

Life Group Notes

Sunday 5th February 2023

Speaker: Andy McCullough

Title: Titus: God's Grace Part I

Passage: Titus 2:11-15

Grace is a disposition of God, not made clear in ages past, but revealed fully in Christ. Titus is sent to Crete as a grace-enforcer. He himself has experienced the grace of God, and even the apostles in Jerusalem did not force him to be circumcised (Gal 2:3). Grace enables us to resist the pressures of imposed behaviours.

Stepping into grace, we step into a completely different story. We gain a different community, broader horizons, and a different prospect. "While we wait for the blessed hope..." We are living looking forward to the return of Christ. Of course we will say no to worldly passions, because why waste your time and your strength on dumb stuff when there is so much to live for!

Jesus (v13-14) is brought into focus in these verses, as grace appeared in the advent of Christ. "Gave himself for us..." Word became flesh in order to suffer and die on our behalf. This verse tells us that Jesus is God. And then immediately tells us that he gave HIMSELF for us. "To redeem us." Redeem is a word from the slave market. Someone offers a price they will sell the slave out. In this picture, the price is Jesus giving himself. "Take me instead." "A people that are his very own." – for his own possession. "For himself." So tender and so proud – this is my people!

Suggested Questions:

1. What difference does the grace of God make in your life?
2. Why should grace secure us against having behaviours imposed on us by others?
3. How does grace teach us to say "no" to ungodliness? How are you doing at saying "no"?
4. What do verses 13 and 14 show you about Jesus? What do you notice there?
5. How does the image of being redeemed from the slave market make you feel?
6. What does it mean to live "waiting for the glorious appearing of Christ?" What difference does that make to your life?