

TITUS 2:11-14; 3:1-8

- CH. 2 vs. 11 FOR THE GRACE OF GOD THAT BRINGETH SALVATION HATH APPEARED
UNTO ALL MEN,
- vs. 12 TEACHING US THAT, DENYING UNGODLINESS AND WORLDLY LUSTS,
WE SHOULD LIVE SOBERLY, RIGHTEOUSLY, AND GODLY IN
THIS PRESENT WORLD;
- vs. 13 LOOKING FOR THAT BLESSED HOPE, AND THE GLORIOUS APPEARING
OF THE GREAT GOD AND OUR SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST;
- vs. 14 WHO GAVE HIMSELF FOR US, THAT HE MIGHT REDEEM US FROM ALL
INIQUITY, AND PURIFY UNTO HIMSELF A PECULIAR PEOPLE,
ZEALOUS OF GOOD WORKS.
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- CH. 3 vs. 1 PUT THEM IN MIND TO BE SUBJECT TO PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS,
TO OBEY MAGISTRATES, TO BE READY TO EVERY GOOD WORK,
- vs. 2 TO SPEAK EVIL OF NO MAN, TO BE NO BRAWLERS, BUT GENTLE,
SHEWING ALL MEEKNESS UNTO ALL MEN.
- vs. 3 FOR WE OURSELVES ALSO WERE SOMETIMES FOOLISH, DISOBEDIENT,
DECEIVED, SERVING DIVERS LUSTS AND PLEASURES, LIVING
IN MALICE AND ENVY, HATEFUL, AND HATING ONE ANOTHER.
- vs. 4 BUT AFTER THAT THE KINDNESS AND LOVE OF GOD OUR SAVIOUR
TOWARD MAN APPEARED,
- vs. 5 NOT BY WORKS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS WHICH WE HAVE DONE, BUT
ACCORDING TO HIS MERCY HE SAVED US, BY THE WASHING
OF REGENERATION, AND RENEWING OF THE HOLY GHOST;
- vs. 6 WHICH HE SHED ON US ABUNDANTLY THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR
SAVIOUR;
- vs. 7 THAT BEING JUSTIFIED BY HIS GRACE, WE SHOULD BE MADE HEIRS
ACCORDING TO THE HOPE OF ETERNAL LIFE.
- vs. 8 THIS IS A FAITHFUL SAYING, AND THESE THINGS I WILL THAT
THOU AFFIRM CONSTANTLY, THAT THEY WHICH HAVE BELIEVED
IN GOD MIGHT BE CAREFUL TO MAINTAIN GOOD WORKS. THESE
THINGS ARE GOOD AND PROFITABLE UNTO MEN.

Every believer is in full time Christian service, and because he is a believer priest, he has a right to represent God before man (since Jesus Christ is absent from the Earth) in proclaiming the Gospel to every creature.

ACTS 1:8 "BUT YE SHALL RECEIVE POWER, AFTER THAT THE HOLY GHOST IS COME UPON YOU: AND YE SHALL BE WITNESSES UNTO ME BOTH IN JERUSALEM, AND IN ALL JUDAEA, AND IN SAMARIA, AND UNTO THE UTMOST PART OF THE EARTH."

ROMANS 1:14-17 "I AM A DEBTOR BOTH TO THE GREEKS, AND TO THE BARBARIANS; BOTH TO THE WISE, AND TO THE UNWISE.

SO, AS MUCH AS IN ME IS, I AM READY TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO YOU THAT ARE AT ROME ALSO.

FOR I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST: FOR IT IS THE POWER OF GOD UNTO SALVATION TO EVERY ONE THAT BELIEVETH; TO THE JEW FIRST, AND ALSO TO THE GREEK,

FOR THEREIN IS THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD REVEALED FROM FAITH TO FAITH: AS IT IS WRITTEN, THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH."

II CORINTHIANS 5:14 & 15 "FOR THE LOVE OF CHRIST CONSTRAINETH US; BECAUSE WE THUS JUDGE, THAT IF ONE DIED FOR ALL, THEN WERE ALL DEAD:

AND THAT HE DIED FOR ALL, THAT THEY WHICH LIVE SHOULD NOT HENCEFORTH LIVE UNTO THEMSELVES, BUT UNTO HIM WHICH DIED FOR THEM, AND ROSE AGAIN.

II CORINTHIANS 5:17-21 "THEREFORE IF ANY MAN BE IN CHRIST, HE IS A NEW CREATURE: OLD THINGS ARE PASSED AWAY; BEHOLD, ALL THINGS ARE BECOME NEW.

AND ALL THINGS ARE OF GOD, WHO HATH RECONCILED US TO HIMSELF BY JESUS CHRIST, AND HATH GIVEN TO US THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION.

TO WIT, THAT GOD WAS IN CHRIST, RECONCILING THE WORLD UNTO HIMSELF, NOT IMPUTING THEIR TRESPASSES UNTO THEM; AND HATH COMMITTED UNTO US THE WORD OF RECONCILIATION.

NOW THEN WE ARE AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST, AS THOUGH GOD DID BESEECH YOU BY US: WE PRAY YOU IN CHRIST'S STEAD, BE YE RECONCILED TO GOD.

