

## Titus (Week 34)

Paul goes into chapter 3 in the first line succeeding from the last line of chapter 2 on purpose. *Tit 2:15*  
- *Tit 3:1*

Be subject to rulers and authorities... Paul tells Titus to act boldly in his authority given to him, and then instructs him to teach the Cretan believers to respect their authorities... Why? Because it's what God wants. It's Godly behavior. It sets believers apart from worldly people. Being subject to authority allows you to be **ready** for Good Deeds. *Rom 13:1-7*

Tit 3:3-8 Paul **once again** is going to remind us of who we once were, and now through **justification**, who we are, according to the **hope** that is within us.

What is a **trustworthy statement**?

We noted that when Paul says this, he is denoting something **very important** for you to **believe**. It can be compared to when Jesus would lead a passage with "Truly, Truly".

*Joh 5:19, Joh 6:38, Php 2:8, Rom 5:19, Joh 5:24, Joh 6:47-48, Joh 8:58*

In this case, it was Titus 3, verses 3-7. Who we were then, and who we are now. It wasn't only meant for Cretan believers, but for all believers. *Eph 2:1-7*

Parallels of God's basis for salvation		
Titus 3	Ephesians 2	
<b>enslaved to</b> various lusts and pleasures	<b>lived in</b> the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh	What we once were: pattern of the unbeliever
we were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived	we were dead in our transgressions	Our previous condition
<b>kindness</b> of God our Savior and His <b>love</b> for mankind appeared... according to His <b>mercy</b>	God, being rich in <b>mercy</b> , because of His great <b>love</b> ... in <b>kindness</b> toward us	It's all based on who <b>God is</b> , not anything of us. It's Grace.

So, two different regions, two different churches, and two different sets of circumstances. But, the solution is the same... The gospel is the same... God's motives and basis of salvation are the same. His **Kindness, Love** and **Mercy**. Paul reiterated this in vs 5: *Tit 3:5*

Paul also has to say this because of the repeated mandate to engage in **good deeds**. But these should be done as a **result** of being saved by grace... not the **means**!

*Isa 64:6, Rom 6:23, Rom 3:21-14*

Salvation is a free gift from God, through redemption, which means we were bought with a price. Not the other way around. We can never earn, or buy our salvation with good works. *Eph 2:8-10*

So, **good deeds** are to be done **because of** what God has done for us. Because we are to be Christ-like, imitators of God, and an example to others.

Our salvation, Paul reminds us, is by the Holy Spirit's **regeneration and renewing**, through Christ (Tit 3:5-6). Notice he references the Spirit being poured out. And, not just poured out, but poured out **richly!**

What does “**richly**” mean?

- For one, it shows God's **great generosity** in grace towards the **gentiles** as well as the nation of **Israel**. *Joel 2:27-29, Act 10:44-45*
- “**Richly**” also means we are given **power** by the Spirit: *Act 1:8*
- “**Richly**” also means that we are **baptized** with the Spirit, into Christ, a Spiritual baptism: *Mat 3:11, 1Co 12:13*
- The Spirit is the **helper** and **teacher**, given by the Father: *Joh 14:26*
- The Spirit is the **seal of our salvation** (one of the greatest things!): *Eph 1:13*
- The Spirit is the source of our **spiritual gifts**: *1Co 12:7*
- The Spirit is the **Living Water**: *Joh 4:7-14, Joh 7:37-39*

Now we are getting a better picture of why so many passages throughout the bible refer to the Spirit as being “**poured out**”. See the key words from these passages:

- Washing
- Regeneration
- Renewing
- Baptism
- Living Water
- Power
- Helper
- Teacher
- Promise from God
- The SEAL of our SALVATION!
- Manifestation, our Spiritual gifts

It shows the manifold, multi-faceted grace of God in the gift that is the Spirit. What do we do with such a generous, wonderful gift? *1Pe 4:10*

“These things are **good and profitable**”. *1Ti 4:6-9*

“Good and Profitable” means making the most of the time for good, in our godly conduct, our “engaging in good deeds”. Having **value**. What is the opposite of being **profitable**, of having **value**? Being unprofitable and worthless: *Tit 3:9, 2Ti 2:14KJV*

**Subverting** is the action of undermining, overturning, or destroying an established system, authority, or moral order. It involves **weakening** or rendering something **ineffective**, often by attacking it from **beneath** or **inside**. The kingdom of darkness wants disruption, dissension, division, the opposite of unity, of like-mindedness.