

Faith that Endures

(Online Study, Tuesday Evening at 7:00 PM)

Week 10: Living Ready Lives-- Titus 2:11–14

Paul's letter to Titus is a pastoral letter—written to a young evangelist tasked with setting the church in order on the island of Crete. In this brief but theologically rich passage, Paul summarizes the entire Christian life in four verses.

The passage begins with grace: “The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people.” Grace is not merely a concept; it is an event. It appeared in the person of Jesus Christ. And this grace is not passive—it teaches, trains, and transforms. Paul is not teaching universal salvation, but that God's saving grace has been made available to all kinds of people through Christ.

Paul explains that grace instructs believers to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age. This is not legalism; it is the natural fruit of a life truly shaped by grace. Grace does not give permission to sin; through the gospel it teaches and shapes believers into holy living as they respond to God in faithful obedience.

At the same time, grace points forward. Believers live with expectation, “waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.” The Christian life is lived between two appearances of Christ—His first coming in grace and His final coming in glory. Faith that endures is faith that lives ready, shaped by the grace already given and looking toward the glory yet to come.

Group Discussion: How does this passage challenge the idea that grace means freedom from moral responsibility? What does it mean to say that grace itself teaches us how to live?

Personal Reflection: If you knew that Christ was returning tomorrow, would anything about your life change today? What does this reveal about how “ready” your current way of living truly is?

Read Titus 2:11–14

Study Questions

1. In verse 11, Paul says “the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people.” What does it mean that grace “appeared,” and how is the gospel connected to grace?
2. The phrase “bringing salvation for all people” has been interpreted in different ways. What does this phrase mean in context, and how does it relate to God's invitation to all people rather than unconditional universalism?

3. According to verse 12, grace “trains us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions.” How does grace train a believer? What is the process Paul is describing?
4. Paul says believers are to live “self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age” (v. 12). What does each of these qualities look like in daily life?
5. Why does Paul specify “in the present age”? What challenges does the present age pose to living faithfully?
6. In verse 13, Paul describes believers as “waiting for our blessed hope.” What is this blessed hope, and how does living with expectation shape the way Christians endure?
7. Paul identifies this hope as “the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ” (v. 13). What does this description reveal about who Jesus is?
8. Verse 14 says Christ “gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness.” What does redemption from lawlessness mean, and how does it relate to holy living?
9. Paul adds that Christ’s purpose is to “purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works” (v. 14). How does this verse connect grace, identity, and action?
10. Looking at Titus 2:11–14 as a whole, how do these verses provide a complete picture of what it means to live between the first and second comings of Christ with enduring faith?

Now or Later

Reflect on these passages: **2 Peter 3:10–14** — Living holy lives while waiting for Christ’s return; **Ephesians 2:8–10** — Saved by grace, created for good works; **1 Thessalonians 5:1–11** — Living as children of light, ready for the Day