FOR HE HATH MADE HIM TO BE SIN FOR US, WHO KNEW NO SIN; THAT WE MIGHT BE MADE THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IN HIM."

James exclaimed, "The tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body," (James 3:6). Our mouth reveals what is in our heart. As believers, we are to "keep our heart with all diligence" and to desire, as David did, that the Lord would "set a watch before our mouth," and "keep the door of our lips," for "whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from trouble," (Psalm 21:3).

PROVERBS 10:19&20a "IN THE MULTITUDE OF WORDS THERE WANTETH NOT SIN; BUT HE THAT REFRAINETH HIS LIPS IS WISE. THE TONGUE OF THE JUST IS AS CHOICE SILVER."

PROVERBS 12:22 "LYING LIPS ARE AN ABOMINATION TO THE LORD; BUT THEY THAT DEAL TRULY ARE HIS DELIGHT."

PROVERBS 15:28 "THE HEART OF THE RIGHTEOUS STUDIETH TO ANSWER: BUT THE MOUTH OF THE WICKED POURETH OUT EVIL THINGS."

PROVERBS 18:13 "HE THAT ANSWERETH A MATTER BEFORE HE HEARETH IT, IT IS A FOLLY AND SHAME UNTO HIM."

PROVERBS 20:15 "THERE IS GOLD, AND A MULTITUDE OF RUBIES; BUT THE LIPS OF KNOWLEDGE ARE A PRECIOUS JEWEL."

PROVERBS 20:19 "HE THAT GOETH ABOUT AS A TALEBEARER REVEALETH SECRETS; THEREFORE MEDDLE NOT WITH HIM THAT FLATTERETH WITH HIS LIPS."

PROVERBS 21:23 "WHOSO KEEPETH HIS MOUTH AND HIS TONGUE KEEPETH HIS SOUL FROM TROUBLE."

PROVERBS 26:20-22 "WHERE NO WOOD IS, THERE THE FIRE GOETH OUT: SO WHERE THERE IS NO TALEBEARER, THE STRIFE CEASETH. AS COALS ARE TO BURNING COALS, AND WOOD TO FIRE: SO IS A CONTENTIOUS MAN TO KINDLE STRIFE. THE WORDS OF A TALEBEARER ARE AS WOUNDS, AND THEY GO DOWN INTO THE INNERMOST PARTS OF THE BELLY."

PROVERBS 29:11 A FOOL UTTERETH ALL HIS MIND; BUT A WISE MAN KEEPETH IT IN TILL AFTERWARDS.

ECCLESIASTES 5:2 "BE NOT RASH WITH THY MOUTH, AND LET NOT THINE HEART BE HASTY TO UTTER ANYTHING BEFORE GOD: FOR GOD IS IN HEAVEN, AND THOU UPON EARTH: THEREFORE LET THY WORDS BE FEW."

MATTHEW 12:36 "BUT I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT EVERY IDLE WORD THAT MEN SHALL SPEAK, THEY SHALL GIVE ACCOUNT THEREOF IN THE DAY OF JUDGMENT."

In John 14:3 Christ, having prepared a place in heaven for believers, promised, "I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." The believers' hope is not for an earthly kingdom. Our "blessed hope" is the day when "we shall meet the Lord in the air" and "ever be with the Lord." This hope, called the Rapture by many, is imminent. At any moment now, the Lord may descend from Heaven to raise the dead and change the living. It is also called "the purifying hope." There is nothing so effective in controlling the heart and mind of the believer so that his one objective will be to walk pleasingly to the Lord Himself, as the thought that at any moment He who has redeemed us may return and take us to the Father's house. "Every man that hath this hope in Him purifieth himself even as He (Christ) is pure," (I John 3:3).

I CORINTHIANS 15:51, 52 "BEHOLD, I SHEW YOU A MYSTERY; WE SHALL NOT ALL SLEEP, BUT WE SHALL ALL BE CHANGED, IN A MOMENT, IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE, AT THE LAST TRUMP: FOR THE TRUMPET SHALL SOUND, AND THE DEAD SHALL BE RAISED INCORRUPTIBLE, AND WE SHALL BE CHANGED."

I THESSALONIANS 4:13-18 "FOR THIS WE SAY UNTO YOU BY THE WORD OF THE LORD, THAT WE WHICH ARE ALIVE AND REMAIN UNTO THE COMING OF THE LORD SHALL NOT PREVENT THEM WHICH ARE ASLEEP. FOR THE LORD HIMSELF SHALL DESCEND FROM HEAVEN WITH A SHOUT, WITH THE VOICE OF THE ARCHANGEL, AND WITH THE TRUMP OF GOD: AND THE DEAD IN CHRIST SHALL RISE FIRST: THEN WE WHICH ARE ALIVE AND REMAIN SHALL BE CAUGHT UP TOGETHER WITH THEM IN THE CLOUDS, TO MEET THE LORD IN THE AIR: AND SO SHALL WE EVER BE WITH THE LORD. WHEREFORE COMFORT ONE ANOTHER WITH THESE WORDS."

