

# Implications of God's Grace

October 22, 2017

Oakbrook Community Church

Titus 2:11-14

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## God's Grace – attacked from 2 sides:

### 1. God's grace is counter to the world's system of merit

Good performance usually earns rewards

Most religions are merit-based (do this to be accepted)

### 2. God's grace often mistaken for licentiousness (Jude 4)

Called a legalist if you emphasize God's law

Would a Holy God save sinners so they can sin freely or live for Him?

## God's Grace trains us for godliness & good works:

### 1. God's Grace brings salvation to all kinds of people

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- Jn 1:14 - Jesus came to display God's Grace - Jn 3:17; Lk 1:76-79
- not all men, otherwise universalism, instead all kinds of people (context v1-10)
- God's grace is for all kinds of people:
  - Paul - chief of sinners (1 Tim 1:13-15)
  - YOU!
  - Not the self-righteous Lk 5:32

### 2. God's grace trains those who are saved in godliness

12-14a

- Grace trains us to deny ungodliness & worldly desires 12a  
once saved, never the same. Lk 9:23-26. New path of life
- Grace trains us to live self-controlled, upright & godly lives 1 Cor 10:31
  - Grace trains us to be self-controlled (Tit 1:8; 2:2, 4,5,6)
  - Grace trains us to be live righteously (upright)
  - Grace trains us to live godly lives, not Tit 1:16
- Grace trains us to live godly by looking ahead & behind 13-14a
  - Look ahead to the blessed hope of Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming 13  
Christ's return will either be a joy or a terrifying judgment!  
By looking for Christ's return we will purify ourselves 1 Jn 3:2-3
  - Look back to the power of the Cross of Christ 14a
    - Christ came to redeem us from lawlessness - Rom 6:5-14
    - Christ came to purify for Himself a people - Rom 6:15-22
- Grace trains us to be ZEALOUS for Good Works! 1 Cor 6:19

14b

## Discuss:

- What is the biggest problem in the modern Christian church:  
Legalism or Licentiousness? Why?
- How can we protect against legalism and/or licentiousness?
- Is it legalistic to go against your feelings in order to deny ungodly impulses?
- How can you obey from your heart if your heart seems to tug you towards sin?
- God's grace in saving sinners is completely unmerited and so Christians are to live by grace; BUT blessing in the Christian life is often contingent upon obedience. Explain how you can reconcile these two principles.
- What would you recommend to a "professor" who has lost his zeal for the Lord and the Lord's work? How can he rekindle his zeal?
- How have you lived your life differently today as a result of the Gospel?
- How can the previous question help us keep our life focused (1 Cor 6:19-20)?