

The Book of Titus

The Life of Christians in a Congregation:

“The Knowledge of the Truth
Which Accords With Godliness”

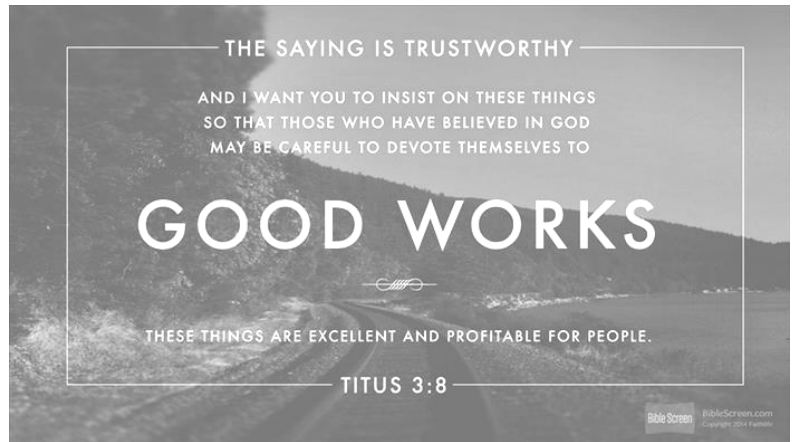
Trinity Lutheran Church Norman, OK.

Pastor David Nehrenz

Date: 9-4-16 Study: 10

A. THE TEXT

(Titus 3:8-11)



(1) Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, (2) to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. (3) For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.

(4) But when the goodness and loving kindness of **God our Savior** appeared, (5) **he** saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of **the Holy Spirit**, (6) whom he poured out on us richly through **Jesus Christ our Savior**, (7) so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

(8) The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people. (9) But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless.

(10) As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him, (11) knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

(12) When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. (13) Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. (14) And let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful.

(15) All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all.

B. THE STUDY NOTES:

1. The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things,
(1 Tim 1:15; 3:1; 4:9; 2 Tim 2:11)

so that those who have believed in **God** may be careful to devote themselves to good works.
(Mt 5:16; Acts 9:36; Titus 2:7,14; Eph 2:10; Heb 10:24)

These things are excellent and profitable for people.
(Php 1:9-11; 2 Tim 3:14-17)

2. But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law,
for they are unprofitable and worthless.

(1 Tim 1:3-7; 4:7; 6:4,5; 2 Tim 2:14-16; Titus 1:10-16)

3. As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice,
have nothing more to do with him,

(Matt 7:15; 18:15-17; Rom 16:17; 1 Cor 5:9-11; Gal 6:1; 2 John 10)

4. Knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

(Ex 4:21; 9:12; Matt 12:35-37; John 3:18; Gal 2:11-16)

The Apology of the Augsburg Confession: Article 10 – “Good Works”

“...Peter is talking about the works that follow the forgiveness of sins; he is giving instruction that they should be done in order to confirm their call, that is, lest they fall from their call by sinning again. Do good works to persevere in your call and not to lose its gifts, which were given to you before your works and not because of them and which are now kept by faith. Faith does not remain in those who lose the Holy Spirit and reject penitence; as we have said before, faith has its existence in penitence.

... The church of Christ has always believed that the forgiveness of sins is free; in fact, the Pelagians were condemned for maintaining that grace is given because of our works. Furthermore, we have already given ample evidence of our conviction that good works must necessarily follow faith. We do not overthrow the law, Paul says (Rom. 3:31), but uphold it; for when we have received the Holy Spirit by faith, the keeping of the law necessarily follows, by which love, patience, chastity, and other fruits of the Spirit gradually increase.”

C. LIFE APPLICATION:

1. Why must we insist on these things,
so that we who have believed in God
may be careful to devote ourselves to good works?
2. What are those things are excellent and profitable
for people?
3. When is it actually an act of love, for us to warn a person
who stirs up division, once and then twice,
and then have nothing more to do with him?
(in order to save him from being warped, sinful and self-condemned)

