

Titus 2:11-14 Capsule Commentary

Introduction

There is much being written and said about “grace”. Some of it is good, some not so good, and some that is erroneous and misleading. Grace is not a license to do whatever we desire and get a “free pass” from God. Receiving grace does not mean that our responsibility toward God is negated.

SCRIPTURE	COMMENTS
<p>Titus 2:11-14 NASB</p> <p>(11) For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,</p> <p>(12) instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age,</p> <p>(13) looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,</p> <p>(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</p>	<p>These scriptures are an explanation for the grace of God, which has appeared for multiple purposes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) to bring salvation to all men. Without the grace provided by Christ Jesus and His atoning sacrifice we would still be cut off from God. 2) To instruct us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires. Grace is an instructor, a teacher, that directs us to deny, that is, put off, put away, ungodliness and worldly desires. This is the negative side of grace's instruction. 3) to instruct us to live sensibly, righteously, and godly. This is the positive side of grace's instruction. This is certainly not permission to do what we desire. <p>The purpose of grace is to instruct us in these things “in the present age”. Grace is for now, while we are alive, not for the future when we stand before the Lord.</p> <p>Grace also causes us to look for the coming, the appearing of Christ Jesus in all of His glory.</p> <p>Christ Jesus gave Himself for us for two reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) to redeem us from every lawless deed. 2) To purify for Himself a people for His own possession, who

SCRIPTURE	COMMENTS
deeds.	would be zealous for good works. To sum up this verse: Jesus gave Himself to redeem and purify for Himself a people. Jesus by grace redeems us from lawlessness and purifies us from lawlessness.

Conclusion

Grace is mostly misunderstood. It could be because of our shallow definition of it. It is referred to as “the unmerited favor of God”. While this is true, it doesn't tell us much about its meaning. Grace is “God doing what we are unable to do”. In Galatians 2:21 Paul said that he did not “nullify” the grace of God. (The King James says “frustrate”). How is it possible to do that? By receiving grace and then ignoring the “instructions” of grace as the scriptures listed above state. If we ignore the instructions then we never become a purified people for the Lord.