



## Be Ready! (Titus 3:1-15)

### Grace because of Grace

“Remind **them** to be **subject to rulers and authorities**, to **obey**, to **be ready for every good work**, to **speak evil of no one**, to be **peaceable, gentle**, showing all **humility** to all men. For **we ourselves were also** once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. **But when** the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, **not by** works of righteousness which we have done, **but according to** His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been **justified by His grace** we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. This is a faithful saying, and **these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works**. These things are **good and profitable** to men.” Titus 3:1-8 NKJV

## Titus 3:1-8

- ☑ “Remind **them** to be **subject to rulers and authorities**, to **obey**, to be **ready for every good work**, to **speak evil of no one**, to be **peaceable, gentle**, showing all **humility** to all men.”

Titus 3:1-2 NKJV

- ☑ **Remind Them! Who is “them”?**

- ☑ Those who have received the grace of God...

- ☑ “**For the grace of God** that **brings salvation** has appeared to all men, **teaching us** that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly **in the present age**,” Titus 2:11-12 NKJV

- ☑ **Subject to rulers and authorities**

- ☑ Primary and Secondary Obligations

- ☑ “Let every soul be **subject to the governing authorities**. For there **is no authority except from God**, and the **authorities that exist are appointed by God**. Therefore whoever **resists the authority** resists the ordinance of **God**, and those who **resist will bring judgment on themselves**. For **rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil**. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? **Do what is good, and you will have praise** from the same. For **he is God’s minister to you for good**. But if

**you do evil, be afraid**; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for **he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.** Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath **but also for conscience' sake.** For because of this you also pay taxes, for **they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing.** **Render therefore to all their due:** taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor." Romans 13:1-7 NKJV

☑ **Let's walk through obedience...**

- ☑ Obedience is a hallmark of Christian living. But we must ask, obedience to what and to whom? Let's go step-by-step through Romans 13:1-7 to find out!
- ☑ Subject yourself to the governing authorities.
- ☑ These authorities exist and are appointed by God.
- ☑ If you resist God's appointed authorities, you are resisting God's ordinances (His laws!).
- ☑ Those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.
- ☑ These rulers (God-appointed authorities) are advocating for good works (in Jewish culture mitz·vah / mitzvot—commandments) and are against evil.

- ☑ If you wish to have no fear of these God-appointed authorities, do the good works (and be praised for it).
- ☑ Why? Because these authorities are God's ministers to you for good (they oversee and monitor obedience).
- ☑ But if you do evil, be afraid.
- ☑ Why? Because they are God's ministers, and they are in place to execute wrath on those who practice evil.
- ☑ Therefore subject yourself to God's ministers because you want to avoid the consequences, and because it is the right thing to do.
- ☑ Again, why? Because they are God's ministers attending continually to this very duty (rewarding obedience and punishing evil).
- ☑ Therefore, pay these rulers due respect and bring your offerings to them.
- ☑ Clearly we should obey the laws of God and He puts leaders in place to administrate His legal system.  
Obeying God is how we love God. Of course, there is nothing wrong with obeying the laws of man, and we must—as long as they are consistent with the commands of God.
- ☑ **“If you love Me, keep My commandments.”** John 14:15 NKJV

- ☑ **“He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me.** And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”” John 14:21 NKJV
- ☑ **“Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar,** and the truth is not in him.” I John 2:3-4 NKJV
- ☑ **God or man...**
  - ☑ You must also obey the rules and rulers in the secular world, unless they contradict God. If secular commands contradict God’s commands, **you are not only permitted to disobey, you are instructed to.**
  - ☑ “Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus. And seeing the man who had been healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it. But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves, saying, “What shall we do to these men? For, indeed, that a notable miracle has been done through them is evident to all who dwell in

Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. But so that it spreads no further among the people, **let us severely threaten them, that from now on they speak to no man in this name.**" So they called them and **commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.** But Peter and John answered and said to them, **"Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard."** Acts 4:13-20 NKJV

- ☑ In other words...you can go ahead and spew all the rhetoric you wish about how God desires us to obey rules, and and you may think it is wrong to ever disobey "governing authorities." But if your rulers transgresses God, we will ignore your rules every time.
- ☑ Who is Peter and John addressing? (The Sanhedrin)
  - ☑ "And it came to pass, on the next day, that their **rulers, elders, and scribes, as well as Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the family of the high priest,** were gathered together at Jerusalem." Acts 4:5-6 NKJV

