

Titus 2:11-14

Four Truths the Grace of God Teaches Believers

I. Introduction:

- A. God's grace is the underlying passion for God's people.
 1. *Webster's Dictionary* – "unmerited [unearned] help given to people by God."
 2. *Bruce Demarest* – "God loving, choosing, entering [a] covenant with, and saving His unworthy people."
- B. How has God shown us unmerited favor? (**Rom 5:8; Eph 2:1; Eph 2:5; Is 64:6**)
- C. "Appeared" the word *epiphaneia* to describe a hero breaking into a helpless situation.
- D. Reflecting on God's grace makes believers love Him (**Luke 7:36-47; 1 Tim 1:15-16; 1 Cor 15:9**)
- E. "To Teach" – its basic meaning is "to child train." In the NT = "discipline."

II. The Grace of God teaches believers to...(vv. 12-14) – In Greek one sentence.

- A. #1 – Leave behind ungodliness & worldly lusts (v. 12a)
(**Gal 2:20; 5:24; Rom 6:1-6**)
 1. The mark of a new believer is the death of our old nature & our old self.
 - "There must be a reckoning of ourselves to have died unto sin and to be alive unto God in Christ Jesus...then we must practice whatever self-discipline is required to walk in the Spirit, and trample under our feet the lust of the flesh." (A.W. Tozer)
 2. "Deny" – means a conscious, purposeful action of the will = "To say no."
 - "We must boldly repudiate the cheap values of the fallen world and become completely detached in spirit from everything that unbelieving men set their hearts upon..." (A.W. Tozer)
 3. "Ungodliness" – It means a lack of reverence or anything that dishonors God.
 4. The difficulty is training our bodies to reject sin like a bad organ.
- B. #2 – Live soberly and righteously (v. 12b)
(**Rom 6:19; 12:9; 2 Cor 5:9**)
 1. Soberly – "with sound mind," "carefully." (**Rom 12:1-2; Eph 5:18**)
 - Quote: "A sensible believer does not allow circumstance or irresponsible influences of others to detract him or affect his own judgment. He not only is careful not to become involved in things that are immoral and unscriptural, but also avoids things that are simply trivial and unproductive. By the enablement and power of the Holy Spirit...he brings the unredeemed flesh under control" (John MacArthur, *Titus*, p. 117)
 - "We must learn...that it is terribly possible to live a careless, easy-going, half-worldly life, and yet at the same time to maintain evangelical principles and call ourselves evangelical..." (J.C. Ryle, *Holiness*, p. 16)
- C. #3 – Look for the appearance of Jesus Christ (v. 13)
"Look" = "eager expectation."
 1. Mark Twain – "It is not what I don't understand about the Bible that scares me, it's what I do understand."

2. “The knowledge that our God is coming creates expectancy in believers that stimulates faithfulness in daily endeavor and grants perseverance in times of trial.” (Kent Hughes, *1 & 2 Timothy, Titus*, p. 337)
- D. #4 – Labor zealously for the work of Jesus Christ (v. 14)
1. To redeem us from every lawless deed (v. 14a).
 - Redeem – “the releasing of someone held captive...on receipt of a ransom...”
(Acts 20:28; I Peter 1:18-20)
 2. Purify for Himself a people for His own possession (v. 14b).
(1 Cor 6:19; Ex 19:5)
 3. Zealous for good deeds (v. 14c) – Literally “enthusiastic for good works.”