



## SALVATION AND TRANSFORMATION.

“FOR THE GRACE OF GOD HAS APPEARED,  
BRINGING SALVATION FOR ALL PEOPLE, TRAINING US TO RENOUNCE  
UNGODLINESS AND WORLDLY PASSIONS, AND TO LIVE SELF-CONTROLLED,  
UPRIGHT, AND GODLY LIVES IN THE PRESENT AGE...”

**TITUS 2:11-12**

### GOD’S DESIRE FOR THE CHURCH:

1. That God’s people and church would be distinct from the world around it.
2. Because God’s people would be...
  - o Faithful Worshippers of Jesus Christ.
  - o Faithful Witnesses of Jesus Christ.

For a man or woman living in Crete at this point in time. They question may be, “Why are you Christians so different? What made you that way?” And this passage tonight is a good reminder to the Christians on Crete that their lives are so distinct from the average person on Crete because of the saving and transforming grace of Jesus Christ. Tonight is the answer to the non-Christian and Christian alike asking the questions: “Why?” and “How?” By the grace of God, which is for salvation and for transformation.

### BIG IDEA:

The grace of God is powerful and effective for salvation and transformation.

### BUILDING BLOCKS OF FAITHFULNESS:

- The grace of God powerful for salvation. (v. 11)
  - o “bringing salvation” in Greek is one word: “savingly”
  - o Point is Jesus Christ didn’t come with a little saving grace, but that he literally was loaded with it.

**1 Timothy 1:15** – “The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners...”

**Luke 19:9-10** – “And Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house... For the Son of Man (I) came to seek and to save the lost.’”

**Luke 23:42-43** – “[Criminal on the Cross] And he said, ‘Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom.’ And he said to him, ‘Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.’”

**Luke 5:18-21** – “And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus. And when he saw their faith, he said, ‘Man, your sins are forgiven you.’ And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, ‘Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?’”

**John 1:29** – “The next day [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!’”

- The grace of God is effective for transformation. (v. 12)
  - o Transformation of saved people always takes on the same basic structure.
    - i. Continual turning away from sin. (v. 12a) [Awareness of our sinfulness]
      1. Convict.
      2. Renounce (deny) ungodliness.
    - ii. Gradual growth in righteousness. (v. 12b) [Appreciation and affection for Jesus and His work]
      1. Self-control (himself) = self-mastery
      2. Upright (others) = conduct that can’t be condemned
      3. Godly lives (God) = lives that are pleasing to God

How is this not just will-power? HS is our Helper. Convicts us of sin, and empowers us to live Godly lives.

Thune Cross chart.

**Colossians 1:3-6** - “We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. **Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth...**”

**Romans 8:29** - “For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son.”

## PEOPLE MARKED BY GRACE...

1. Look forward to the return of Christ. (v. 13)

**1 John 3:2** - “... we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.”

“We live in hope, verse 13 says. And the hope is that some day Jesus will come, and when He comes we know He will deliver us from the presence of sin. We are delivered from its punishment, we are delivered from its power, and we long to be released from its presence. That’s why Paul said, “Far better to depart and be with Christ.” That’s why Paul said, “For to me to live is Christ, but to die is gain.” It’s a better place.” -

**John MacArthur**

2. Are zealous to do what is good. (v. 14)

This is a response to gospel basics...

- He died to redeem us - rescued us from the penalty of sin.
- He died to purify us - frees us from the power of sin.

**1 Peter 2:9-10** - “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”

**2 Corinthians 5:14-15** - “**For Christ’s love compels us**, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.”

## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

1. Have you placed your faith in Jesus Christ and been delivered from sin’s penalty?
2. What is one thing that you are asking God to help you turn away from? What is one thing that you are asking God to grow in you?
3. How are you eager to do what is good toward your... Roommates? Family? Neighbors? Classmates?