☑ **Be ready for every good work!**

- ☑ Be Ready! For what? EVERY good work.
- ☑ What defines a good work! In Hebraic culture it was quite simple. Keeping God's commands was considered good works!
- ☑ Judaism (mitz·vah): a good work done for Religious duty. (mitzvoth, plural in Hebrew) the 613 commandments extracted from the Old Testament.
- ☑ **Speak evil of no one**
  - ☑ **“Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth,** but what is good for **necessary edification,** that **it may impart grace to the hearers.** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. **Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you,** with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.” Ephesians 4:29-32 NKJV
- ☑ **Peaceable**
  - ☑ **“Blessed are the peacemakers,** For they shall be called sons of God.” Matthew 5:9 NKJV
  - ☑ “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; **and the peace of God,** which

surpasses all understanding, **will guard your hearts and minds** through Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7 NKJV

☑️ **“And let the peace of God rule in your hearts,** to which also you were called in one body; and **be thankful.** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” Colossians 3:15-17 NKJV

☑️ “Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. **If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.** Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. Therefore **“If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.”** Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” Romans 12:17-21 NKJV

☑️ **“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you.** Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” John 14:27 NKJV



☑ **Gentle**

- ☑ Having or showing a mild, kind, or tender temperament or character; not harsh or severe.

☑ **Humble to all men**

- ☑ Be the one of whom everyone knows—“he puts others first!” There is no greater seed you can plant in someone’s heart to build trust, than that which instills a belief in other that you prefer them!

- ☑ *“For **we ourselves were also** once **foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another.**” Titus 3:3 NKJV*

☑ **The old life—we ourselves were also once...**

- ☑ “From that time many of His disciples **went back** and walked with Him no more.” John 6:66 NKJV

☑ **Don’t go back**

- ☑ “For if, **after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them** and overcome, **the latter end is worse for them than the beginning.** For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered

to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: **“A dog returns to his own vomit,”** and, **“a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.”**” II Peter 2:20-22 NKJV

☑ **Enough of our past lives — peter**

☑ **“For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries.”** I Peter 4:3 NKJV

☑ *“But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, **not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy** He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom **He poured out on us abundantly** through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been **justified by His grace** we **should become heirs according to the hope** of eternal life.”* Titus 3:4-7 NKJV

☑ **The kindness and the love of God...Justified by grace!**

☑ Saved by saved for...

☑ **“And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,** in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the

power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, **among whom also we all once conducted ourselves** in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. **But God,** who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, **even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),** and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. **For by grace you have been saved through faith,** and that not of yourselves; **it is the gift of God,** not of works, lest anyone should boast. **For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,** which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:1-10 NKJV

- ☑ You were dead and He made you alive by His own doing.
- ☑ Now you have a new promise to inherit.
- ☑ Grace saved you and now it has a job for you to do.
- ☑ What job is that? To do good works!

- ☑ You now know this to mean obedience to His commands!
  
- ☑ *“This is a **faithful saying**, and these things **I want you to affirm constantly**, that those who have believed in God **should be careful to maintain good works**. These things are good and profitable to men.” Titus 3:8 NKJV*
- ☑ **A faithful saying...**
  - ☑ Let me repeat this constantly...those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works!
  - ☑ AGAIN! You now know this to mean obedience to His commands!
- ☑ **Grace for Grace to...**
  - ☑ **“For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, **teaching us** that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly **in the present age**,” Titus 2:11-12 NKJV**
- ☑ **Justified by grace through faith—access to that grace to live a life of hope...**
  - ☑ **“Therefore, **having been justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand**, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not**

only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now **hope does not disappoint**, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”

Romans 5:1-5 NKJV

☑ **If there is no doing, there was no grace. If there was not grace their is no faith!**

☑ “But **be doers of the word, and not hearers only**, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and **immediately forgets what kind of man he was.**” James 1:22-24 NKJV

☑ “**What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him?** If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, **what does it profit? Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.** But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, and **I will show**

**you my faith by my works.** You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! But do you want to know, **O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?**” James 2:14-20 NKJV

- ☑ Can faith save you? Sure! But can you have real faith without works (obeying God’s commands)? No! If there is no evidence of faith, there is no faith

## **Avoid and Reject**

“But **avoid** foolish disputes, genealogies, contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and useless. **Reject** a divisive man after the first and second admonition, knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being self-condemned.” Titus 3:9-11 NKJV

### **Titus 3:9-11**

- ☑ “But **avoid** foolish disputes, genealogies, contentions, and strivings about the law; for **they are unprofitable and useless.**”  
*Titus 3:9 NKJV*

- ☑ **Avoid...**

- ☑ Foolish disputes: arguments about topics that have no kingdom value.
- ☑ Genealogies: as if one’s bloodline confers any guarantee!

