

Sunday, October 24, 1937.

*Renewal.—Titus 3:1-11.*

1. Put them in mind to be in subjection to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready unto every good work,
2. To speak evil of no man, not to be contentious, to be gentle, showing all meekness toward all men.
3. For we also once were foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another.
4. But when the kindness of God our Saviour, and his love toward man, appeared,
5. Not by works *done* in righteousness, which we did ourselves, but according to his mercy he saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,
6. Which he poured out upon us richly, through Jesus Christ our Saviour;
7. That, being justified by his grace, we might be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.
8. Faithful is the saying, and concerning these things I desire that thou affirm confidently, to the end that they who have believed God may be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men:
9. But shun foolish questionings, and genealogies, and strifes, and fightings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain.
10. A factious man after a first and second admonition refuse;
11. Knowing that such a one is perverted, and sinneth, being self-condemned.

*Why should a follower of the Christ be in subjection to rulers and authorities?*

In any society or group the good of all is paramount and must therefore take precedence over the good of any one individual. To conserve the rights of the group men choose to delegate authority to certain ones whom they make rulers. The Christ follower co-operates with these authorities instead of antagonizing them, thus maintaining peace instead of stirring up strife, and at the same time he reaps the rewards of self-discipline.

*Why should one be meek toward others?*

To be otherwise than meek is to assert the so-called rights of the personal self. This self has no rights, and to cultivate a consciousness of spurious rights is to encumber the thoughts with what

must later be discarded.

*What saves a man from the evils of sense consciousness?*

A man is saved from the evils of sense and selfish self-centeredness through entering into the regeneration and surrendering himself to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

*How are we justified by the grace of Jesus Christ?*

The grace of Jesus Christ is the divine Spirit of mercy, kindness, and good will made manifest by Him who controlled His words by reason of the perfect love in His heart. The recipient of such love cannot resist its appeal, but is saved by it or raised to a higher consciousness of life as an individual and as a member of the race.

*Explain what is meant by the words "heirs according to the hope of eternal life."*

We inherit from those to whom we are closely related by a common tie, as parents. As we develop consciousness of spiritual realities we are made heirs of the kingdom of God, and our hope of eternal life is heightened by our new understanding that it exists now, as surely as it will exist in the future.

*Why are faith and good works mentioned together?*

Because faith follows the law of expression, belief in All-Good must issue in good works or expression that is in harmony with its essential substance.

*What expression is unprofitable to us?*

All superficial views of life and of God and all that turns our attention away from the inner truth of Being and tends to focus it on externals are unprofitable to us, and if indulged in they lead to unprofitable expression.

*Is self-condemnation a sin?*

It is, in so far as it keeps us from reaching the mark set by our ideal and our aspirations.