

**Titus 3:3-7 Word Search**

N E G M N O E H M E X R H B S  
 S O N Q I O R A D C N U G T S  
 G N I H S A W T I I Y V S L E  
 I N W T X J W E S L X U Y O N  
 H Y E K A O O F O A L T D V S  
 J T N X B C K U B M X E G E U  
 A W E B J C I L E Q C Z D K O  
 Z D R F W V D F D E U R D J E  
 N O I T A C I F I T C N A S T  
 F O O L I S H V E T S B R Z H  
 M E R C Y V E K N W S U L M G  
 C Z I V G D L S T R C U X N I  
 R E G E N E R A T I O N J X R  
 S S E N D N I K P Y C J W J Z  
 G V Z Z A R I L H B Y Y F B O

ENVY  
 JUSTIFICATION  
 LUSTS  
 REGENERATION  
 SANCTIFICATION

DISOBEDIENT  
 HATEFUL  
 LOVE  
 MERCY  
 RIGHTEOUSNESS

DECEIVED  
 FOOLISH  
 KINDNESS  
 MALICE  
 RENEWING  
 WASHING

**Scripture of the Week**

“And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all. See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing...”

- 1 Thessalonians 5:14-17

I have completed my Bible studies for the following days:

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

Signature

**Daily Bible Studies  
 January 20-26, 2014**

**“Why Christians  
 Should and Must Be  
 Gracious”**

**Titus 3:3-7**



## The Lord's Day and Monday

This week we will look at God's Word, wonderful words of life, and think about **Titus 3:3-7**.

The title for this week's study could have been:

"Celebrating the Salvation God Has Given to Us..."

"How Does God Save His People? and Why Does God Save His People?"

"God Does All of the Work to Save Us Then We Work with God to Become More Like Him..."

So we could have given many titles to this week's study, but the one that was chosen tells us that Christians must be gracious. You should put this study down after reading it this week and be humbled. Don't be proud. Be thankful to God and have pity on those that do not know God. You will see that God wants you to remember what you were without Him and what you would be if you did not know Him. The answer is you would be enslaved to sin, wrapped in chains, and awaiting judgment.

*"For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life."*

## Friday Quiz

Write 3 things that you learned this week. Discuss them with your parents

1..)

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2.)

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3.)

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### Suggestion for Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank you providing the way that I might be born into your family. Thank you for being a true and living God who I will one day see face to face. You bore my sin and shame that I might be free and worship you! Thank you. 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 verse we will examine is **Titus 3:7**.

God certainly is amazing and we should stand in complete awe of Him. Why has he regenerated and renewed us? What was His goal? Verse 7 gives us the answer. God wanted to make us heirs in His family. He intends to give us an inheritance that includes eternal life with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He intends for us to be welcomed into His presence where we will enjoy his fellowship and company.

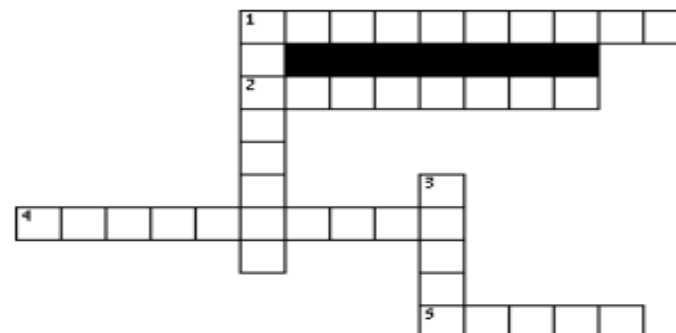
We were dead, but now we are alive. (Ephesians 2:1-10) We served idols, blocks of wood, lifeless statues, but now we have been turned to worship the true and living God. One day we will meet Him and never be separated from Him again. (1 Thess. 1:9-10, 4:13-18) If we believe in the name of Jesus, we have been given the power, the right to become a son or daughter of God. (John 1:12) We will not be disappointed. God will keep His promises. Our hope is sure. "Now hope does not disappoint because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us." (Romans 5:5)

Who has done all of this? It is not we ourselves. It is God Almighty. It is He who has saved us. We are no longer condemned, we are no longer cursed. Jesus has justified us and he has freed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us.

What a mighty and wonderful God we serve. Praise Him, young ones. Love Him. Worship Him. Adore Him.