I JOHN 3:1-3 "BEHOLD, WHAT MANNER OF LOVE THE FATHER HATH BESTOWED UPON US, THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED THE SONS OF GOD: THEREFORE THE WORLD KNOWETH US NOT, BECAUSE IT KNEW HIM NOT. BELOVED, NOW ARE WE THE SONS OF GOD, AND IT DOTHT NOT YET APPEAR WHAT WE SHALL BE: BUT WE KNOW THAT, WHEN HE SHALL APPEAR, WE SHALL BE LIKE HIM; FOR WE SHALL SEE HIM AS HE IS. AND EVERY MAN THAT HATH THIS HOPE IN HIM PURIFIETH HIMSELF, EVEN AS HE IS PURE."

JAMES 5:8 "BE YE ALSO PATIENT; STABLISH YOUR HEARTS: FOR THE COMING OF THE LORD DRAWETH NIGH."

I JOHN 2:28 "AND NOW, LITTLE CHILDREN, ABIDE IN HIM; THAT, WHEN HE SHALL APPEAR, WE MAY HAVE CONFIDENCE, AND NOT BE ASHAMED BEFORE HIM AT HIS COMING."

Submission, which means *to obey or yield to the control or advice of an authority*, is the key to success in every area of life. Since the Word of God is the ultimate authority, our rejection or acceptance of it will determine the course of our lives. Becoming a Christian requires submission to the provision of a Saviour, Jesus Christ (Romans 10:3). Living the Christian life demands the same submission or obedience to God's Word. Listed below are various other authorities that the Word of God places over us.

****CHRIST IS OUR EXAMPLE OF PERFECT SUBMISSION****

HEBREWS 5:8&9 "THOUGH HE WERE A SON, YET LEARNED HE OBEDIENCE BY THE THINGS WHICH HE SUFFERED;⁹ AND BEING MADE PERFECT, HE BECAME THE AUTHOR OF ETERNAL SALVATION UNTO ALL THEM THAT OBEY HIM."

PHILIPPIANS 2:8 "AND BEING FOUND IN FASHION AS A MAN, HE HUMBLING HIMSELF, BECAME OBEDIENT UNTO DEATH, EVEN THE DEATH OF THE CROSS."

****THE BELIEVER IS TO SUBMIT TO THE LORD**** (See Romans 12:1&2 for review)

JAMES 4:7 "SUBMIT YOURSELVES THEREFORE TO GOD. RESIST THE DEVIL, AND HE WILL FLEE FROM YOU."

****CHILDREN ARE TO SUBMIT TO THEIR PARENTS****

EPHESIANS 6:1&2 "CHILDREN, OBEY YOUR PARENTS IN THE LORD: FOR THIS IS RIGHT. ²HONOR THY FATHER AND MOTHER; WHICH IS THE FIRST COMMANDMENT WITH PROMISE."

****WE ARE TO SUBMIT TO THE WORD OF GOD AS PROCLAIMED BY THE PASTOR****

HEBREWS 13:7,17 "REMEMBER THEM WHICH HAVE THE RULE OVER YOU, WHO HAVE SPOKEN UNTO YOU THE WORD OF GOD: WHOSE FAITH FOLLOW, CONSIDERING THE END OF THEIR CONVERSATION. ¹⁷OBEY THEM THAT HAVE THE RULE OVER YOU, AND SUBMIT YOURSELVES: FOR THEY WATCH FOR YOUR SOULS, AS THEY THAT MUST GIVE ACCOUNT, THAT THEY MAY DO IT WITH JOY, AND NOT WITH GRIEF: FOR THAT IS UNPROFITABLE FOR YOU."

****WE ARE TO SUBMIT TO AUTHORITY ON THE JOB****

EPHESIANS 5:5&6 "SERVANTS, BE OBEDIENT TO THEM THAT ARE YOUR MASTERS ACCORDING TO THE FLESH, WITH FEAR AND TREMBLING, IN SINGLENESSE OF YOUR HEART, AS UNTO CHRIST; ⁶NOT WITH EYESERVICE, AS MEN PLEASERS; BUT AS THE SERVANTS OF CHRIST, DOING THE WILL OF GOD FROM THE HEART."

****WE ARE TO SUBMIT TO GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY****

I PETER 2:13,14 "SUBMIT YOURSELVES TO EVERY ORDINANCE OF MAN FOR THE LORD'S SAKE: WHETHER IT BE TO THE KING, AS SUPREME; ¹⁴-OR UNTO GOVERNORS, AS UNTO THEM THAT ARE SENT BY HIM FOR THE PUNISHMENT OF EVILDOERS, AND FOR THE PRAISE OF THEM THAT DO WELL."

Romans 12:1 & 2 - I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

II Corinthians 6:14 - 7:1 -

14 "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the lord Almighty.

7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."

Ephesians 5:11 - And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

Philippians 2:15 - "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world."

II Timothy 2:4 - "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."

Titus 2:12 - "Teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world."

James 1:27 - "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

James 4:4 - "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God."

I Peter 2:11 - "Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul."

I John 2:15 - 17 - "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world, If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever."