



“Godliness in the WORLD!”

Titus Chapter 3

> Theme of TITUS: “*Truth accords with godliness*” (1:1)

> Chapter Themes:

Chapter 1- *Godliness In The Church!*

Chapter 2- *Godliness In The Fellowship and Home!*

Chapter 3- Godliness In The World!

> Key word in Chapter 3 is “good works!”

> Chapter 3 outline:

(v1-8) *PAUL SPEAKS OF OUR WITNESS!*

(v9-11) *PAUL SPEAKS OF OUR WALK!*

(v12-15) *PAUL SPEAKS OF OUR WORK!*

> (v1-8) PAUL SPEAKS OF OUR WITNESS!

(v1) In accordance with GOVERNMENT:

- Let’s talk TAXES, to pay or not to pay that is the question; Jesus has the answer in Matthew 22:15-22 - *Then the Pharisees went and plotted how they might entangle Him in His talk. And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men. Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, "Why do you test Me, you hypocrites? Show Me the tax money." So they brought Him a denarius. And He said to them, "Whose image and inscription is this?" They said to Him, "Caesar's." And He said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." When they had heard these words, they marveled, and left Him and went their way.*

~ What about all our LAWS?

- Peter said in 1 Peter 2:13-17 - Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men — as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God. Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.

- Paul shares more insight in Romans 13:1-7 - *Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.*

- AMERICA has fallen like the Roman Empire! – Observe five destructive forces per Edward Gibbon's book *The Decline & Fall of the Roman Empire*:

1. *The undermining of the dignity and sanctity of the home, which is the basis for human society.*
2. *Higher and higher taxes; the spending of public money for free bread and circuses for the populace.*
3. *The mad craze for pleasure; sports becoming every year more exciting, more brutal, more immoral.*
4. *The building of great armaments when the real enemy was within—the decay of individual responsibility.*
5. *The decay of religion; faith fading into mere form, losing touch with life, losing power to guide the people.*

> Abraham Lincoln said, *“America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves.”*

> Sir Alexander Fraser Tytler (1747 - 1813) Scottish jurist and historian said, *“A democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government. It can only exist until the voters discover that they can vote themselves largess of the public treasury. From that time on the majority always votes for the candidates promising the most benefits from the public treasury, with the results that a democracy always collapses over loose fiscal policy, always followed by a dictatorship. The average age of the world's great civilizations has been 200 years. These nations have progressed through this sequence: from bondage to spiritual faith; from spiritual faith to great courage; from courage to liberty; from liberty to abundance; from abundance to selfishness; from selfishness to complacency; from complacency to apathy; from apathy to dependency; from dependency back again to bondage.”*

> **A SUMMARY OF THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO:** The Communist Manifesto represents a misguided philosophy, which teaches the citizens to give up their RIGHTS for the sake of the “common good,” but it always ends in a police state. This is called preventive justice. Control is the key concept. Read carefully:

1. Abolition of private property.
2. Heavy progressive income tax.
3. Abolition of all rights of inheritance.
4. Confiscation of property of all emigrants and rebels.
5. Central bank.
6. Government control of Communication & Transportation
7. Government ownership of factories and agriculture.
8. Government control of labor.
9. Corporate farms, regional planning.
10. Government control of education.

> **Alexis de Tocqueville** warned America with these insightful and prophetic words, “The American republic will last until the populace discovers that it can vote for itself largesse out of the public treasury.”

> Benjamin Franklin in 1787 shared his concerns about government greed and power under the guise of “doing good” he said, “There are two passions which have a powerful influence in the affairs of men. These are ambition and avarice; the love of power and the love of money. Separately, each of these has great force in prompting men to action; but when united in view of the same object, they have in many minds the most violent effects. Place before the eyes of such men a post of honor that shall at the same time be a place of profit, and they will move heaven and earth to obtain it.”

> Author **Rus Walton** said, “Government is not a producer; it is a taker, a taxpayer, and a spender. Every dollar spent by the public sector is a dollar the government must take from the private sector, from the workers and earners and investors. The dollar taken by government cannot be spent or invested by that productive sector.”

> Professor **Thomas Sowell** of Stanford University, a brilliant black scholar writes, “The amount of money necessary to lift every man, woman and child in America above the poverty line is one-third of what in fact is being spent on poverty programs. Clearly, much of the transfer ends up in the pockets of highly paid administrators, consultants, and staff.”

(v2) **To our NEIGHBOR:**

– “*speak evil of no one*” speaks of always finding fault with others.