## The Lord's Day and Monday Quiz

Titus 3:1-8 NKJV



- 1 DOWN "...speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all \_\_\_\_\_ to all men." TITUS 3:2
- 5 ACROSS "But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy, He \_\_\_\_\_ us..." TITUS 3:4-5
- 1 ACROSS "...He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the \_\_\_\_\_." TITUS 3:5
- 3 DOWN "That having been justified by His grace we should become \_\_\_\_\_ according to the hope of eternal life." TITUS 3:7
- 2 ACROSS "This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to \_\_\_\_\_ good works..." TITUS 3:8
- 4 ACROSS "...These things are good and \_\_\_\_\_ to men." TITUS 3:8

### Suggestion for Prayer

Dear Father, Thank you for your Word. Please teach me this week that I might be more like you. Guard my heart and thoughts so that I might reflect your heart and thoughts. Please do this for your glory and my good. Amen.

### Pray for Family

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

## Tuesday

**Titus 3:3:** *“For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another.”*

“Who do you think you are?” That’s a question that many children have been asked by their parents when the children are misbehaving. Christians should ask each other a similar question: “Who do you think you **were**?”

If we are a Christian it is a fact that God has changed our hearts; a fact that we sometimes underestimate. Sometimes though, we tend to see the changes in our lives and forget that it was God that made the changes. We didn’t change ourselves. God came and changed us. He made us new. We forget that fact and we look down at other people who have not been changed by God. Because of the sin that remains in our members, we continue to think that we are better than others even after God has changed us. Someone needs to ask us, “Just who do you think you **were**, anyways?”

Jesus gives the answer in this passage. You were no better than our government leaders or your parents. You were no better than the false teachers who blaspheme God. You **were and still are** no better than any other person on this Earth. It is only God’s grace that has produced good and righteous fruit in you. So why do you look down on others?

You were “once foolish”: You did not know God. In fact the Bible tells us that you were unable to know God until the Holy Spirit opened your eyes.

You were “disobedient”: You rebelled against all authority, even good authorities. It did not matter if it was your parents, teachers, or God himself, you were rebellious, fighting to have your own way.

You were “serving various lusts and pleasures”: This is profound. You served your evil desires because you loved them. You loved evil and you willingly and happily gave your best efforts to it. You thought everything was great, but there was another side to this that you could not see.

You were “deceived”: You thought that you were choosing to serve your evil desires and that you could pack up and leave whenever you wanted. The truth was that your evil desires had wrapped you in chains and made you a

## Thursday Quiz

### Fill in the blanks

- 1.) Philippians 1:6 “And I am sure of this, that he who \_\_\_\_\_ a good work in you will bring it to \_\_\_\_\_ at the day of Jesus Christ .”
- 2.) John 3:5 “Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is \_\_\_\_\_ of water and the \_\_\_\_\_, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.”
- 3.) 2 Peter 1:5-7 “For this very reason, make every \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and \_\_\_\_\_ with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.”  
ESV

### Suggestion for Prayer

Dear Holy Spirit, thank you for giving me new life. Thank you that you promise to complete the “good work begun in me.” Please continue to make me more like Jesus. Teach me your Word that I may grow and be a fruitful Christian. Amen

### Pray for All Men

1. Ms. Michele L. Lichy, Executive Director,  
Cattaraugus County Workforce
2. Mr. Peter M. Rivera, Commissioner,  
NYS Department of Labor
3. Mr. Thomas E. Perez, Secretary,  
U.S. Department of Labor

## Thursday

Let's look some more at **Titus 3:4-6**.

Let's focus on the work of the Holy Spirit. Remember that God the Holy Spirit is a person who does great and wonderful things just like the Father and the Son.

Two of the actions that the Holy Spirit performs are the acts of *regeneration* and *renewing*.

Remember from yesterday that the Holy Spirit washes us. But how exactly does He do that? First, he regenerates us. We talked about that yesterday as well. The English word *regeneration* comes from the Greek word *palingenesia*. *Palin* means "again" and *genesia* (like the book of Genesis, the beginning of the Bible) means "birth." So, the first step in our washing is to be born again. Remember, Jesus told Nicodemus that we must be born again in John 3. We were dead, but the Holy Spirit makes us alive. He makes this happen in a moment. One moment you are dead. The next moment you are alive.

The next step that the Holy Spirit takes, after regenerating us and making us alive, is to renew us. He makes us alive in a moment, but renewing us takes a lifetime. To be renewed means to be made holy. It means to be made like Jesus. Often this renewing is called *sanctification*. As time goes on, the Holy Spirit continues to work in us. We grow. We become more like Jesus.

