

Titus 3

Final instructions

A trustworthy saying

But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. 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 Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men. At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. **But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. 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 Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good.** These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless. Warn a divisive person once, and then warn him a second time. After that, have nothing to do with him. You may be sure that such a man is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

As soon as I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, because I have decided to winter there. Do everything you can to help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way and see that they have everything they need. Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives. Everyone with me sends you greetings. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all.

Good people = good witness!

(Keep on)Remind(ing) the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all men.

A godly 'walk' in society in:-

Citizenship

Actions

Words

Attitudes



Not a good record

At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another.

Our controlling emotions



Our resulting behaviour

But this is true for everyone although some may appear worse than others

BUT ... God

But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.

God's intervention made the difference

When Jesus came into our world

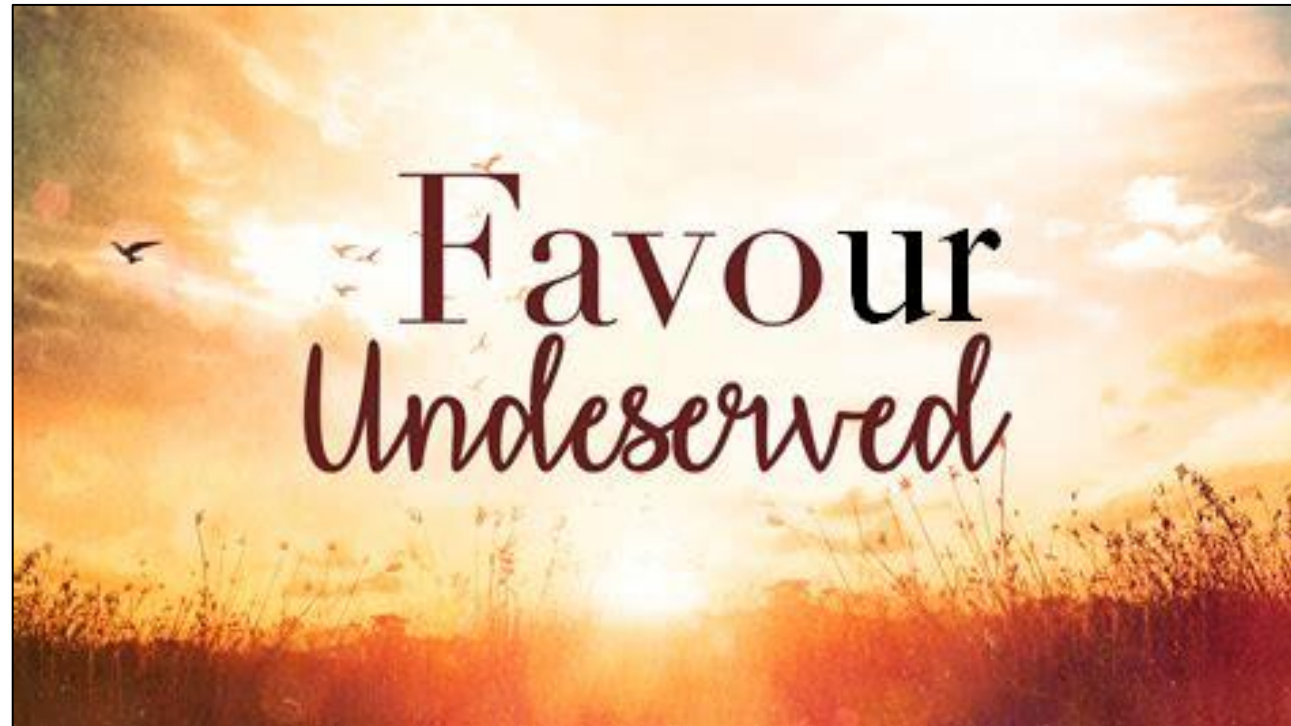
And then when Jesus came into our lives



The Real Reason

But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared,
he saved us, **not because of righteous things we had done,**
but because of his mercy.

mercy to guilty hell-deserving sinners



Regeneration - cleansed and empowered

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 Saviour,



God's generosity

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 Saviour,**

Father via Jesus give us the Spirit



Justified

**so that, having been justified by his grace,
we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.**

– declared righteous in His sight!



That had to be by his grace

Heirs

so that, having been justified by his grace,
we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

Heirs of the promised land! Our Eternal home



Take note of what I said

This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

Let them know for sure:
Real faith leads to real action
That is seen in good deeds
(what God defines as pleasing to Him)



This will do everybody good

Things for leaders to avoid

But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless.

Arguments about secondary stuff

Controversies eg. Cf John 4:20

Genealogies

Law issues



Nobody benefits because they are useless

Dealing with awkward people

Warn a divisive person once, and then warn him a second time. After that, have nothing to do with him. You may be sure that such a man is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

Give them a chance to respond

If they don't respond don't waste your time on them any more

Leave them to God – they are in a bad way



More help is coming

As soon as I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, because I have decided to winter there.

A helper will be on his way to continue the work

Who will go?

Artemas

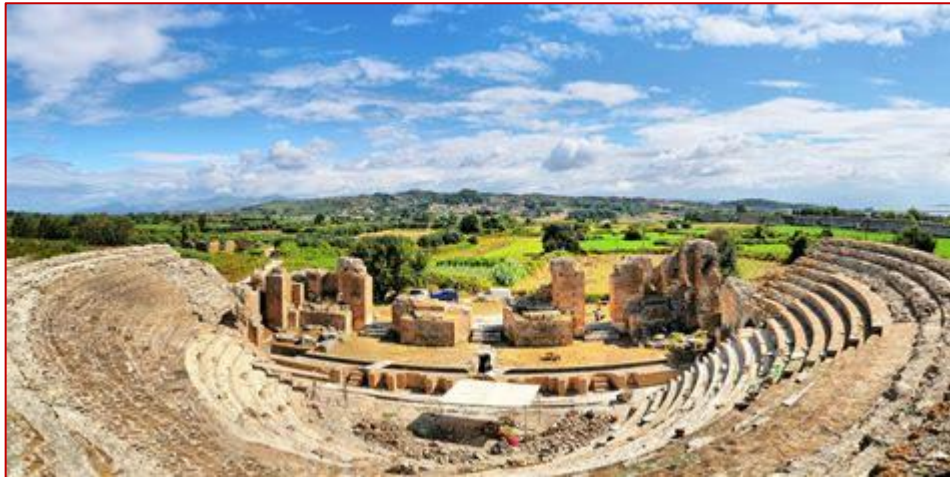
Tychicus



Come here?

As soon as I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, **do your best to come to me at Nicopolis**, because I have decided to winter there.

You can join me at Nicopolis.
Had Paul gone there then when he wrote the letter after his release?



Winter travel?

As soon as I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, **do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, because I have decided to winter there.**

Paul's previous experience would tell us that travel in the Mediterranean during winter was not a good idea.



Personal friends in the Lord

Do everything you can to help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way and see that they have everything they need.

Are they in Crete with Titus or just passing through?

Practical assistance was important
There would be no support
from 'the world'.



Work to do

Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives.

People – get to work!

Good deeds are important

Provide for your families etc

Useful, fruitful living



Say hello to ...

Everyone with me sends you greetings.
Greet those who love us in the faith.

He wasn't a solitary worker.
Brothers and sisters here are
thinking of you.

This letter was to be read to
the congregations also.

The usual letter ending
– pass on the blessing!



A final blessing

Grace be with you all.

A closing 'prayer'
Grace is what we all need.

O grace halleluiah