- “*be peaceable, gentle, and humble TO ALL!*” - Opposite of peace is to be argumentative, gentle is abusive, humility is prideful; let us make the attitude adjustment; or in Hawaiian a MO BETTA TUDE!!! (Matthew 5:1-16)

(v3) **Let's get real and personal!** – This is who we once were, but not in Christ, not today, not tomorrow, never again as a born-again Christian!

*Our new life is found in the power of the Holy Spirit, Galatians 5:22-26 - **But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.***

- Ephesians 5:9 - *for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth*

(v4) Notice the endearing statement, ***“But when kindness and love of God our Savior toward man appeared”***

(v5-6) ***What is the meaning of “washing by REGENERATION” – REGENERATION*** is the spiritual change brought about in a person's life by an act of God. In regeneration a person's sinful nature is changed, and he is enabled to respond to God in faith.

The word regeneration occurs only in the New Testament (Matt 19:28; Titus 3:5), but the concept or idea is common throughout the Bible. The literal meaning of regeneration is "born again." There is a first birth and a second birth. The first, as Jesus said to Nicodemus (John 3:1-12) is "of the flesh"; the second birth is "of the Spirit." Being born of the Spirit is essential before a person can enter the kingdom of God. Every biblical command to man to undergo a radical change of character from self-centeredness to God-centeredness is, in effect, an appeal to be "born again" (Ps 51:5-11; Jer 31:33; Zech 13:1).

Great religious experiences like that of Jacob at Jabbok (Gen 32:22-32), Moses at the burning bush (Ex 3:1), Josiah on hearing the reading of the Law (2 Kings 22:8-13), or Isaiah in the Temple (Isa 6:1-8) might well be regarded as "new birth." Thus, regeneration involves an enlightening of the mind, a change of the will, and a renewed nature. It extends to the total nature of man, changing a person's desires and restoring him to a right relationship with God in Christ.

The need for regeneration grows out of humanity's sinfulness. It is brought about through God's initiative. God works in the human heart, and the person responds to God through faith. Thus, regeneration is an act of God through the Holy Spirit, resulting in resurrection from sin to a new life in Jesus Christ (2 Cor 5:17). (from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary)

- Jesus' spoke of this in John 7:37-39 - *On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.*

- What this “renewing of the Holy Spirit”?

- Paul writes in other epistles and explains in greater detail - 2 Corinthians 4:16 - Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day

- Ephesians 4:20-24 - But you have not so learned Christ, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

- Colossians 3:8-11 - But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

(v7) Jesus is “our hope of Eternal Life!” - “justified” (Romans 5:1); “heirs” - Romans 8:6-16

> (v9-11) PAUL SPEAKS OF OUR WALK!

(v9) Avoid foolish disputes, genealogies, contentions, strivings about the law!

(v10-11) Reject division makers! - Romans 16:17-18 - Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.

> (v12-15) PAUL SPEAKS OF OUR WORK!

(v12-14) Notice the fellowship of good workers!

- TYCHICUS (fortuitous) - a Christian of the province of ASIA (Acts 20:4).

Tychicus was a faithful friend, fellow worker, and messenger of the apostle Paul (Eph 6:21-22; Col 4:7-8). Along with other disciples, Tychicus traveled ahead of Paul from Macedonia to Troas, where he waited for the apostle's arrival (Acts 20:4).

Paul also sent Tychicus to Ephesus to deliver and perhaps to read his epistle to the Christians in that city (Eph 6:21). He did the same with the Epistle to the Colossians (Col 4:7). Paul sent him as a messenger to Titus in Crete (Titus 3:12) and afterward to Ephesus (2 Tim 4:12).

- APOLLOS - (destroyer) - a learned and eloquent Jew from Alexandria in Egypt and an influential leader in the early church. Well-versed in the Old Testament, Apollos was a disciple of John the Baptist and “*taught accurately the things of the Lord*” (Acts 18:25). However, while Apollos knew some of Jesus' teaching, “*he*

knew only the baptism of John" (Acts 18:25). When Aquila and Priscilla, two other leaders in the early church, arrived in Ephesus, they instructed Apollos more accurately in the way of God (Acts 18:26).

In Corinth, Apollos publicly contended with the Jewish leaders and refuted their objections to Christian teaching. He was apparently quite popular in Corinth, for in 1 Cor 1:12 Paul wrote of four parties into which the church at Corinth had become divided: one "following" Apollos, one Paul, one Cephas [Peter], and one Christ. In dealing with this division, Paul compared himself to the one who planted and Apollos to the one who watered what was already planted (1 Cor 3:6). (from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary)

(v15) Greet, love, grace, faith - AMEN!