

THE GRACE OF GOD HAS APPEARED

Grace Works
Pastor Brent • September 29, 2019
Titus

Grace works in us, then through us.

We don't work for grace. We work because of grace.

I. Apart from grace, we are unfit. (1:15-16)

II. Grace in us works through us. It readies us for good works.

A. Jesus purifies us for his own possession, a people zealous for good works. (2:14b)

B. So be devoted to good works. (3:8, 14)

C. What do good works look like?

Adorn the doctrine of God our Savior (2:10)

Be ready for every good work. (3:1-2)

Help those in urgent need (3:14)

How does this apply to me?



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INTRO FOR NEXT WEEK

UNASHAMED

HISTORICAL TIMELINE:

Paul wrote this letter as he was imprisoned in Rome (probably a second imprisonment after that of Acts 28). He clearly anticipated that his probable martyrdom was approaching (see chapter 4). We know that harsh persecution broke out against the church in 64AD under Nero. Eusebius places Paul's martyrdom in Rome during the reign of Nero. Nero's reign came to an end in 68AD. So Paul must have written this letter between 65 – 68AD. It is probably the last letter written by Paul that is part of holy writ.

PASSAGE OVERVIEW:

There are three key thoughts that are repeated in this passage. First, Timothy must not be ashamed of Christ. Although Paul is in jail as he writes, he states that he is not ashamed of Jesus or His gospel. In the face of growing opposition, believers must stand boldly for Christ, without holding back out of fear.

Secondly, just as Paul was suffering for the gospel, so Timothy must be prepared to suffer for the gospel. His sole focus in life must be serving Jesus Christ. Christians must be prepared to share in the sufferings of their Savior at all times and especially during times of severe opposition,. Believers are not called to avoid suffering for Jesus, but to participate in the sufferings that will inevitably come to those who walk with Him.

Thirdly, Timothy had been entrusted with the pure gospel of Jesus. He must guard this gospel from anyone and anything that would alter it in any way. The Lord Himself will guard the truth of the gospel as Timothy stands firm. Then, rather than simply maintaining a defensive posture, Timothy must pass this deposit on to others who are faithful and will likewise guard it and share it with others.

READING FOR NEXT WEEK:

2 Timothy 1:1 – 2:13



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