

## From Forgiven to Faithfulness (Titus)

Lesson 5: Where Godliness Comes From (Titus 2:11-3:3)

Date: January 15, 2023

### INTRODUCTION:

1. The indissoluble link between \_\_\_\_\_ (what we believe) and \_\_\_\_\_ (how we live) in the epistles of the NT.
2. This indissoluble link \_\_\_\_\_ in the NT letter we are currently studying (Titus).
3. In Titus 2, the order is \_\_\_\_\_. Paul begins with ethical duties (2:1-10), and then (with a mighty "for") he lays down their doctrinal foundation (2:11-14).

### OVERVIEW:

Most Christians quickly identify Christ's death with deliverance from the penalty and punishment of sin. However, fewer Christians are quick to identify Christ's death with deliverance from the power of or slavery to sin. This lesson stresses that God intends for Christians to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present age, and that Christ's death and future coming provides the basis for such living & the incentive to & the enablement for such living.

### THE BASIS FOR GODLINESS (2:11-14)

The doctrine on which Paul bases his ethical appeal (2:1-10) is that of the two comings of Christ, which he calls appearing's (or, **epiphanies**): (1) Verse 11: "the grace of God ... has appeared" (verb: **epephane**), and (2) Verse 13: "we wait for ... the appearing of" (noun: **epiphaneian**).

The noun means the visible appearance of something or someone previously (up until now) invisible; a coming into view of what has been previously concealed.

Luke gives us a good example of its meaning in Acts. It's the only occasion in the NT when "**epiphaneia**" has a secular meaning and doesn't refer to Christ. See Acts 27:20.

Apart from this one lit. use of **epiphaneia**, the word occurs in the NT four times of Christ's first coming and six times of his second coming. Here, in Titus, the word is used of both Christ's comings (2:11, 13).

1. The Epiphany of \_\_\_\_\_ (vss. 11-12, 14)

A. The Fact of its Manifestation (vs. 11)

Conveys the image of grace suddenly breaking in on our moral darkness.

B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of its Manifestation (vs. 11). Why?

1) It \_\_\_\_\_ us (vss. 11, 14)

2) It \_\_\_\_\_ us (vs. 12)

The word trans. "teaches" refers to more than instruction; it includes the whole process of training a child — instruction, encouragement, correction & discipline. The grace that saves us also trains us in the school of holiness.

a) On the \_\_\_\_\_ side . . .

b) On the \_\_\_\_\_ side . . .

2. The Epiphany of \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 13)

He who appeared briefly on the stage of history and disappeared, will one day re-appear. He appeared in GRACE; He will re-appear in GLORY!

This re-appearance in GLORY is \_\_\_\_\_.

- Pastor W. A. Criswell - First Baptist Church (Dallas, TX)
- Dr. Jim Showers - Friends of Israel Gospel Ministry

**THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF TITUS (2:15)**

Compare 2:15 with 2:1. They verses are bookends for Titus 2 (cp. 1:9).

"Thus, the apostle, in this short paragraph of only four verses (11-14), brings together the two boundaries of the Christian era, that is, *the first coming of Christ* which inaugurated it & *the second coming of Christ* which will terminate it. He urges us to look back to the one and on to the other. For we live 'in between times'—suspended rather uncomfortably between the 'already' and the 'not yet'."

"Two comings of Christ are like two windows. Through *the western window* a solemn light streams from Mount Calvary. Through *the eastern window* shines the light of a brighter day. And it is because of these two windows that the present age is well lit for the believer. Centered on the cross, focused on the future; we cannot afford to do without the light coming from both directions."

John R. W. Stott, The Message of 1 Timothy and Titus (1996)