Keep in mind that the Holy Spirit regenerates us without our help, but when he is renewing us, we must cooperate. We need to decide to open our Bible and read it. We need to decide to pray. We need to decide to go to church. We need to decide to obey the Bible. If we do not do these things, the Holy Spirit will not renew us. Thankfully, He works in Christians and causes them to open their Bible and to pray, etc. Do you do those things? If you do, then you have some reasons to believe that you are spiritually alive. If you don't, you may still be dead. That leads to our last point for today.

Verse 6 says that the Holy Spirit has been poured on us abundantly. This means that God poured the Spirit on us like an ocean. On one hand, we can be thankful that God has given to us so generously, and we know that we will grow because we are soaking in the Holy Spirit. But what if we are not growing? If a tree is well-watered, but its branches are rotting and falling off, what does that say about the tree? It is dead. What does it say, when the Holy Spirit is all around us, but we are unchanged? Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved.

## Tuesday Quiz

slave. If you would have tried to leave your evil master, you would have discovered that he would not allow you to and that he had been tricking you all along.

You were "living in malice and envy": When you saw people blessed, you envied and hated them. You thought that you deserved the blessing that they had instead of realizing that no one deserves to be blessed. You should have rejoiced that God gave blessing to someone else, but instead you plotted how to harm them. There are many examples of this in the Bible. Cain envied Abel. Jacob's sons envied Joseph. Saul envied David. The older brother envied the Prodigal Son.

You were "hateful and hating one another": I don't think that requires much explanation. You were a person that was full of hate and unrest. You saw the problems in your life and in the world and you hated other people because you thought they were to blame.

So, if you are a Christian, remember who you **were**. Thank the Lord that you are not that now, but never forget. Be humble before God and kind toward others.

### Suggestion for Prayer

Lord, when I stop and consider what I was before you saved me, I am humbled. As I, even now, see some of the same tendencies in my life I ask you to forgive me and grant me repentance. Lord, please wash me and make me more and more like You. Holy Spirit strengthen me to do the Father's will. Amen

### Pray for the Church

1. Mrs. Elaine Bartlett
2. Ms. Laura Bowman
3. Mr. and Mrs. Burger

## Wednesday

Today's reading is Titus **3:4-6**.

Yesterday, we saw who we were without God, "but God, who is rich in mercy," (Ephesians 2:4) changed us. God's kindness and love appeared and we were saved. We were made new. We were born again. But why? Matthew Henry refers to God as the divine *philanthropist*. A philanthropist is someone, usually a rich person, who generously gives to other men. He helps the poor, he gives gifts, he works to improve the lives of others. He has the means and ability to help people who cannot help themselves and that might not even deserve help. Well, God is the ultimate philanthropist. We were helpless. We could not save ourselves nor did we deserve to be saved, but God poured out love (philos) on man (anthropos).

What motivated God to save us? Was it our loveliness? No, that was not his motivation, because we were not lovely. Was it our good works? No, that was not his motivation because we had none that were acceptable to Him. God was motivated by his very character. It is in God's character to be "merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth." (Exodus 34:6) God takes joy in showing mercy and love to man. He loves to show pity and mercy because He is good. He is gracious to us, so we should be gracious to others.

So how did God save us and change us? As we already saw, God the Father's kindness appeared to us and he poured out God the Holy Spirit, through Jesus, God the Son. The Holy Spirit, in turn, washed us, regenerated us, and renewed us. He washed us from our sins. He made us over again. He made us a new creature (2 Cor. 5:17) and gave us a new heart. (Eze. 36:26).

In short, God for His own reasons and by His own power, without any help from us, completely changes us. If we are a Christian, we have completely new thoughts. We love new things. We want new things. Boys and girls, take this seriously. If you are a Christian, sin will continue to assault and plague you, but you are free and you are new. If you do not have new thoughts, new loves, and new wants, then you don't have any reason to be confident that you are a Christian. Look to Jesus and live. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved.

## Wednesday Quiz

### True or False

- 1.) Man has inherent goodness that motivates God to save him. T or F
- 2.) Because God is gracious to us; therefore, we ought to be gracious to others. T or F
- 3.) God saves, but we have to do all the work to sanctify ourselves. T or F
- 4.) Once we are saved we will never struggle with sin, but always be perfect. T or F

### Suggestion for Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank you for dying that I might be made new! I will never deserve your love and mercy, but you still pour it out on me daily. I thank you and praise you for all that you are! Amen.

### Pray for Missionaries

Pray for missionaries who tell others about Jesus:

This week's missionaries are the Meyers. Remember that Mr. Meyers helps train pastors in the country of South Africa.

