

TIRED OF TRYING?

The Word and the World Message Series Week 3

Titus 3:1-8

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A. Goal: Christ-followers are called to live submissive, obedient, gracious, considerate, peaceable, and humble lives toward everyone. (Titus 3:1-2)

1. Living out this calling as Christ-followers allows us to be light in darkness. (Matthew 5:14)
2. We can't live this way in our own strength.

B. Reminder: Before Christ, we were a mess, living for our pleasures, our passions, and ourselves. (Titus 3:3)

- This keeps us humble and is a reminder we are no better than non-Christians.

C. Solution: We live godly lives in an ungodly world by being transformed by Jesus. (Titus 3:4-7; Ephesians 2:8-10)

1. Being transformed through Jesus involves experiencing the goodness and loving kindness of Jesus. (Titus 3:4)
2. Being transformed through Jesus involves being saved because of God's mercy, not our good works. (Titus 3:5; Ephesians 2:8-9)

“He saved us...according to His mercy. He delivered us from sin and its slavery, rescued us from death, hell, and the grave.”

David Platt, Daniel L. Akin, and Tony Merida, *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus*, B&H Publishing Group, Nashville, TN, 2013, p. 292.

3. Being transformed through Jesus involves regeneration by the Holy Spirit. (Titus 3:5-6)

“‘It is God’s transformation of individual believers, his giving a new spiritual vitality and direction to their lives when they accept Christ...it involves something new, a whole reversal of the person’s natural tendencies’. In other words, it is new birth for a new life.”

David Platt, Daniel L. Akin, and Tony Merida, *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus*, B&H Publishing Group, Nashville, TN, 2013, p. 288.

4. Being transformed through Jesus involves justification—being declared righteous before God.

“To be ‘justified’ means to be declared righteous. By virtue of the imputed righteousness of Christ, we stand before God just as if we had never sinned and just as if we had always obeyed God perfectly. We are not made justified; we are declared justified.”

David Platt, Daniel L. Akin, and Tony Merida, *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus*, B&H Publishing Group, Nashville, TN, 2013, p. 293.

D. Summary: Being transformed by Jesus will lead to a life of good works. (Titus 3:8; Ephesians 2:8-10)

1. New birth → New life → Good works
2. Good works can't save us, but good works flow from those who are saved.

“Only those who have been regenerated by the power of God, been renewed by the Spirit, been justified by grace, and believed in Jesus and Jesus alone will go to heaven. Yes, we all need a new birth for a new life today and forever. This new life overflows into a life of good works that testify to the goodness of our God and His love for all people in Jesus Christ. This is the power of the gospel. This is the new birth for a new life.”

David Platt, Daniel L. Akin, and Tony Merida, *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus*, B&H Publishing Group, Nashville, TN, 2013, p. 295.