
SCRIPTURE: Titus 3

SERIES: Titus

TITLE: Gracious Living

BIG IDEA: In Titus 3, Paul shows that God's grace changes how we live, our identity, and our actions

SUMMARY:

John Stott gives a description of what is happening in these verses:

“Having given Titus directions about doctrine and duty in the church (chapter 1), and in the home (chapter 2), Paul now develops the same theme in regard to the world (chapter 3). He thus moves purposefully from the inner circles of home and church to the outer circle of secular society.

The pattern of this chapter is the same as that of chapter 2. The apostle begins with ethical instruction, in this case the need for submission to the authorities and for considerateness to everybody (1–2). He then immediately grounds Christian duty in Christian doctrine, giving us a magnificently full account of salvation (3–8). He reserves some final, more personal messages for his conclusion (9–15).”¹

¹ John R. W. Stott, [*Guard the Truth: The Message of 1 Timothy & Titus*](#), The Bible Speaks Today (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1996), 198.

TEXT:

Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, ²to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. ³For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. ⁴But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ⁸The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people. ⁹But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless. ¹⁰As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him, ¹¹knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned. ¹²When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. ¹³Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. ¹⁴And let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful. ¹⁵All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all.

INTODUCTORY QUESTIONS:

- What stood out to you from the passage?
 - How does this passage relate to your life circumstances?
 - What can we learn from this text and how can we apply it?
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1. Our Public Walk. Vv. 1-2

3 Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, ² to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.

- In your daily interactions, do others see Christ's gentleness and courtesy reflected in your words and actions?
- Are there areas where pride, impatience, or anger are shaping how you respond to authority or others?
- How can you intentionally practice humility and peace in situations that normally trigger frustration or conflict?
- When you disagree with leaders, coworkers, or family are you able to respond respectfully while still standing firm in your convictions.

Application Question: Does the way you speak and act in public reflect the character of Christ to those around you?

2. Our Personal Salvation. Vv. 3-8

³ For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. ⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ⁸ The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people.

- How has God's grace transformed the way you think, speak and act compared to before you knew Him?
- Are there areas of your life where you rely more on your own efforts than on God's mercy?
- In what ways can you cultivate a daily awareness of God's loving kindness and allow it to motivate your good works
- How can you share your story of God's mercy with someone this week so that your life becomes a testimony of His grace?

Application Question: How is God's grace transforming your heart and motivating your actions in everyday life?

3. Our Pursuit of Peace and Purpose. Vv. 9-15

⁹ But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless. ¹⁰ As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him, ¹¹ knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

¹² When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. ¹³ Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. ¹⁴ And let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful. ¹⁵ All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all.

- What “foolish controversies” or distractions are consuming your time and energy, keeping you from fruitful service?
- Who around you need help, encouragement, or support that you could provide through good works this week?
- How can you promote peace and unity in your family, church, workplace, or community instead of contributing to division?
- Are you intentionally investing in things that have eternal value, or are you focused on temporary unproductive pursuits?

Application Question: Are you investing your time and energy in actions that promote unity, help others, and bear eternal fruit?

CLOSING QUESTIONS:

- How does this passage point us to Christ?
- What does this passage teach us about the Gospel?
- What does this passage ask us to do?
- What do we need to pray for specifically in asking the Holy Spirit to apply these truths to our hearts and lives?
- How can we pray for each other?

NOTES: