Tit 3:1–11, Readiness for Good



*October 20*

**REVIEW:** [Titus](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUEYCVXJM3k)

**CONTEXT:** If you were with us in 2019 we studied Titus. Whether as a refresher or an introduction, we’re blessed to be able to study this letter today.

Cretans did not have a good reputation in the ancient world (1:12). Somehow culture had come to shipwreck the leadership and teaching in the churches on Crete resulting in bad behaviour. Paul charged Titus with “setting things in order” (1:5). Central to Titus is that the Faith, believed, produced good works (the fruit of faith) (2:10). In ch. 2 Paul had already addressed good living in the church. Now he pans more broadly to speak of how the Christian ought to live and why.

**FIRST, A.M. SERMON RECAP** (1 Ti 6:11–12)

* What does it mean to be a man (or woman) of God?
* What was Timothy to flee?
* What was Timothy to pursue?
* What does v. 12a look like?
* How do we “take hold of eternal life”?
* What tenor does this passage have?

**READ:** Tit 3:1–11

**QUESTIONS:**

vv. 1–2- Our Calling

1. **Why is being “ready for every good work” vs. striving to seek one an opportunity to do good, liberating?**
2. What does it look like to do good works without the church? How does this accomplish Tit 2:10?

vv. 3- The Old Life

1. Thinking of the above, what is the unbeliever’s life characterized by?
2. What once ruled our lives when we were unbelievers?
3. **What is the significance of “were once”?**
4. v. 4-7 Salvation and New Life
5. **v. 4a- How is this one of the big “buts” of the Bible? What contrast are we meant to see? What difference should faith in Christ make?**
6. Though a believer must respond to the Gospel, why is Paul’s emphasis here overwhelmingly on God?
7. In our passage Paul touches on the “order of salvation”: regeneration, justification, sanctification (“renewal”), glorification (“hope”). How does a knowledge of how God works bolster “good works”?

vv. 8–9- Devoting Oneself to Good Works

1. What is the trustworthy saying? Why does Paul insist upon it?
2. **What does it mean to truly believe in God (Ja 2:19)? What will a true knowledge of God produce?**
3. **Why is it excellent and profitable to devote yourself to good works as a believer?**
4. What are we to avoid and why? How were Cretans tempted by these things? What about us today?

v. 10–11- Discipline

1. How do Tit 3:10 and Mt 18:15–17 mutually reinforce church discipline?
2. **Why should we avoid a divisive person? What is divisiveness a sign of?**

**NEXT TIME:** October 27, 1 Pe 4:1–11, Stewards of God’s Grace