

Titus 2:1-15

Doctrine affects belief and belief affects behavior. It affects the behavior of...

- I. The Older Men** v2
- II. Older Women** v3-4a
- III. The Young Women** v4-5

Verse 1—Some argue that the behavior commanded here is not universally required but is culturally bound to the first century. However, v1 roots this behavior not in cultural ideas but in sound doctrine itself. Just look at verse 1, “*But as for you, speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine.*”

#### **IV. Young Men** v6

*6 Likewise urge the young men to be sensible*

1. Urge (strongly request) the younger men to be sensible
2. Have good judgment and be self-controlled.
  - a. This keeps coming up in this text...self control, holding oneself in.
  - b. But think about it...what would this not correct? Take control and just do it
    1. Read the Bible
    2. Pray
    3. Witness: control our fears, insecurities, anxiety, unbelief
    4. Put to death your sin: control our minds and flesh
    5. Tithe: control our spending, saving, and desiring
    6. Not forsaking the assembly: Get up and come to church
    7. Just do what you know God would have you do, because He said so.
3. Let down your nets
  - a. Peter had been fishing all night and Jesus asked him to let his nets down
    1. I am tired. I have been fishing all night...
    2. It is pointless. We have caught nothing...
    3. I am unmotivated and I don't feel like it...
  - b. But at your word, I will let down the nets. That is sensible! Self Controlled
  - c. Just let your nets down at his word...take control by giving Him control.

Titus. As a young man...be sensible. Be an example of self control.

1. Exemplify for them good deeds v7a *in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds,*
2. Exemplify Pure Doctrine v7b *with purity in doctrine,*
3. Exemplify Dignity v7c *dignified,*
4. Exemplify Sound Speech v8 *sound in speech which is beyond reproach, so that the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us.*

#### **V. Slaves** v9-10

The Roman Empire depended on slaves for most of its labor, and they were an essential part of society and the economy.

1. Many, if not most, slaves were abused and often brutalized.
2. Instead of addressing the institution of slavery, Paul addressed the heart of the slave here, and in other places, the heart of the Master.
3. The hearts of men are the root causes of human problems.

The focus of Paul's teaching with regard to Christian slaves must not be missed.

1. The slaves were to operate in such a way as to magnify the gospel
2. They are in a hopeless system of bondage, and yet, because of the gospel, they can have godly attitudes, not bitter ones
3. They can have godly actions not resentful ones.
4. They can be an example of freedom in the midst of hopeless bondage.
5. If the gospel can impact the lives of those who had every reason to be bitter it can impact mine too.

These are gospel issues! Older men, older women, younger women, slaves...

v11 *For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,*

God's grace has appeared: literally, has come to light.

1. How? In the person of Jesus Christ!
2. Gal 4:4-5 *But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.*
3. The grace of God has appeared in the coming of Jesus Christ bringing salvation to all men
  - a. Red, yellow, black, and white
  - b. Rich and poor
  - c. Male and female

Why? There is a two-fold reason.

#### 1. **Instructing us to Live Right v12**

*12 instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age,*

- a. By Denying Ungodliness
  1. What is ungodly? Well...what is the opposite of ungodly? Godly
  2. 2 Categories: Godly and Ungodly.
  3. Put everything in your life in 1 of 2 categories: godly and ungodly.
  4. Renounce whatever is ungodly! 1 by 1 by 1 how much of our life would have to be renounced.
- b. By Denying Worldly desires
  1. Gal 5:21 *And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.*
  2. Think of those things and deny them!
  3. Heb 12:1 *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,*
- c. By living sensibly, righteously, and godly in this age

## 2. Instructing us to Look Up v13

13 *looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,*

- a. We are waiting, eagerly expectantly longing for our blessed hope...the appearing of our Lord in glory.
- b. 1 John 3:2 *Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is*

14 *who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.*

### **He came so that we might stand out, distinct from the world.**

1. Notice the culmination of verses 3-5... “so that” *the word of God will not be dishonored*
2. Notice the culmination of verses 6-8... “so that” *the opponent will have nothing bad to say about us*
3. Notice the culmination of verses 9-10... “so that” *they will adorn the doctrine of God our savior in every respect.*
  - a. In essence, your life should adorn the gospel, beautify it, dress it up, or decorate it
  - b. Our lives should be jewelry that adorns the beauty of the gospel.

This whole chapter is rooted in the fact that our lives and our lifestyles and our families and family life should be radically different from the world around us.

1. The gospel transforms!
2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 *Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.*
3. THE GOSPEL AND A CALL TO TRANSFORMATION

## **Conclusion v15**

15 *These things speak and exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one disregard you.*

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What did you learn about God in this sermon and in the biblical texts used? About Christ? About the Holy Spirit?
2. What did you learn about yourself in this sermon and in the texts used?
3. Were there any clear promises or commands in the biblical texts used?
4. What is the hardest truth that stands out to you from this message or the verses referenced?
5. What is the most impactful point or statement from the sermon?
6. How can you respond to this message?