

Episode #351 Titus 2 Part 6 - Christ's Blazing Forth

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 speaking of the glorious appearing of God's grace, which defines how God deals both with His people and with the world today, Paul moves on to speak of the glorious appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

III. In Titus 2:13, our blessed hope is the glorious appearing of the great God, even our Savior Jesus Christ. Hope is expectation, not wishing for a thing, so this is what we are expecting. "Appearing" is the noun of *epiphaino* (verse 11), *epiphaneia*. It means a blazing forth. Let us pause to consider this important word.

IV. Considering "*Epiphaneia*" (Appearing) and "*Epiphaino*" (Appeared.)

- A. Luke 1:79. *Epiphaino*. The intervention of God in Christ gives light to those in darkness. Note that His second coming is NOT the only *epiphaneia*, as some have claimed. Also note that the Greeks often used *epiphaino* for an intervention of the gods. In this case, this clearly is a Divine intervention!
- B. Acts 2:20. *Epiphanes*. Only occurrence of the adjective. A blazing day indeed!
- C. Acts 27:20. *Epiphaino*. If the sun or stars had blazed forth, their intervention would have done much for their salvation, as they were lost in the storm.
- D. II Thessalonians 2:8. *Epiphaneia*. Of His *parousia*. His second coming will be a blazing forth, a definite Divine intervention.
- E. I Timothy 6:14. *Epiphaneia*. Of our Lord, the same blazing forth as Titus 2:13.
- F. II Timothy 1:10. *Epiphaneia*. The blazing forth in grace of Titus 2:11. This brought things to light through the gospel. Note: this blazing forth has already happened!
- G. II Timothy 4:1. *Epiphaneia*. His kingdom will be a favorable intervention on behalf of a world that does not deserve it. A blazing forth; Divine intervention.
- H. II Timothy 4:8. *Epiphaneia*. We are to love His blazing forth. There is a reward for all who desire this. We should want Christ to intervene!
- I. Titus 2:11. *Epiphaino*. Again, the grace of God has blazed forth to all men.
- J. Titus 2:13. *Epiphaneia*. Our blessed hope is Christ's favorable intervention.
- K. Titus 3:4. *Epiphaino*. Kindness and love = grace, just like in Titus 2:11.

IV. Titus 2:14. He has redeemed us.

- A. That which is redeemed must be by something of equal or greater value.
- B. He redeems us from every lawless deed we have done.
- C. He wants to purify us as His Own special people. Not to act peculiarly, but simply to live differently from those around us. Moreover, to be zealous for good works.
 - 1. Good works are not just going to church on Sunday. Could be good or not.
 - 2. The good works are the prepared works, ones He told us to do.
 - 3. John 6:29. To believe in Him whom He sent is a good work.
 - 4. II Timothy 2:15. To study and to rightly divide are good works.
 - 5. Philippians 4:8. He told me to think.
 - 6. Isaiah 1:18. He told us to reason together.
 - 7. II Timothy 4:2. He told us to proclaim the word.

V. Titus 2:15. We need reminders to live righteous and godly lives.

- A. To speak is *laleo*, to talk. Exhort = *parakaleo*, to come alongside them to help them.
To rebuke is *elegcho*, to make the facts known, as to a child who has added wrongly.
- B. Our society doesn't like authority. Our authority comes from the Word, not ourselves.
- C. Titus is not to let anyone dismiss him. (As if he had no authority.)

VI. Conclusion: The righteous behaviors believers are to live out today are done in the light of the salvation-bringing grace God is showing today, as well as in light of our blessed hope: Christ's appearing, His intervening on our behalf. Titus as a leader is to remind and encourage and correct the people he is ministering to regarding these things. Let us do them ourselves, and model them to others, knowing what awaits!