

The Power of the Incarnation

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Unscramble each of the clue words.

Take the letters that appear in ☐ boxes and unscramble them for the final message.

Scripture of the Week

"But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

- Isaiah 43:1

I have completed my Bible studies for the following days:

- ☐ Lord's Day & Monday
- ☐ Tuesday
- ☐ Wednesday
- ☐ Thursday
- ☐ Friday & Saturday

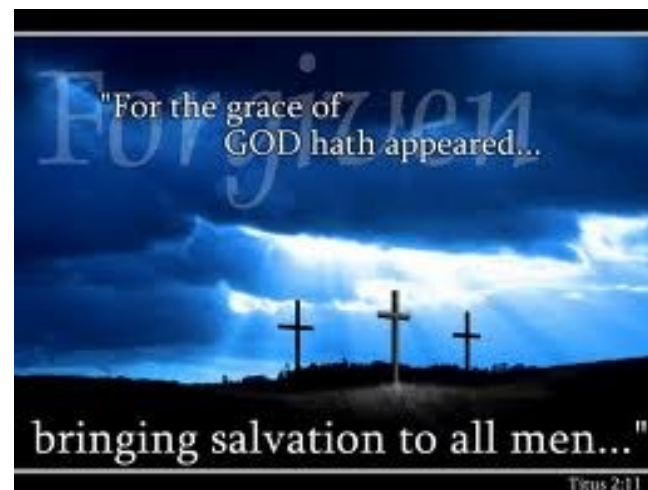
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Daily Bible Studies

January 5-11, 2014

"The Power of the Incarnation"

Titus 2:11-15



The Lord's Day and Monday

This week's reading comes from Titus 2:11-15.

We have taken a long break from Titus, but now we return. This week's study is called "The Power of the Incarnation."

Remember that *incarnation* means to make flesh. The word refers to Jesus, who is God, wrapping himself in human flesh. More than simply wrapping himself in a human body, Jesus actually became a man.

So what are the consequences of God becoming a man? What effect does it have on us?

1. We are redeemed by Jesus. He paid the price for our sins.
2. We are purified by Him. He keeps on working to remove sin from our lives.
3. He prepares us to do good works.
4. We are motivated by God's love for us to turn from our sins and do good works so that God will be glorified.

Titus 2:11-15

"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. Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you."

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Unscramble the tiles to reveal a message.

Suggestion for Prayer

Lord Jesus, help me to do all things for your glory and submit to the truths in your Word. Remind me to humbly accept instruction from others. Strengthen me to do your will in all things. Amen.

Pray for the Lord's Day Service

1. Pray that everyone would think it is important to come and be able to come.
2. Pray for Sunday School and Pastor Tim's sermon.
3. Pray that we would encourage each other to love the Lord Jesus.

Friday

The last reading this week is Titus 2:15.

Paul ends this section by telling Titus to teach everything that he is to teach with authority. Titus is not supposed to make suggestions to the people of the church. He is not supposed to say things like, "If you agree with these things, you should do them. But if you don't agree, it's ok." No, Titus is to speak as a person who represents God. The things that Paul told Titus to teach were not Paul's opinions. They were God's commands. When God speaks, we must listen and obey.

Titus was to encourage the Christians in Crete to obey God, but he also had authority to rebuke or correct them when they did not. If he noticed a Christian disobeying God, he was not supposed to ignore it. He was supposed to remind the person to obey.

Sometimes correcting people will make them angry, but Paul tells Titus not to let anyone despise him. This means that Titus was to be respected and not looked down upon.

1. What does incarnation mean?

2. Look up the word *zealous* in the dictionary. What does that mean?

3. What are God's people to be zealous for according to this week's verses?

Suggestion for Prayer

Dear Father, thank you for sending Jesus in the flesh to die for my sins. Thank you, Jesus, being my advocate with the Father. Holy Spirit, please continue to make me more like Jesus that God might be glorified. Amen.

Pray for Family

1. Dad and Mom
2. Brothers and Sisters
3. Grandparents, Uncles and Aunts, Cousins

Tuesday

Please read **Titus 2:11**.

Yesterday, we spoke of Jesus's incarnation. This was a powerful and monumental event. Today, in verse 11 we see the power presented.

In this verse, we see that God's grace comes and brings salvation. In other words, because God is gracious he sent Jesus to pay the penalty that is due our sin. Because of our sin we were under the curse of God, but Jesus came and freed us from that curse. He did this by taking the curse upon himself.

So, is that grace for you? Well, the verse we are looking at says that the grace of God has appeared to "all men." At the very least, this means that the grace of God appeared to all types of people. It appeared to men. It appeared to women. It appeared to young people and to old. To black and white. Rich and poor. Educated and uneducated. No one can say, "Well I am a poor Asian woman. God's grace didn't appear to poor Asian women." That person would be wrong. God's grace has appeared to every type of person that there is on this planet.

But how do you know that you have received the grace of God? Do you believe that Jesus died to save your soul? Do you really believe that in your heart? If you believe, you will be saved. The grace of God has appeared to you and saved you.

Now, Jesus said, "Go and sin no more." Live a godly life for him doing many good works to His glory.

Thursday Quiz

1.) Finish this verse, Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our . (2:13)

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2.) According to 2:13-14, Our Saviour Jesus Christ gave himself for us, that he might us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Suggestion for Prayer

Dear Lord, thank you for the "Blessed Hope" of your coming. Help me to live my life in anticipation for the day when I will see you face to face. Please keep me from getting caught up in the things of this world. Thank you, Jesus, that you died to free me from the slavery of sin that I might live for you and love you. Amen.