- ☑ Contentions: heated arguments produce anger, not truth.
- ☑ Strivings about the law: as if the law could have saved you in the state you were in. Or that somehow pursuing obedience apart from grace can get you anywhere other than where Israel landed.
- ☑ **Why?**
  - ☑ This approach is unprofitable and useless.
- ☑ *“**Reject** a divisive man after the first and second admonition, knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being self-condemned.” Titus 3:10-11 NKJV*
- ☑ **Reject...**
  - ☑ A divisive man after the first and second admonition.
  - ☑ These men revel in bringing conflict between people.
  - ☑ Give a man two chances and then move on!
- ☑ **Why?**
  - ☑ Men like that are warped and sinful and will ultimately, condemn themselves.

## Maintain Works Meet Needs

“When I send **Artemas** to you, or **Tychicus**, be diligent to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Send **Zenas the lawyer** and **Apollos** on their journey with

haste, **that they may lack nothing**. And let our people also learn to **maintain good works**, to **meet urgent needs**, that they may not be unfruitful. All who are with me greet you. Greet those who **love us in the faith**. Grace be with you all. Amen." Titus 3:12-15 NKJV

### Titus 3:12-15

☑ *"When I send **Artemas** to you, or **Tychicus**, be diligent to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there."* Titus 3:12 NKJV

#### ☑ Artemas

☑ He is believed to have served as the Bishop of Lystra, and to have been one of the Seventy Disciples.

#### ☑ Tychicus

☑ "But that you also may know my affairs and how I am doing, Tychicus, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make all things known to you;"  
Ephesians 6:21 NKJV

☑ "And Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus." II Timothy 4:12  
NKJV

☑ "Tychicus, a beloved brother, faithful minister, and fellow servant in the Lord, will tell you all the news about me."  
Colossians 4:7 NKJV



☑ *“Send **Zenas** the lawyer and **Apollos** on their journey with haste, that they may lack nothing.” Titus 3:13 NKJV*

☑ **Zenas**

☑ Only one time in the Scriptures does the word “lawyer” apply to a specific person. Zenas is the only lawyer spoken of favorably in the Bible. Although he might have been the only “attorney at law” mentioned in the Bible, he was most likely a former scribe or Jewish rabbi.

☑ **Apollos—an excellent reputation!**

☑ “Now a certain Jew **named Apollos**, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man and **mighty in the Scriptures**, came to Ephesus. **This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord**, though he knew only the baptism of John. So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. And when he desired to cross to Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him; and when he arrived, **he greatly helped those who had believed through grace; for he vigorously refuted the Jews publicly, showing from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ.**” Acts 18:24-28 NKJV

- ☑ “Now **these things, brethren, I have figuratively transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes**, that you may learn in us not to think beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up on behalf of one against the other.” I Corinthians 4:6 NKJV
- ☑ What things...?
  - ☑ “Let a man so consider us, as **servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God**. Moreover it is **required in stewards that one be found faithful**. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by a human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. **For I know of nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord**. Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one’s praise will come from God.” I Corinthians 4:1-5 NKJV
- ☑ “And ***let our people also learn to maintain good works, to meet urgent needs***, that they may not be unfruitful. All who are with me greet you. ***Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.***” Titus 3:14-15 NKJV

☑ **Fruit...**

- ☑ Good Works—I hope this is clear by now! You were saved to do Good works!
- ☑ “**You are the salt of the earth;** but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. **You are the light of the world.** A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. **Let your light so shine** before men, **that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.**” Matthew 5:13-16 NKJV
- ☑ Meeting Needs—talking about it is useless!
  - ☑ **“If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”** James 2:15-17 NKJV

**NEXT TEACHING**

Three Days and Three Nights (Jonah 1:1-17)