

# *A Study in the Book of Titus*

## LESSON FOUR

### *Exhortations to Godly Living*

(Titus 2:9-15)

Prayerfully read through Titus, chapter two, verses 9 through 15.

Paul continues his list of instructions Titus was to give to the churches in **verse 9**, addressing what he was to tell the **bondservants**.

Slaves made up a significant part of the first-century churches. **David Guzik** states, “**In the ancient world, Christians shocked the larger culture by mixing slaves and masters in the social setting of the church service. This meant that a slave might go to church and be an elder over his own master.**”

1. Picking up where we left off in our last lesson, what are the **five things** Paul tells **bondservants** they must do in **verses 9 & 10**?

The **Bible Knowledge Commentary** states: “**From the world’s perspective a slave should not owe any of these things to his master, but from a Christian’s perspective the situation looks different. A Christian slave is in fact serving, not his earthly master, but the Lord Christ who will vindicate him in the end (Col 3:23-24).**”

2. Paul’s first instruction to bondservants, or slaves, was that they be **obedient to their own masters**. Like with a wife to a husband, the duty of the slave was to **their own master**, not to all men. The Greek word for **obedient** is **hupotasso**. It means “to put oneself under,” to “be in subjection to,” or to “submit oneself unto.” What instruction did Paul give to the bondservants in the Colossian church in **Colossians 3:22**?

Commentator **James T. Draper** notes that “**The word ‘obedient’ was used to describe a company of soldiers as they stand at attention and salute their commander. They are declaring as they stand at attention in front of him that they are ready to take his orders.**”

3. Paul often used the analogy of a soldier to describe the Christian life. He thought of himself as a soldier and he often described his fellow workers as soldiers (see Philippians 2:25 and Philemon 1:2). How did Paul describe the life of a soldier to Timothy in **2 Timothy 2:4**?

4. What do these other Scriptures say that Christian bondservants were to do?

**Ephesians 6:5-8 -**

**1 Timothy 6:1 & 2 -**

5. What reason does Paul give to bondservants for these instructions at the end of **Titus 2:10**?

6. To **adorn** means to “**enhance the beauty of.**” What does **Psalms 93:5b** say that **God’s house** is adorned with?

7. Look up **Isaiah 61:10** and write down this verse that describes the beautiful adornment of our salvation.

David Guzik notes, “In one sense the gospel doesn’t need adornment. At the same time, we can *show* the beauty of the gospel by the way we live. We often think we need better *words* to adorn the gospel. Better words are fine, but what we really need are better *lives*.”

Morgan adds, “Thus we see how ‘the doctrine of God our Savior’ may ‘be adorned.’ It is adorned when its effects on life and character are expressed in conduct.”

8. Looking at **Titus 2:11**, write down the verse below.

9. It is God’s **grace** that brings salvation. Grace is the agent through which it comes. Look up and record the following Scriptures that speak of this.

**Romans 3:24** -

**Ephesians 1:7** -

**Ephesians 2:5** -

**Ephesians 2:8** -

Paul states in **Titus 2:11** that the grace of God has “**appeared to all men.**” The Greek word for **appeared** is **epiphaino**. It means to “**shine upon.**”

Adam Clarke comments, “There is a beauty and energy in the word *epiphaino*, (*hath shined out*,) that is rarely noted; it seems to be a metaphor taken from the *sun*. As by his rising in the east and *shining out*, he enlightens, *successively*, the whole world; so the Lord Jesus, who is called the *Sun of righteousness*, (**Mal 4:2**) arises on the whole human race with healing in his wings.”

10. What a beautiful picture of God’s grace appearing to **all men**. It has “**shined upon us**” like the sun, and is universally available to all who will receive it. What does **Titus 2:12** tell us this grace teaches us?

**11.** This verse clearly **refutes** the notion that because we are under the grace of God, we can live as we please. It is **His GRACE** that teaches us just the opposite. **Because** of His grace, we are duty-bound to live in a way that pleases God. The first thing **verse 12** says grace teaches us is to **deny ungodliness and worldly lusts**. The Greek word (arneomai) means to disavow, reject, abnegate, deny, refuse. **Ungodliness** (the word is asebia) means **all things contrary to God**. **Worldly** (kosmikos) are the things belonging to this corrupt world. The things we once lusted after, we are now to **deny**. Look up **1 John 2:15-17** and record it below.

**12.** What do these other Scriptures say, that confirm this truth?

**Romans 6:4 -**

**Romans 6:6 -**

**Galatians 5:16 -**

**Ephesians 5:8 -**

**1 Thessalonians 4:7 -**

**1 Peter 2:11 -**

13. In the second half of **Titus 2:12** Paul states we should live **soberly, righteously and godly** in the present age. **Adam Clarke** states, **We should live soberly in respect to ourselves, righteously in respect to our neighbor and godly in respect to our Maker.**” What are some of the personal challenges you face as you endeavor to walk in the “**newness of life**” Christ has given us, in the midst of this dark and corrupt “present age” in which we live? Share your thoughts.

14. One of the ways we can keep our hearts encouraged is found in **Titus 2:13**. What does Paul say in that verse we should be doing?

15. What encouragement does **Philippians 3:20-21** give to us in regards to this?

16. **David Guzik** says, “**Looking for** indicates that Christians should live in **active expectation of the return of Jesus.**” Along with us, who else is anxiously waiting for that day, according to **Romans 8:19**?

17. In **Titus 2:14** Paul gives us a description of the **great God and Savior** we are waiting for. What does he say about Him?

18. He “gave Himself”..... What does **Galatians 1:4** say about this?

19. “....that He might redeem us.....” David Guzik states, “Redemption means “to be bought out of slavery by the paying of a ransom.” We are bought out of our slavery to sin, and purchased *for* His service.” Read and record **Colossians 1:13-14**.

20. “....from every lawless deed.....” Look up and record **Romans 6:19**.

21. “and purify for Himself His own special people....” Look up and record the following:

**1 Corinthians 6:11 -**

**Hebrews 9:14 -**

**Hebrews 10:22 -**

22. “.....His own special people....” Record **1 Peter 2:9** below.

23. “.....zealous for good works.” Look up and record **Ephesians 2:10**.

24. What is Paul’s last instruction to Titus in **verse 15**, along with every pastor, elder, and leader in the church?

25. Paul said similar words to Timothy in **2 Timothy 4:2**. Record that verse below.

26. **Speak** these things..... The Greek word is **laleo**. It has the same meaning as the word **kerusso** used in **2 Timothy 2:4**, translated “**preach**” which means “to herald, to proclaim, to publish.” He was not only to **proclaim** these truths but to use them to **exhort** and **rebuke**. Look up the words **exhort** and **rebuke** in the dictionary and record your answers. If you have a Bible dictionary, add those definitions to your answer as well.

**Exhort -**

**Rebuke -**

It is believed that Titus may have been (as was Timothy), a young man who was given a great responsibility. Just as Paul told Timothy in **1 Timothy 4:12**, to “let no one despise his youth,” so he states here to Titus to let no one despise him. He was to teach these things **with authority**, the authority of the Word of God, given to him by Christ.

**Adam Clarke** states, “Few portions of the New Testament excel this chapter. It may well form the creed, system of ethics, and text book of every Christian preacher. Does any man inquire what is the duty of a Gospel minister? Send him to the second chapter of the Epistle to Titus for a complete answer. There he will find what he is to believe, what he is to practice, and what he is to preach.”

27. What was your greatest take-away from Lesson Four in our study?

This study was written and prepared by Shawn Van Hook, 2025