Pray for All Men

1. Mr. Gary Wind— Town of Salamanca Police Chief
2. Mr. Joseph A. D'Amico—NYS Police Superintendent
3. Mr. James Comey—Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

Thursday

Please read Titus 2:13-14.

Yesterday we learned that we must live godly lives in this present age, but this passage turns us from a focus on the present to a focus on the future. Titus tells us that the grace of God teaches us to look for the appearing of God himself in the future.

God will certainly come again in the future and here in Titus this future coming is called the “blessed hope.” It is called “blessed” because all true Christians look forward to the coming of the Lord Jesus. They will find great joy and glory when the Lord comes. Of course, Jesus has come to Earth once, but here Paul is referring to a time in the future when Jesus will come again.

Another important point to learn from today’s verses is that the Father and the Son are both God. They are two distinct persons, but they, along with the Holy Spirit, are one God. Notice that the Bible says, “...our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.” When Paul said, “God and Savior,” did he mean two people or one? Imagine Joel, Anna, and Drew said, “We are waiting for our dad and pastor to come home.” To Joel and Anna, their dad and pastor are the same person. To Drew, his dad and pastor are two different people. So what does Paul mean? When scholars examine the Greek language it is clear that “our great God” and “Savior Jesus Christ” is one person. We can conclude that the doctrine of the trinity is correct. There is one God with three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The last points today are the most important. Jesus is described as the one who gave Himself for us. He gave his very life for His people. Was it a pointless thing that he did? Did Jesus waste his life and give it away for nothing? No, He gave it so that we might be redeemed. He gave it so that we would be freed from the slavery of sin. He came to free us from our lawless deeds. That means he came to change our lives from ones that were in wild rebellion against Him to ones that are subject to Him and that please Him. Do you live to please God? If not, you should ask yourself if you truly know God, because Jesus came to make a special type of people. He came to make people who are free from the power of sin and who love to please God by doing good works.

The Power of the Incarnation

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Suggestion for Prayer

Lord, thank you that your grace is for all types of people. Help me when I doubt your love and grace toward me. Grant me faith and repentance towards you. Amen.

Pray for the Church

1. Mr. and Mrs. Orcutt and Kayleigh
2. Mrs. Gayle Rockwell
3. Mr. Doug Sampson

Wednesday

Today's reading is Titus 2:12.

Today, we learn that the grace of God teaches and trains us. Like a teacher, the grace of God leads us like little children. It takes us step by step toward the goal of godliness and Christ-likeness. Sometimes, God may use very extreme and drastic events to teach us and train us, like a sudden death or the loss of a job, but very often God teaches us in much simpler ways. He teaches us in our day to day lives over the course of our entire lives. And like any good teacher, God does chasten or correct us. When we step out of line, God will bring some pain to direct us back onto the right path.

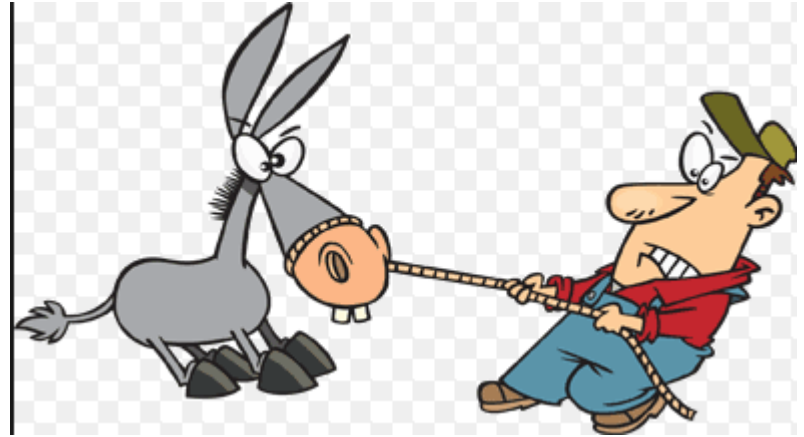
What are the particular things that the grace of God teaches us?

It teaches us to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts. This means that it teaches us to turn away and give up our sins. It teaches us that we must choose between "sin and the Savior." Listen, carefully young ones. You must choose. Will you please God or will you please yourself? Will your life be controlled by all the things that you want in this world or will your desire to please God overpower everything else in your life. If you have truly received the grace of God, it is teaching you and training you to turn away from this world and to turn toward God. The old hymn says, "Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace." Where are you looking? At Jesus? Or at the world? Is Jesus exciting and thrilling or is it the world that "floats your boat?" Be warned that you cannot have it both ways. The Lord wants you to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts.

On the other hand, God wants you to live soberly, righteously, and godly. To live soberly means to live with seriousness and self-control. We are also to live righteously. A righteous life is one that seeks to glorify God in all things. Finally, we are to live godly. We are to imitate and act like God.

Psalm 32:8-9

8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
9 Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
which must be curbed with bit and bridle,
or it will not stay near you.



Suggestion for Prayer

Dear Jesus, please help me to grow in grace and godliness. Keep my eyes fixed on you when temptation comes. Please increase my love for you and the things that bring you glory. Amen.

Pray for Missionaries

Pray for missionaries who give their lives and face danger to tell others about Jesus:

The Fehr family. They are in the process of switching to pastoring. Pray for them and for their daughters

