



A Focused Church

Titus 2:11-15

November 28, 2021

Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this text God explains how the first and second comings of Christ transform and direct a Christian's life.

The Text: Titus 2:11-15

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works. ¹⁵ Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

1) The first coming of Christ transforms the life of every Christian (vv. 11-12).

- a) Behavior follows belief (salvation) – it requires a birth from above.

- b) When the church pursues proper behavior, it is receiving the gospel and putting it to work.

- c) Pursuit of a godly life is God's gift to a Christian – the experience of God's grace & peace.

2) The second coming of Christ directs the life of every Christian (vv. 13-15).

- a) We need to work hard to know and live the true story of the world – the new creation.

- b) Since competing stories are everywhere, the church needs to make sure to prioritize the true story.

- c) Christians need to prioritize weekly corporate worship to remember and rehearse the true story.

Response

Just as we rejoice in the first coming of Christ, so we live confidently and fittingly in light of the second.

Small Group Questions

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- 1) Starter Question: Recount a time, maybe when you were a child, when you waited with great expectation for something or someone.
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) What is the significance of Paul describing the first coming of Jesus with the phrase “the grace of God has appeared” (v. 11)?
- 4) How does the coming and work of Jesus “train” us “to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions” (v. 12) and “to live ...godly lives” (v. 13)?
- 5) What are we being taught when Paul says that the second coming of Christ is “our blessed hope” (v. 13)?
- 6) If you are being honest, do you hope or live for the second coming, or are other goals and purposes directing your life?
- 7) What lesser stories tempt or distract Christians from the true story of the world – the coming of Christ and the promise of the new creation?
- 8) What is v. 14 teaching us about the work of Christ for us?
- 9) How should or does Christ’s work make Christians “zealous for good works” (v. 14)?
- 10) How can Christians or the church as a whole obey Paul’s command in v. 15?

Further study this week: Passages on biblical hope: 1 Peter 1:3-5 (Mon); Colossians 3:1-2 (Tues); Ephesians 1:18 (Wed); 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 (Thurs); Philippians 1:6 (Fri).