

Titus 3: He Saved Us

Christian Life in the World (v.1-2)

- **How we act towards authorities**
 - Submissive to authorities
 - Obedient
 - Ready to do good
 - “Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good.” 1 Peter 2:13-14
- **How we act towards all people**
 - **Speech**
 - Speak evil of NO ONE
 - **Behavior**
 - Avoid quarreling
 - Be Gentle
 - Be Courteous toward ALL PEOPLE

Our Old Life in the World (v.3)

For we ourselves were once like the world...

- **The evils of our mind:**
 - Foolish: no fear of God
 - “The fool says in his heart, ‘There is no God.’ They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good.” Psalm 14:1
 - Disobedient: rebellion against God
 - “And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done.” Romans 1:28
 - Led astray (deceived): believing a lie
 - “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way;” Isaiah 53:6
- **The evils of our flesh:**
 - Slaves to various passions and pleasures
 - “you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?” Romans 6:16b
 - “Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods.” Galatians 4:8
- **The evils of our hearts:**
 - Malice: Wishing evil or ill-will for another
 - Envy: Resenting and coveting what another has
 - Hated by others and hating one another: hostility of relationships
 - “You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel.” James 4:2

What has made us different? But He Saved Us (v.4-7)

This was His purpose

- “She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21
- “For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.” Luke 19:10
- “The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.” 1 Timothy 1:15

From our sin, deserving the wrath of God

- “Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.” Romans 5:9

By the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit

REGENERATION

- Greek= “Palingenisia”
 - Palin= again and genesis= birth or origin
 - “re-birth”, “new genesis”, “new beginning”
- Only used two times in the entire Bible
 - “Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.’” Matthew 19:28
 - “in the regeneration” (NASB)
 - “in the age when all things are renewed” (NET)
 - “at the renewal of all things” (NIV)
- The “palingenisia” will happen to all creation
 - “For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.” Romans 8:20-22
- Our new birth is the first stage of the “palingenisia”
 - “And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.” Romans 8:23

WASHING AND RENEWAL

- “I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.” Ezekiel 36:25-27

- Made clean by the Spirit
 - “But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.” 1 Corinthians 6:11
- Renewed by the Spirit
 - *After we are regenerated, He continues to renew us. Our thoughts, feelings, desires, and acts are constantly renewed. Regeneration as the commencement of the new creation can never come twice to any man, but renewal of the Holy Ghost is constantly and perpetually repeated.* -Charles Spurgeon

How has this happened?

1. God is Good

2. God is Kind

3. God is Merciful

- Goodness: the quality of being warmhearted, considerate, humane, gentle, sympathetic
- Loving Kindness: the quality of being marked or motivated by concern for the alleviation of suffering; love for mankind
- Mercy: pity, compassion, pardon towards an offender
 - “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,” 1 Peter 1:3
 - “But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved...” Ephesians 2:4-5

4. Not by our works

- The only thing separating believers and unbelievers is the saving grace of God.

“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
forever.” Psalm 23:6

So that...we become HEIRS

“Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ***And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.***” -1 Corinthians 6:9-11

The inheritance of the Kingdom of God: The *palingenisia* of all creation

How Can We Pray?

Rob Genin: *YBL Director*

Sharon Head: *WBL Director*

Mardon Day: *Christian Medical Ministry of Alabama*

Gus Martin: *Superintendent at Briarwood Christian School*

Peggy Townes: *Briarwood Ballet Director*

Scott Hannah: *Quest Recreation Outreach Director*

Ryan Leib: *Briarwood Soccer Club Director*

- Pray that these leaders would live in light of the reality of God's saving mercy in their lives.
- Pray that these leaders would live Christian lives in the public eye that are submissive to authorities, obedient, and eager to do good for others.
- Pray that these leaders would have pure speech about others.
- Pray that these leaders would be respectful, gentle, and courteous to all people.
- Pray that these ministries would serve as a display of the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Christians.