

LIVING SOBERLY, RIGHTEOUSLY & GODLY IN THIS PRESENT WORLD

Titus 2:11-14

(All Scriptures NKJV unless otherwise noted)

LIVING SOBERLY, RIGHTEOUSLY & GODLY

*"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live **soberly, righteously, and godly** in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works."*

(Titus 2:11-14)

LIVING SOBERLY, RIGHTEOUSLY & GODLY

- ▣ General Context of **Titus 2**:
 - Speak things that are sound doctrine. **(vs. 1)**
 - Older men & women to be "*Sober, Sound in faith.*" **(vs. 2-3)**
 - Younger men & women to be taught "*Sound doctrine.*" **(vs. 4-6)**
 - Titus to be a "*Pattern of good works.*" **(vs. 7-8)**
 - Men & women of all ages to live in accord with "*Sound doctrine.*" **(vs. 10)**

Grace "Teaches" Titus 2:11-12

- ▣ Educates, instructs, trains (cf. **1 Timothy 1:8-11; 2:3-4**)
- ▣ To expel from our lives "ungodliness" and "worldly lusts."
- ▣ To live in this world showing changed relationships:
 - To self. (Self-control)
 - To neighbors. (Fairness, Kindness)
 - To God. (Love, Devotion)

Grace "Teaches"

- ▣ What God has provided.
 - Sacrifice. **John 3:16; Hebrews 2:9**
 - Redemption, Justification. **Romans 3:23-26**
- ▣ How man is saved "by grace." **Ephesians 2:8**
 - "Though faith." cf. **Romans 10:17**
 - Grace that saves comes through faith – by the word of God. **Acts 20:24, 32; Romans 5:1-2**

Grace "Teaches"

- ▣ Grace that saves through faith & works.

"You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."

(James 2:24-26)

*"Then Peter opened his mouth and said: 'In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him.'" **(Acts 10:34-35)***

*"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all." **(Ecclesiastes 12:13)***

Grace "Teaches"

- ▣ The lawless immoral life is contrary to:
 - The grace of God.

"But we know that the Law is good, if one uses it lawfully, realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous person, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching, according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, with which I have been entrusted."
(1 Timothy 1:8-11 NASB 1995)
 - The gospel of the grace of God.
Acts 20:24
 - The word of His grace. **Acts 20:32**

We are taught to "deny"...

- ▣ ***aparneomai*** – Same word used in **Acts 3:13-14 & Acts 7:35**
- ▣ Defined – To "abrogate, forsake, or renounce a thing," whether evil, **Titus 2:12**, or good, **1 Timothy 5:8**; **2 Timothy 3:1-5**; **Revelation 2:13**; **3:8**.

We are taught to "deny"...

- ▣ ***aparneomai*** – "to affirm that one has no connection with." (Strong)
Matthew 26:34-35, 75
- ▣ "To deny oneself." (Vine)
Matthew 16:24
- ▣ **Implied is a deliberate renunciation of "worldly passions."**

Deny "Ungodliness"

- ▣ ***asebeu*** – General impiety
Romans 1:18-32; Titus 2:12
- ▣ "Without reverence for God" (Vine)
Romans 5:6-8
- ▣ Progressive – continues to get worse.
"But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness."
(2 Timothy 2:16)
"But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived."
(2 Timothy 3:13)

Deny "Ungodliness"

- ▣ Must eliminate ALL ungodliness.
Colossians 3:5-10
- ▣ Why must we deny ALL ungodliness?
 - "The god of this world" will blind us.
"And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."
(2 Corinthians 4:4)
 - We will not inherit the kingdom of God.
Galatians 5:19-25

Denying "Worldly Lusts"

*"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world – the **lust of the flesh**, the **lust of the eyes**, and the **pride of life** – is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever."* **(1 John 2:15-17)**

Denying “Worldly Lusts”

- ▣ **“Worldly”** – “of or pertaining to this world,” the natural and fleshly realm.
- ▣ **“Lusts”** – “Strong desires,” especially “strong desires that are evil and grow out of fleshly appetites.”
- ▣ Includes:
 - Lust for unholy riches. **1 Timothy 6:9-10**
“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”
(Matthew 6:19-21)

Denying “Worldly Lusts”

- ▣ Includes:
 - Sinful pleasures & evil habits.
“By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.” **(Hebrews 11:24-26)**
 - All wickedness. **Titus 3:3**
- We must deny ALL UNGODLINESS AND WORLDLY LUSTS.
Colossians 3:9; Galatians 5:24

We must live ... “Soberly”

- ▣ **sophronos** – With sound mind.
- ▣ ... To possess control over one’s mind, desires, passions and appetites ...
“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.” **(1 Peter 5:8)**
“Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation.”
(1 Thessalonians 5:6-8)

We must live ... “Soberly”

- ▣ **sophronos** – With sound mind.
- ▣ We Must THINK RIGHT.
“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ ...”
(2 Corinthians 10:4-5)
“Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things.” **(Philippians 4:8)**

We must live... “Righteously”

- ▣ **dikaïos** – “doing justly” and “the right conduct; of what is right; by the right standard.”
- ▣ Uses of this word.
 - Character and work of God. **Psalms 50:6**
 - Work and death of Christ. **Romans 5:18**
 - Revelation of the word of God.
Psalms 119:172
 - Individuals who understand, believe and DO the will of God. **Psalms 23; Acts 10:35**
- ▣ *“All unrighteousness is sin ...”* **(1 John 5:17a)**

How do we know what is “righteous”?

- ▣ The standard is the word of God!
“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘The just shall live by faith.’”
(Romans 1:16-17)
“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.”
(Romans 10:1-4)
- ▣ One who fears God and “works righteousness” is acceptable. **Acts 10:34-35**

We must live ... "Godly"

- ▣ **eusebos** – Piously: ... signifies a devout, pious manner of living.
- ▣ It embraces the fear and reverence of God that must characterize both our attitudes and conduct.
"By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith." (**Hebrews 11:7**)
"Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution." (**2 Timothy 3:12**)
"... then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment ..." (**2 Peter 2:9**)

Grace teaches us to ...

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▣ Deny: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ungodliness ▪ Worldly lusts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▣ Live: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Soberly ▪ Righteously ▪ Godly |
|--|---|

GRACE TEACHES US HOW TO LIVE !!! 2 Timothy 3:16-17

That We Might ...

- ▣ Live a life of earnest expectation.
 - Hope.
"... looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ ..." (**Titus 2:13**)
"This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast ..." (**Hebrews 6:19a**)
"For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance." (**Romans 8:24-25**)

That We Might ...

- ▣ Live a life of earnest expectation.
 - Hope.
"Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us." (**Romans 5:1-5**)

That We Might ...

- ▣ Live a life of earnest expectation.
 - Redemption. **Titus 2:14**
 - ▣ People for His own possession.
Exodus 19:5; Deuteronomy 7:6; 14:2
 - ▣ Purchased.
"Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood." (**Acts 20:28**)
 - ▣ Zealous.
"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." (**Ephesians 2:10**)

God's Plan of Salvation

HEAR THE WORD

James 1:21-22; Romans 10:17

BELIEVE IN JESUS

Romans 1:16; Hebrews 11:6

REPENT OF SINS

Acts 17:30-31; Luke 13:3

CONFESS HIS NAME

Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

BE BAPTIZED FOR FORGIVENESS

Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16

REMAIN OBEDIENT

Hebrews 5:9; 1 Corinthians 15:58