

Episode #350 Titus 2 Part 5: The Glorious Appearing...of Grace

I. The book of Titus is a personal letter of Paul to Titus, a leader among the believers on the island of Crete. He is instructed how to act as a leader, and also how to choose others as leaders over the believers in Crete. From these instructions, we learn much about how God wants His people to act in this dispensation of grace in which we live.

II. After teaching Titus how to choose leaders in Crete, how to train those leaders to behave, and the things the leaders and Titus should teach to others as to how they should behave, Paul now moves on to speak of the glorious appearing of God's grace.

III. Appeared and Appearing.

A. Titus 2:11. Looking back at the beginning of the dispensation of grace.

1. Salvation had belonged to the Jews (Acts 3:12,26), but now it is open to all (Acts 28:28).
2. "Salvation" here is an adjective, not a noun. Thus this speaks of the salvation-bringing grace of God.
3. Appeared is "*epiphaino*," which means "blazed forth." Formerly, grace had always been mixed with judgment. Now, we have undiluted grace.

B. Titus 2:12. The pure grace of God displayed today teaches us how to live.

1. Note: teaches us, not the wicked world. Isaiah 26:9-10.
2. Ungodliness. Speaks of anything that does not have God's character.
3. Worldly lusts. Not just sexual desire, but any strong desire.
4. Soberly. Not just alcohol, but not letting emotions rule us. John 4:24.
5. Righteously and godly. Grace teaches us to do what is right.
6. We are to live this way, even in this present age. Age = Greek *aion* (eon). Even in this present, evil flow of things, we live to please Him.

C. Titus 2:13. The blessed hope: the glorious appearing.

1. Hope is not just wishing for a thing, but expectation. We are assured of it.
2. The great God even (*kai*) our Savior Jesus Christ.
3. "Appearing" is the noun of *epiphaino* (verse 11), *epiphaneia*. It means a blazing forth. Let us pause to consider this important word.

IV. Conclusion: The second chapter of Titus teaches the behaviors leaders are to perform and model for others. These behaviors are done in the light of the salvation-bringing grace God is showing to all today, as well as in light of our blessed hope of Christ's appearing. We praise God that we have God's grace blazing forth on our behalf today. We also praise God that we have the blessed hope of Christ's blazing forth to the world to look forward to. May God speed the day!