



INTRO FOR NEXT WEEK

THE WORK OF GRACE

HISTORICAL TIMELINE:

This letter was probably written after Paul's first letter to Timothy, but before he was rearrested and imprisoned in Rome around 66AD. Paul had sent Titus, one of the young men he had discipled, to organize the churches on the island of Crete, setting aside qualified elders in each of these churches.

In his letter he addresses the powerful work of grace in the lives of true believers, transforming them into pure possessions of Christ.

PASSAGE OVERVIEW:

We know that grace provides us with salvation. But it does much more than that. Grace works on us. We are saved by grace, but then grace trains us. Having been impacted by God's grace, we no longer follow former passions. Our lives are transformed so that we live for God, living according to His ways.

Grace instills in us the hope of Jesus' return. As we anticipate His return, He purifies us for Himself. This hope moves us to readily and energetically live as He would have us to live, doing good works.

Where grace has not transformed lives, individuals may profess to know God, but the lack of change in their lives betrays them. They live for themselves, under the control of defiled minds and consciences.

Look at your life. Where is the evidence of the work of grace both in saving you and in transforming you? God's grace is powerful. It radically changes those it touches.

READING FOR NEXT WEEK:

Titus 1 - 2

I. Contentedness only comes through a right understanding of the gospel. (2c, 6)

Contentment is grounded in the sufficiency of Jesus' work on our behalf and the abundance of rest and joy found in knowing and walking with Him.

II. Discontent is the result of wrong teaching. (3-5, 9-10)

- A. Wrong teaching is anything that conflicts with the words of/about Jesus. (3)
B. Pride replaces humble reliance on Jesus. (4)
C. Love of money's destructive path. (9-10)

How does this apply to me?

Handwriting lines for reflection notes.



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