

Titus 2:11-15 The Grace of God Teaches Us

11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. 15 Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

Tonight we are going to talk about the Grace of God!

A)An aspect of God's grace that we don't normally talk about - or don't talk about enough.

B)See normally when we speak of the grace of God - we think of **saving grace** -

Ephesians 2:8-9

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast.

C)Saved by grace apart from works!

D)The grace that brings salvation - Ref Jesus

1)Jesus **the word became flesh - appeared to all men - Full of grace and truth.**

Or we might talk about God's sustaining grace

⁸ And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may have an abundance for every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:8

Or we talk about **God's strengthening grace!**

"My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." 2 Corinthians 12:9

But tonight we are going to talk about the grace of God that teaches us- **Sanctifying Grace**

A)See God's saving grace is also training grace which makes man's life sound in every respect.

B)**How does Grace teach us?** - This is the beauty of the New Covenant - last Sunday morning

²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do *them*. Ezekiel 36:26 -

C)The work of the Spirit of God working in conjunction with the Word of God is seeking to take us in a direction - **do something to us and in us**

D)The ultimate goal is to make us more like Jesus
1)Romans 8:29 - **God's end game is to conform us into the image of his own dear Son**

So God in his grace is committed to complete the work that he started in you

A)This is grace of God - Holy Spirit sent to help us - teach us - train us

B)Teaching is present = continually is teaching us - on going instruction

C)Like a parent training his kids - teaching - correcting and when needed disciplining

From this Passage we see there are three ways that the God in his grace is seeking to teach us. 3 words

A)Denying, Living, Looking

B)First denying: Denying ungodliness and worldly lust

C)In Christianity we preach come as you are to Christ -

1)where as in religion teaches clean up your act

Because the New Covenant is an inward work- we know that he is going to be doing that work inside of us. -

A)There is not a need when someone gets saved to make a list of do's and don'ts -

B)Holy Spirit convicts us - I shouldn't do that anymore -

1)I probably shouldn't talk that way any more.

A story is told of a teenage girl who accepted Christ as her Savior and applied for membership in a local church. "Were you a sinner before you received the Lord Jesus into your life?" inquired an old deacon. "Yes, sir," she replied. "Well, are you still a sinner?" "To tell you the truth, I feel I'm a greater sinner than ever." "Then what real change have you experienced?" "I don't quite know how to explain it," she said, "except I used to be a sinner running AFTER sin, but now that I am saved I'm a sinner running FROM sin!"

Thomas Brooks put it well when he said- "The more grace thrives in the soul, the more sin dies in the soul."

C) The school of grace teaches us to "love not the world, neither the things that are in the world" (1 John 2:15)

D)To "Be not conformed to this world" (Ro. 12:2), because the "friendship of the world is enmity with God" (James 4:4).

E)To be in the world but not of the world

So That is the work of grace: The Holy Spirit working in conjunction with the word of God -

A)Teaching us to deny to deny ungodliness and worldly lust

B)Flee from temptation. - and to run toward righteousness - INWARD Work of the HS

1)Things that used to interest you don't anymore

2nd Living

A)Teaches us How to live soberly, righteously and godly in this present age.

B)To live soberly is to rule yourself well.- One of the fruits of the Holy Spirit is self-control.

C)We go from being out of control - where our flesh ruled us -

1)to exercising great self-control as we learn to listen and yield to the Holy Spirit

Sometimes people think if you over emphasize grace it is going to just cause people to sin more -

A)Grace becomes a license

B)People say and think: I am going to do....Oh I will just ask God to forgive me

C)Granted there are people who abuse grace in that way: But that is not a right understanding of grace

D)The Grace of God isn't a license for sin - but it becomes a motivation for holiness

See When I truly understand what God has done for me in showing me grace

A)It motivates me to want to live for him

B)Consider Grace and Mercy

1)Mercy is not getting what we do deserve -

C)We deserved hell, we deserved damnation - we deserved eternal separation

D)But God showed us mercy - allowed us to be saved from all of that.

But he doesn't just extend mercy to us, he also gives us grace -

A)See grace is getting what we don't deserve. He showers us with blessings -

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ. Ephesians 1:3

²⁰ For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us. 2 Corinthians 1:20

B)The more I understand what God has done for me - and has in store for me-

1)the more I want to live to please him.

C)Paul said Jesus came to save sinners - I am one

1)Later in life - came to save sinners - I am chief

D)Did he get worse? No - but the more he came to understand God's Holiness - magnified grace

E)The more he realized how far he was from God's holiness -

1)The More in awe he became of grace

His Motivator: The Love of Jesus compels me - not my love for him - but his love for me.

