there?
- iron (Roman Empire) mixed with miry clay (Islam) before the stone cut without hands destroys all (Dan 2)

Summer of 2024 – USA Presidential election in 3 months, an event that affects the entire world

Looking at the issues/policies, never in my lifetime has the difference between the 2 political parties been so profound, so obvious, so clear

- Abortion

On the ballot in AZ this November is the Arizona Right to Abortion Initiative, a change to the AZ Constitution that would enshrine the right to abortion **up to birth**

Yet this week, the EPA issued a ban on a weedkiller, saying it poses a threat to the health of farmworkers, pregnant women and **unborn babies**.

So, the Gov't admits that the unborn are babies/persons
Therefore, abortion is Gov't decreed and sponsored murder of innocent and defenseless people

2 Kings 24:1-4

- Israel (Gen 12:3)
- Law and order
- Immigration/Border Control
- Economy, fighting inflation
- National defense
- Foreign Policy
- Founding documents: The Bible and The Constitution
- Morals/Values, both sides calling the other “weird” in their ideas/values

There is no “muddle in the middle”

So what is “the middle” going to do?

What does USA want?

Time will tell and very soon

But...what is the Body of Christ to do in these days?

Let's imagine, and it is not at all difficult to imagine, a Harris/Walz victory in November

v1-2 Put them in mind to...bring into the remembrance of the Body of Christ to

- be subject to principalities and powers...to submit to Gov't authorities

Matt 22:21

Rom 13:1-7 History during Paul's ministry: Roman Empire, Nero

1 Peter 2:13-17

- obey magistrates...rulers and judges
- be ready to every good work...to be Christ-like, always prepared to follow Jesus and to make Him known, to **Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.**
- speak evil of no man...I'm convicted; Lord, I confess and repent!
- be no brawlers...not starting riots or a civil war but being peaceable
- gentle...as sheep following their Good Shepherd
- living with all meekness unto all men...like our humble King

But what if the Gov't persecutes the followers of Jesus Christ (as Rome did the early Church!) and forces us to choose: Renounce Jesus Christ or die or go to prison

What do we do?

Do we roll over or stand on Jesus Christ?

Matt 10:28, 32-39

Phil 1:29

But until then, how are we to obey v1-2?!!!

Acts 1:8 **ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**

We know

- our home is heaven, not on earth
- meekness is NOT weakness but great strength under control;
ours is the humble King
- we serve the King of kings and the LORD of lords
- Ps 24:8 Who *is* this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty,
the LORD mighty in battle.
- the Battle is the Lord's, as was David's against Goliath
- Rom 8:31
- Dan 2:21 he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings and
kingdoms, and setteth up kings and kingdoms
- Dan 4:17 the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to
whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.
- 2 Tim 2:3-4 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus
Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of
this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a
soldier.
- Eph 6:10-18

We may be surrounded, as was Judah in 2 Chron 20, but the battle is the Lord's, not ours,
and He Who has overcome the world is with us and will fight for us

v3 We must remember "the way we were", also not in our right mind and enemies of God
"Once upon a time" we were also

- foolish...not wise (embarrassingly so when we look back on it)
- disobedient...defiant, self-willed, disorderly, "out of control"
- deceived...believed what the world taught us and what we wanted to believe
- serving divers lusts and pleasures...slaves to a variety of self-destructive
"urges" that were never satisfied and turned from pleasure to pain
- living in malice and envy...wicked, of depraved mind and behavior,
jealous of others, consumed with ourselves
- hateful and hating each other...zero tolerance, detesting everyone not like us

Summer 2024: Paris Olympic Games

Opening Ceremony was every bit of v3

Closing Ceremony (same guy in charge) will probably be also

The Chairman of the International Olympic Committee, Thomas Bach, has
complained that there is "no scientifically solid system" of identifying a
man from a woman.

"We have said from the very beginning, if somebody is presenting us a
scientifically solid system how to identify men and women, we are the
first ones to do it...what is not possible is that somebody is saying, you
know, 'this is not a woman' just by looking at somebody."

i.e. standing naked in front of mirror is not scientifically solid (observation)
In this fantasy world, “Mirror, mirror on the wall, what am I, a boy or a girl?”
Mirror: “I don’t know.”

Remember: But for the grace of God, there go I/we

1 Cor 6:9-11 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such **were** some of you: **but** ye are washed, **but** ye are sanctified, **but** ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

v4 **But** after that...instead of letting my/your “train wreck” of a life run unchecked unto destruction
the kindness/goodness and love/“philanthropy”...selfless concern for our well-being of God our Savior toward man appeared...John 1:1, 14 (in Person, not by Zoom)
and Ch 2:11 the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men

Heb 1:3 the express image of his person – all the attributes of God bodily
Col 2:9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

v5 not by works of righteousness which we have done...NOT because we were in ANY way pleasing to God or were in ANY way able to make right all (any) of our wrongs
Rom 3:10
Rom 3:12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.
Rom 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
Rom 7:18
Is 64:6

but...contrary to our merit/performance/nature, but because of our performance/nature according to His mercy...because of the compassion of God Who did not deal with us after our sins or reward us according to our iniquities (Ps 103:8-14)

He saved us...from the wages of our sin, the 2nd death

Rom 6:23

by the

- washing of regeneration...the rebirth, renovation, the restoration of “the image of God”

Acts 3:19 Repent (NOT remorse, wherein there is no inner change of heart and mind, turning from sin and turning to God) ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

Phil 3:9 found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith

- renewing of the Holy Ghost...born again of the Spirit of God, breath of Life

John 3:3 **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**

John 3:5 **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.**

v4-5...But God

Eph 2:1-10

v6 Which He shed on us abundantly...not sprinkled but poured out!
through Jesus Christ...John 10:10b and 1 Cor 15:3-4
our Savior...v4 therefore Jesus Christ = God

Rom 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that **the Spirit of God** dwell in you. Now if any man have not **the Spirit of Christ**, he is none of his.

