

Titus (Week 29)

Tit 2:9-11

We saw last time that we are not our own. We belong to God. And, our Godly behavior, especially under trials in life, glorifies Him. *1Co 6:19-20, Mat 5:16, Joh 15:7-8, 1Co 10:31, Psa 96:1-7, 1Pe 4:10-11, 1Pe 4:16* but if anyone **suffers as a Christian**, he is not to be ashamed, but is to **glorify God** in this name.

So, we were bought with a price, we are not our own. This passage had a real meaning to those believers who were slaves to earthly masters. For them, and also for us... This was not for nothing. *1Co 15:58, Rom 2:5-11, Gal 6:7-9, Jas 1:12*

Phm 1:1-24

We saw that Paul was also being Christ-like here, offering **redemption** of the debt owed by Onesimus by repaying it himself. But that is apparently a last resort as Paul reminds Philemon of the debt he owes to Paul for his very salvation. It can be deduced that Paul himself was who shared the gospel with Philemon.

Paul tells Bondselves a mandate through Titus. Let's take a look at some more examples: *Eph 6:5-9, Gal 3:28-29, Col 3:22-25, Col 4:1*

The mandate couldn't be more clear. They, and we, have a new purpose in Christ once we believe.

Were they to be obedient only to the earthly masters that were good, gentle or reasonable? *1Pe 2:18-19*

So, to summarize this passage; Why all the instructions from Paul for bondslaves? Why the mandate?

Tit 1:1-2

Paul, A **bondslave** →

For the Faith (gospel) of those Chosen of God. →

Starts with the **Knowledge of the truth** (true knowledge) →

Leading to **maturity** →

Resulting in **Godliness** →
In the **hope** of **eternal life** →

We see Paul expressing **HOPE** of eternal life. Knowing what we know now about life as a bondsman, especially during the time of the Roman empire, they were simply the ones who most needed hope.

Have you ever felt hopeless? Hopelessness and despair can be crushing. But the solution for it is knowing good news, promised by God.

Ok, moving on in our passage: *Tit 2:11-15*

Deny **Ungodliness** and **worldly** desires

- What does this mean?
 - Simply, the opposite of anything of God. It means being of the world.
 - It's anything that **distracts** you from your purpose, or living in your spiritual gift. *2Ti 2:4*
 - It's often referred to as "idols", or something that takes the place of God. They can be a person, a thing, or a concept.
 - These things are often heavily promoted by the world. Being in the word on a regular basis, learning the truth, will help us recognize them.
 - Money can be an idol. *Mat 6:24*
 - We were all ungodly before becoming members of the body of Christ. *Rom 5:6-8*
 - But now as believers, we still have the potential to live in the world. In other words, we can still live as unbelievers, as unrighteous, ungodly.
 - What is an ungodly person? Unbelievers are inherently ungodly: *Rom 1:18, Jud 1:1-4*
 - Ungodliness and worldliness go hand in hand. *2Ti 2:16*
- To live Sensible
 - Greek: **sōphrōn**: meaning safe, (sound) in mind, self controlled (moderate as to opinion or passion): - discreet, **sober**, temperate, prudent or sensible.
 - Of **sober mind**, or being able to **think** correctly or clearly.
- To live Righteously and Godly
 - Godliness is learning and living the spiritual life God has called us to live. The believer's conduct is a large part that reflects and supports the truth.