



Good Works -
Titus

Good Works – Why? Titus?

- “Inseparable link between faith and practice, belief and behavior.”
- Grace leads to Faith leads to Life in Christ.
- Two key paragraphs to note.
 - Heart of the gospel message.
 - “For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people...” (2:11-14)
 - Transformed by what God has done for and in us.
 - “For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another...” (3:3-8)
- Likely written about the same time as 1 Timothy.
- Many similarities to 1 Timothy.

Who is Titus?

- A Greek, likely converted by Paul.
 - “My true son”
- Accompanied Paul to Jerusalem (Gal. 2:1-4).
- Delivered Corinthian letter and reported back to Paul. (2 Cor. 2:12-13; 7:5-7, 13-16; 8:16-24)
- Left on Crete to help strengthen the church there. (Tit. 1:5)
- Last mentioned in 2 Tim. 4:10.
- Tradition holds that he died on Crete.

CRETE



Good Works are Everywhere in Titus

3:1 “Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every **good work**,”

3:8 “The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to **good works**.”

3:14 “And let our people learn to devote themselves to **good works**, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful.”

Key Passage

- “For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, 12 *training us to **renounce** ungodliness and worldly passions, and to **live** self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, 13 waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who **gave** himself for us to **redeem** us from all lawlessness and to **purify** for himself a people for his own possession who are **zealous for good works.**” (Titus 2:11 – 14)*

Good Works Are Essential to Authentic Faith

1:1 ESV “Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, **which accords with godliness,**

1:1 “Paul, a slave of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ to build up the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth **that leads to godliness** “ (HCSB)

Titus 2 is About True Doctrine

"Inseparable link between faith and practice, belief and behavior."

Remember: "Deeds can never be greater than your thoughts. Thoughts can never be greater than your knowledge."



- **John 1:16 – 18** “For from his fullness we have all received, **grace upon grace**. 17 For the law was given through Moses; **grace and truth** came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.”

Cheap Grace

- God's grace is **not cheap**.
The cost to Him and His Son was great
- Cheap Grace leads to Cheap living.



What God Does Matters Most

Eph. 2:8 – 10 “For it is by **grace you have been saved**, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the **gift of God**— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are **God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works**, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

Titus 2:14 “He gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for Himself a people for His own possession, **eager to do good works.**”

What We
Have
Learned

Proclaim truth consistently –
Doctrine is vital (1:1- 4)

Leadership is critical (1:5 –
16) Never rise above leaders.

Teaching the good news (2:1-
10)



Good Works are *Evangelistic in Purpose*

- Titus 2:1- 10
 - Older Men
 - Older Women
 - Younger Women
 - Younger Men
 1. A life of good works does not detract from the gospel.
 2. In fact, it demonstrates integrity, dignity and sound speech that cannot be condemned.
 3. This puts opponents to shame "having nothing evil to say about us."

When Did Grace Appear?

When Christ appeared (Luke 2:25 – 32)

“29 Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;

30 for my eyes have seen your salvation

31 that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”

Characteristics of God's Grace

- Titus 2:14 “who gave himself for us to **redeem us** from all lawlessness and to **purify** for himself a people for his own **possession** who are zealous for good works.”
- God's Grace is:
 - Powerful – Redeeming power of a Ransom
 - Purifying – cleanses – washes – renews
 - Possessive – purchased at a very high price



What Does Grace Do?

We, like Timothy, are strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus (2 Tim. 2:1)

Grace empowers us to perform Good Work for God (2 Cor. 9:8)
“And God is able to make all grace abound to you so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.” (2 Cor. 9:8)

Grace Instructs Us

- Titus 2:12 “*training us to **renounce** ungodliness and worldly passions, and to **live** self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age*”
- First – it tells us the truth about ourselves
- “God’s grace is not so amazing if our sin is not so destructive.”
- Trains and Instruct us - It serves as a Life Coach
 - What to get rid of:
 - Deny Self
 - Abandon Worldly Passions

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- Trains and Instruct us - It serves as a Life Coach
 - How to build muscle: Waiting for the appearing – Return of Christ
 - Sober – Sensible – ever alert and watching
 - Righteous – Upright
 - Godly – Remember who your Father is (Eph. 4:17 – 24)

Grace Disciplines Us – Hebrews 12:7 - 11

- Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes in to rebuild that house. At first, perhaps, you can understand what He is doing. He is getting the drains right and stopping the leaks in the roof and so on; you knew that those jobs needed doing and so you are not surprised. But presently He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make any sense. **What on earth is He up to?** The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of - throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were being made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. **He intends to come and live in it Himself."**
- – **C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity** <https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/13641>

Key Passage

- “3:4 – 7 “But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, 5 **he saved us**, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to **his own mercy**, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that being **justified by his grace** we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”