Salvation from eternal death comes by Jesus Christ, God our Savior
Regeneration of Life comes by the Spirit of God, the Spirit of Christ

v7 that being justified by His grace...declared by God to be innocent of wrong-doing and wrong-being, made new creatures in Christ and reconciled to the Father
we should be made heirs...made by His work and NOT ours

Rom 8:17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with *him*, that we may be also glorified together.

of the hope of eternal life...a promise of God Who cannot lie (Ch 1:2), therefore,
a certainty for those who believe/trust the Lord

And remember also while we are in this world

Ch 2:12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts,
we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

v8 This is a faithful saying...v1-7 is true because God said it and meant it and will do it
I will that you affirm constantly...I desire that you confirm frequently and thoroughly,
lest we get distracted or discouraged by the world and we forget Truth
that...for the purpose of
they which have believed God...the children of God, the followers/Body/Bride of
Jesus Christ
might be careful to maintain good works...watchful and thoughtful to “Stay the Course”,
being Christ-like and not worldly as witnesses of Jesus Christ, following Him
with joy all the way to finish of their course, always being salt and light in a
dying world

Matt 5:16 **Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good
works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.**

Always be mindful of, in this arduous journey in a strange place, that this world is:

- not our friend
- as bad as it gets for the children of God
- as good as it gets for the enemies of God

We were as they are until someone loved our wretched selves enough to speak truth in
love to us, so we must similarly love them as Jesus does

v9 **But...**contrary, in opposition to, v8
avoid...steer clear of the tricks of the world, don't get suckered into truth-deflecting

- foolish questions...stupid, absurd distractions/rabbit holes
- genealogies..."What about the aborigine in the jungles of New Guinea?"
- contentions...arguments, which are easy to find and endless
- strivings about the Law...academic and unfruitful debates about the many
mysteries of God in the Word of God, because

Rom 10:4
Heb 10:7
John 5:39
John 6:28-29

for they are unprofitable and vain...all are useless, empty, worthless,
wood hay and stubble before the judgment seat of Christ

Speaking of worthless...

v10-11 A man that is a heretic...a divisive gainsayer/disputer/denier of the Word of God that is absolute and unchanging Truth
after the first and second admonition...warning
reject...move on from, avoid because

Matt 7:6 Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

Rom 16:17-18 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

2 John 10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into *your* house, neither bid him God speed:

2 Thes 3:6 Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.

2 Thes 3:14 And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed.

Matt 18:17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell *it* unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

Knowing...by the Final Authority of the Word of God
that he that is such

- is subverted...perverted, not in his right mind, perhaps of a seared conscience (a little leaven leavens the whole lump)
- sins...continually misses the mark (the perfection of Jesus Christ) established by God, devoid of confession and repentance, trying to earn his salvation
- being condemned of himself...no one to blame but himself for his condemnation by God

John 3:16-20 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved (v4-5 above). He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

v12-13 In closing, Paul exhorts Titus to be diligent/prompt

- to come to him (after receiving this letter) in Nicopolis where he will be staying while it is dangerous to travel
- in helping Zenas and Apollos in their mission trip so they lack nothing

v14 Once more, in the event we already forgot:

let ours...the children of God

learn...must be taught by the Spirit of God and the Word of God

Ps 86:11 Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name.

to maintain good works...being orderly and Christ-like as faithful witnesses

for necessary uses...God's uses, not man's – to seek and save the lost that they

might come to the knowledge of the Truth (1 Tim 2:4, 2 Tim 2:25) and to

repentance (2 Peter 3:9) and recover themselves out of the snare of the

devil, having been taken captive by him at his will (2 Tim 2:26)

that they be not unfruitful...be not abiding in the True Vine and bearing fruit

pleasing to the Father

v15 Last word: Grace

2 Peter 3:18

Take grace EVERYWHERE we go and give it as freely as we received it

What is the Body of Christ to do in these perilous days in which have been appointed to live?

With order in the Church, the Church is to be orderly in the world as fruitful

- children of the God of order, God our Savior
- witnesses of Jesus Christ our Savior

In this season of Presidential election,

Know the issues

Know where the candidates stand on the issues

Vote, and vote the issues not the personalities (the king is in the Lord's hands)

Speak the Truth in love,

- not engaging in worthless conversations
- not rolling over to lies, militant sexual perversion, rampant violence, or the spirit of antichrist
- i.e. to stand against the flow of society...stand on order with the God of order in a disorderly world

Be light and salt in this decaying civilization no matter who is in the Oval Office because our King sits on the Throne of all the earth

Central in Paul's Epistles is the unity of the Church

Does politics preached (vs Word of God) in the Church unite or fracture the Church?

I therefore must be careful and clear, to speak to the issues in light of Scripture

A very important word in this chapter to help us stay focused: “but” (v2, v4, v5, v9)

- speaks of a marked contrast, just like the one we see in the political arena now
- reminds us of
 - “But God”
 - Phil 3:20
 - Heb 11:13

We are not called to save the world or even this nation

John 17:9 I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.

So we should not pray for the world but for those who are the Father’s

The nations are God’s business

Our business is to invite individuals out of darkness into the Light of the world

2 Cor 5:20b we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

Imagine, and it is not at all difficult to imagine, a Harris/Walz victory

It seems to be the way the world and this nation is headed

But time will tell

This is a very demanding time to be a...

- Democrat?
- Republican?
- Follower of Jesus Christ!!!!

Let us focus on what is most important – pressing toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, and inviting unsaved others to join us!