

## Titus

### Lesson #19, Chapter 3:3-7

There are more goodies here than our hearts can even take in! Ask the Lord for a ready mind and willing heart to take in all He has for you in this lesson.

1. In verse 3 Paul reminds us that *For we also once were foolish ourselves*. What is the connection between verses 1-2 and verse 3?
  
2. Who are the groups of people Paul is addressing in verses 1-3?
  
3. What did we used to be like according to verse 3?
  
4. Read the following passages and note the phrases that are emphasized. What do you glean here?
  - a. 1 Cor. 6:9-11: Or do you not know that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such *were* some of you; *but* you were washed, *but* you were sanctified, *but* you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God.
  
  - b. Eph. 2:1-3: And you *were dead* in your trespasses and sins, in which you *formerly* walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too *all formerly lived* in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.

- c. Col. 3:5-7: Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. For it is on account of these things that the wrath of God will come, and in them you also *once walked, when you were living in them.*
  
  - d. Titus 3:3-5: For we also once *were foolish* ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. *But* when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared, He saved us.
5. The older we are when we become Christians the more opportunity we have for these things in verse 3 to be true of us. Yet whether we had time to exercise ungodliness or were saved at a young age we know one thing is true according to verses 3-5. What is it? See also Rom. 3:10-12, 23.
6. We see from verse 3 that an unbeliever's life is described as foolish, deceived, disobedient enslaved, malicious, envious. Let's do a quick overview of those terms to see what the Bible has to say about those areas.
- a. *foolish*: Job 2:10; Jer. 4:22; Matt. 7:26
  
  - b. *disobedient*: Neh. 9:26; Luke 1:17; 1 Pet. 2:8
  
  - c. *deceived*: Deut. 11:16; Ps. 78:36; 1 Cor. 6:9; 15:33
  
  - d. *enslaved* (serving): Jn. 8:33-34; Gal. 4:9; 2 Pet. 2:18-19

e. *malice*: Rom. 1:28-29; Eph. 4:31; Titus 2:3

f. *envy*: Prov. 3:31; 23:17; 1 Tim. 6:3-4

7. It is important to understand the spiritual state of an unbeliever. What do you learn from the following verses: Luke 8:5, 11-12; Rom. 1:18-21; 1 Cor. 2:14; 2 Cor. 4:3,4 (for fun read 2 Cor. 3:16); Eph. 4:17-19?
8. What a desolate situation—blind, unbelieving, unwilling—and yet, there is hope. Something happens, *someone* happens. Where does salvation originate? Who is the initiator of salvation (verse 5; 2 Tim. 1:8-9)?
9. *He saved us* (verse 5) is the main verb in this section. How do verses 4-7 explain and detail salvation?
10. What do you learn in verse 4 that explains why God would save us?
11. How was God's kindness and love manifested? See 1:3; 2:11 and Gal. 4:4-5.
12. How else do the Scriptures speak of God's kindness? In a short paragraph summarize what you have learned about God's kindness. See Ps. 25:10; 32:10; 33:18; 147:11; Lam. 3:22-23, 32; Luke 6:35; Rom. 2:4; 1 Pet. 2:1-3.

13. Why is salvation an act of kindness on God's part?
14. God not only saves us from sin, wrath, our own evil ways, but He also saves us *for* something. Look up the verses in each section, then choose one of the words in the box below that best describes an aspect of our salvation and fill in the blank. Some of these terms are those "fancified, high falutin' kind of words", so please define each word just to make sure you understand its meaning.

new creature forgiven reconciled redeemed propitiation justified adopted sanctified
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- a. Rom. 8:15; Gal. 4:5; 1 Jn. 3:2 - God \_\_\_\_\_ me. Definition:
- b. Rom. 5:11; 2 Cor. 5:18-19 - God \_\_\_\_\_ me to Himself.  
Definition:
- c. Rom. 3:24, 28; Gal. 2:16 - God \_\_\_\_\_ me. Definition:
- d. Heb. 2:17-18; 1 Jn. 2:2; 4:10 - God provided \_\_\_\_\_ for me.  
Definition:
- e. Titus 2:14; 1 Pet. 1:17-19 - God \_\_\_\_\_ me. Definition:
- f. 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 4:24 - God makes me a \_\_\_\_\_. Definition:
- g. 1 Cor. 1:30; 6:11 - God \_\_\_\_\_ me. Definition:

h. Eph. 1:7; Col. 2:13-14 - God has \_\_\_\_\_ me. Definition:

15. God wants us to have assurance about our salvation, but never a false sense of security. 2 Cor. 13:5 says, *Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you—unless indeed you fail the test? As you read each of the following verses I want you to ask yourself “Is this true of me? Am I changing in the way that these verses say I should?”* See Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18; 2 Pet. 1:10 (look in the preceding verses to see what things you should practice); 1 Jn. 2:3-6.
  
16. Go back now and reread Titus 3:1-7. Why does Paul remind us of our wretched lives before God intervened and saved and changed us?
  
17. How do these verses encourage you in sharing about the Lord with unbelievers?
  
18. Who are you actively sharing Christ with? Are you looking for opportunities to confess your Savior before men? Remember *such were some of you....*