

March 20

Titus 2:9-10 (NASB) ⁹ Urge slaves to be subject to their own masters in everything, to be pleasing, not argumentative, ¹⁰ not stealing, but showing all good faith so that they will adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect. **Romans 1:1 (NKJV)** Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an apostle, separated to the gospel of God....

As the day of the wedding approached, the bride and groom, families, and friends worked diligently to turn the open area into a most beautiful venue for the special occasion. Someone made an archway; others decorated it with flowers and material. The tables and chairs were similarly decorated with colors that matched the bride's dress and colors. Even the food was presented with a flourish that caused people to admire the beauty. When the day arrived and we entered the pavilion, we were struck by the beauty of the place because of all the adornments that had painstakingly been added. All of it was done to bless the bride and groom and to make the day very special.

When I read Titus' words, I was struck by his phrase that we "adorn the doctrine of Jesus Christ in every aspect." "Adorn" means to "make more beautiful or attractive." I first thought, "The gospel of Jesus Christ is the most beautiful word ever given to man." Therefore, the idea that we were to adorn God's doctrine was puzzling at first. When we look more closely at Titus' words, he is speaking about our attitudes as servants of Jesus Christ. We are to live our lives in such a way that makes the gospel of Jesus Christ beautiful, pleasing, and attractive. We are to practice the word in the way Jesus did so that others will be attracted to the truth. Unfortunately, this also means that we can practice the word in such a way as to make it unattractive, such as by judging, arguing, attacking, being unforgiving, etc. However, when we speak the truth in love, when we put the Word of God into practice, when we treat others as Jesus has treated us, we adorn the Word in such a way that others will see its beauty and will be drawn to it. More people will be brought into the kingdom by the goodness of God than by any other means (Romans 2:4). May we put more effort into adorning the word of God as we do in adorning ourselves.