

The Book of Titus

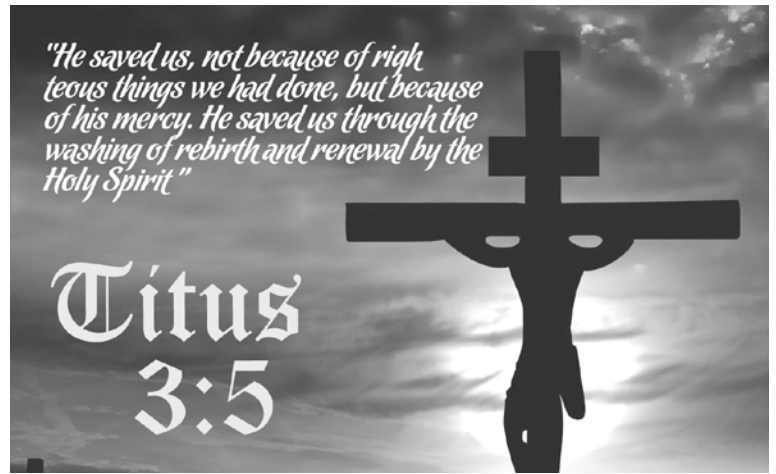
The Life of Christians in a Congregation:

“The Knowledge of the Truth
Which Accords With Godliness”

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Date: 8-21-16 Study: 8



A. THE TEXT

(Titus 3:1-15)

(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. **Rulers and authorities** – be submissive and obedient (Rom 13:1-7; 1 Pet 2:13-17; 2 Tim 2:21)

2. **Our civic duties:**

- To be ready for every good work, (Eph 2:10; 2 Tim 3:17)
- to speak evil of no one, (Eph 4:31)
- to avoid quarreling, (1 Tim 3:3)
- to be gentle, (Gal 6:1; Eph 4:2; Php 4:5)
- to show perfect courtesy toward all people. (2 Tim 2:25)

3. **The works of the old Adam –**

- For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, (1 Cor 6:11)
- slaves to various passions and pleasures, (Eph 2:2; 4:17,18; 5:8)
- passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.

4. **When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared (The Gospel):**

(Lk 1:47; Rom 2:4; Eph 2:7; 1 Jn 4:9)

- He** saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, (Rom 3:27; 11:14; Eph 2:4,8,9; 2 Tim 1:9; 1 Pet 1:3)
- by the washing of regeneration and renewal of **the Holy Spirit**, (John 3:5; Rom 12:2; 1 Cor 6:11; 1 Pet 3:21)
- whom he poured out on us richly through **Jesus Christ our Savior**, (Joel 2:28; 3:1; Ezek 36:25; Jn 7:39; Acts 2:33; 10:45; 22:16; Rom 5:5; 12:2; Eph 5:26)

BAPTISM:

- so that being justified by his grace (Rom 3:24; 5:1)
- we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life (Mt 25:46; Rom 8:17-24)

Luther's Small Catechism: - The Power of Baptism – Third Part:

How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus chapter three:

"He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying." [Titus 3:5-8]

C. LIFE APPLICATION

1. Why is it essential that we as Christians be submissive to rulers and authorities, and be obedient?

Note: The Kingdom of the Left – The State and Government.

2. How does the old Adam reveal itself in us as slaves to various passions and pleasures? **Note:** Sinful nature

3. Who is for us the goodness and loving kindness of **God our Savior** which has appeared?

Note: The Incarnation

4. When was the washing of regeneration and renewal of **the Holy Spirit**, poured out on you richly through **Jesus Christ our Savior**? **Note:** The date of your baptism

5. If you are justified by his grace and have become heirs according to the hope of eternal life, in what ways does this shape your everyday life? **Note:** Eternal inheritance