

**I. Good Deeds - Titus 3:1-2**

1. Part of his letter was a “reminder”
2. He mentions six attitudes and actions
  - A. Be subject to rulers and authorities
    - primarily Greek leadership
    - others were rebellious - see 1:10
    - some were unruly - 1:11
  - B. They were to be “obedient” - along with “subject”
  - C. Be ready to do good
  - D. Slander no one
  - E. Be peaceable and considerate
    - not a quarrelsome spirit
  - F. Be gentle - always and to everyone

Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. Take a few minutes and make a list of the old lifestyle qualities versus the new lifestyle qualities
2. What is a person has a character which is not “gentle?” Does that mean then need to change their personality?
3. An angry spirit and a quarrelsome spirit go together
4. A quiet spirit sounds like a dove... Holy Spirit

**II. Based on His Mercy - Titus 3:3-7**

1. We too were foolish at one time (**verse 3**)
  - not ignorant, but unwise
- Rea
  - apt to do unwise and inappropriate things
2. “Deceived and enslaved”
  - easily misled
3. Into all types of passions and pleasures
  - perhaps other immoral behavior
4. Living in malice and envy
  - malice - intention to harm others
- Rea
  - not apathetic but actively seeking to harm
  - jealous of one another (envy)
5. Hated and hating
  - a hateful spirit - often an angry person, which comes out in hate
- Rea
  - a hateful spirit - often an angry person, which comes out in hate
6. Verse 4 begins the difference/ change that occurred when Jesus comes (**verses 4-5**)
  - A. God’s kindness and grace
    - love
  - Rea
    - love
  - B. It “appeared” - was made manifest
    - with the coming of Christ
  - Rea
    - the “first” appearing
  - C. His action
    - 1) He saved us
    - 2) by washing and rebirth

- 3) by renewing by Holy Spirit  
 -a simultaneous thing, not a subsequent thing  
 -in other words he is not speaking of the “second blessing”
- Rea D. Not because of our righteousness but because of His own  
 -because of His mercy
- Rea E. Verse 6 continues to talk about Holy Spirit (**verses 6-7**)  
 -introduced in verse 5
- F. Poured out on us through... Christ our Savior  
 1) so God took the initiative in pouring out  
 2) we receive Holy Spirit at salvation  
 3) given generously  
 4) made possible through Jesus Christ
- G. Being justified, they also had become heirs  
 -justification is past  
 -heirs is future (hope is future)
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**  
 1. Define (together) what all happened at the event of your salvation  
 2. Why is the Holy Spirit important in this doctrinal section?  
 3. Is “washing” baptism? - why not?  
 4. Those who were Gentiles probably did not understand the metaphors and analogies
- that Paul used (and Titus) so these type passages help to understand what God has done and what He can do

### III. Done on Purpose - Titus 3:8-11

1. Be devoted to doing good (**verse 8**)  
 -godly behavior
- Rea -when you hear that someone is “good” what does that mean to you? How do they act?
2. The people who do “good” are those who’ve trusted the Lord
3. The result? - these things are excellent and profitable for all
- Rea -practical goodness is self-evident - plain to all  
 -every one is blessed when a Christian does good  
 -when Joseph did right (in Egypt) both Egypt and the Israelites were “saved”
4. Avoid these things: (**verse 9**)
- A. Foolish controversies
- Rea B. Genealogies- very important in the Jewish heritage  
 -discuss why
- C. Arguments  
 -fruitless debates and quarrels
- Rea -sounds like Baptists - how in the world can we find such an endless supply of things to argue about? It is amazing to me what types of things that Baptist churches split over  
 -quarrels about the law  
 -unprofitable and useless
- D. A divisive person (**verses 10-11**)

- warn them twice
- after that have nothing to do with them
- Rea -turn them out of the church? - warn them about being divisive?
- Rea -note it is the person, not the issue that Paul localizes the problem with
- do not allow them to be disruptive
- E. Such people are warped and self-condemned
- Rea -“self-condemned” means that their own actions will rise to condemn them in the end
- they are sinful
- Rea -is it sinful to be divisive?
- F. Don’t waste time on such people
- Rea -not sure that statement is the tone of what Paul says to do. We are to warn them twice first before we have nothing to do with them. Also, the KJV says that this person is a heretic which is worse than just being contentious.
- Rea -a southern term for this type person is “agrivational”
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
  1. To warn such a person is to take the bull by the horns and not let their divisive spirit grow - in Paul’s day they confronted someone
  2. “Avoid” the questions, not necessarily the person (verse 9)
  3. There is a lot of “avoiding” going on the Southern Baptist church, I don’t think most of it is warranted - most of us are still mad because of something done or said 30 years ago
  4. Are we ever served by “debates?” - when and how?

Jere Phillips/ SS Lesson for August 25, 2019