

HOW TO GET PAST YOUR PAST

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. Sometimes, our past brings regret.

B. Sometimes, our past brings temptation.

Titus 1:12-13 One of Crete's own prophets has said it: "Cretans are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons." This saying is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, so that they will be sound in the faith

C. How do God's people live in a culture that is driven by the things of your past?

II. HOW TO GET PAST YOUR PAST

A. Your Past

Titus 3:3 At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.

- *Foolish*
- *Disobedient*
- *Deceived and Enslaved*
- *Malice and Envy*
- *Hate*

B. When You Can't Get Past Your Past, Remember What Jesus Did.

Titus 3:4-6 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,

- *His kindness covers hate.*

Ephesians 2:7 in order that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

- *His love covers malice and envy.*

Ephesians 3:17-19 And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

1 Timothy 1:5 The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

- *He has saved us from being deceived and enslaved.*
- *His mercy covers our disobedience.*

Ephesians 2:8-9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast.

- *His generosity covers our foolishness.*

Romans 5:3-5 Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

III. WHEN YOU CAN'T GET PAST YOUR PAST, REMEMBER WHAT JESUS DID.

Titus 3:7 so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

A. You are more than your past.

Titus 2:11-14 For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the 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 wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

B. You have good things to do.

Titus 3:8 This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.