A) I am a debtor - not a debt of duty - but a debt of gratitude.

B) Jesus said: He who has been forgiven much loves much!

Motivation for living soberly - exercising self control - developing spiritual discipline

A) Not a half to but a get to! -

B) Morning Devo's - not - oh I have to spend time with Jesus this morning: I get to!

1) The God of the Universe is waiting for me !!!

C) My wife is my best friend - Friday Denise Day.

1) Excited - when something messes that up - I am bummed.

D) Morning Devos might start as a discipline - duty

1) Quickly turns into a devotion - a privilege - being in awe.

E) God wants to spend time with me/ speak to me

Growing in Grace becomes my Motivation to live righteously = Actions

A) The girl - afraid your father will hurt you? No afraid it would hurt him

B) The Holy Spirit is teaching through the word - what righteousness looks like

Motivation to live godly speaks of my attitudes

A) The more I am growing in the Lord -

B) Listening to and yielding to the voice of the Holy Spirit in my heart -

C) The more prone I am in my actions and attitudes to want to do what God wants me to do -

1) I desire to bring him pleasure.

D) So the grace of God is always teaching us: **To Deny ungodliness and worldly lust and to live soberly, righteously and godly in this present age**

3rd and to be Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ

A) We should live for Him, but we also should look for Him

B) Recall how the early believers - who saw Jesus ascend - were told **he is going to come the same way you saw him leave**

C) They lived with an expectation of the soon return of Jesus

That is how we are to live! We are to live like Jesus could come back at any moment

A) In Matthew 24 Jesus contrasted the mindset of two servants in regards to his coming

B) First is called the faithful and wise servant

⁴⁵ "Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? ⁴⁶ Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. {he is taking care of business being a good steward of what God has entrusted to him ⁴⁷ Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods.

A tourist who visited an exquisite garden on a lovely estate in Italy spoke to the caretaker: "How long have you been here?" he asked. "25 years."

"And how often has the owner been to see the estate?" "4 times."

"When did he come last?" "12 years ago."

"Who comes then to look after things?" "I am left pretty much alone."

"Yet you keep the garden so spic-and-span that one would think you were expecting the owner tomorrow."

Actually Today, sir, today! replied the caretaker."

C) What would change in us if we were living believing Jesus could come today?

D) But notice what he says about the 2nd servant - calls him to evil servant

⁴⁸ But if that evil servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming Note: He is not denying his coming - he says - My master is delaying his coming.

The Strategy meeting of the Devil and his Demons

A) We will tell them - No God - Design speaks of the designer

B)No Judgment - No

C)No hurry - got time

Fear a lot of people even believers have bought into that lie

A)No hurry the Lord delays - we have time

B)You guys have been talking about the coming of the Lord forever

⁴⁸ But if that evil servant says in his heart, 'My master is delaying his coming' ⁴⁹ and begins to beat *his* fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, ⁵⁰ the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for *him* and at an hour that he is not aware of, ⁵¹ and will cut him in two and appoint *him* his portion with the hypocrites. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Two characteristics of the evil servants

A)Brutality - mean to others

B)Those who are not looking for the coming of Jesus end up being focused on the here and now

1)End up being materialistic

C)Use people rather than love people.

1)People are a means to an end

D)People are to promote my agenda - my cause - my business -

1)If they can't not interested

E)If they fall short - anger - beat them

So Brutality is the first mark

A)Carnality - is the 2nd mark

B)Living for this life - pleasures of this life

Earthbound believers "Earthbound believers live the most important segments of their lives only in the context of this world. Their expectations dreams hopes and plans all relate to what they can acquire and experience now." Joseph Stowell – Eternity

C)To be carnally or fleshly minded is death!

D)Spiritually minded is life and peace!

In Union Grove Wisconsin there is a Home for Mentally Challenged Kids called the Shepherds Home

1)The Founder of the home Bud Wood says one of the major maintenance problems at the home is dirty windows

A)How do the Windows get so dirty? Bud says that you can walk thru the corridors of that home almost any time of the day & see kids w/ their hands noses & faces pressed to the windows – Looking to see if Christ might be coming back right then to take them home & make them Whole

B)When is the last time that we glanced toward the sky to see if this might not be the long awaited moment when we final see him face to face

C)How often do we go thru an entire day sometimes even an entire week

1)Not even thinking that today might be the day

He is so heavenly minded - he is no earthly good.

In order to be any earthly good we have to be heavenly minded.

A)Your kingdom come - your will be done.... As it is in heaven.

B)Looking at life through the lens of God's kingdom