



THE THREAD

weaving Sunday's message through the week

Date: November 17, 2019

Passage: Titus 3:1-8

Theme: "I Do" Sermon Series :: Saved to Do Good Works

Paul continues his thought from 2:13-15:

- "...waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.
- "...Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you."
 - Titus is to have clear-minded vision as to what he is to be devoted to as he develops leaders who will help shepherd God's people in Crete.

(3:1-2) Remind God's people how God is glorified

- Be submissive to rulers and authorities
- Be obedient
- Be ready for every good work (righteous deeds for the benefit of others; Eph. 2:10)
- Speak evil of no one, seriously
- Avoid quarreling (flee from it, intentionally keep away from it)
- Be gentle
- Show perfect courtesy to all people
 - We are to be models of respect in society

(3:3) Remember who we were (are) apart from grace

- Foolish and disobedient (senseless, unwise, and rebellious)
- Deceived and enslaved (victims of evil)
- Lived in malice and envy (ugly twins that disrupt human relationship)
- Hated by others and hating one another (enmity)

(3:4-7) The glorious gospel

6 essentials of salvation (John Stott)

1. We need it because "we are guilty and enslaved
2. Its source is God's goodness and loving kindness
3. Its ground is God's mercy, not our works
4. Its means is the regenerating and renewing work of the Holy Spirit
5. Its goal is our final inheritance of eternal life
6. Its evidence is our diligent practice of good works"

(3:8) Saved to do good

- We are to be devoted (resolutely committed) to do good for the benefit of others
- Good works never save, but they give evidence that we are saved
- Look how you might do good to others and you will live an excellent and profitable life

Main Point: We have been saved, by grace, to do good works for the benefit of those who do not know God, so that God will be glorified

- We are the redemptive presence in the world
- This is the summary of our 5 convictions

Discussion Questions for Application:

1. How zealous (eager) are you to do good works that benefit others (2:14)?
2. What is most difficult for you out of the list in Titus 3:1-2?
3. What kind of community is created when these commands are obeyed? (Use your imagination)
4. Why is it important for us to know remember who we are/ were apart from God's grace? How does this remembrance shape our disposition toward others?
5. Spend some time soaking in the beauty of the gospel in Titus 3:4-7.
 - Contemplate these truths, rejoice over them, and root your hope and joy in them.
 - Ask God to help them take deep roots in your heart (borrow Paul's prayer in Ephesians 3:14-20).
 - Where do you see God's grace in your life?
6. How does the grace of God motivate us for good works? Is grace, or something else, the motivator in your life?
7. What "good works" give evidence of your salvation (Perhaps ask someone close to you)? What are you devoted to? Who can you be a benefit to this week?
8. Remember, you are God's redemptive presence in your segment of the world. Rest in his lavish grace and live for his glory by doing good this week.

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