**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | This Is Your Life |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Titus 3:3-7 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #1765 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
	1. Titus 3:3-7
	2. Grace is amazing and so contrary to human nature.
		1. We want to do things ourselves.
		2. Materialism says to buy our way out.
		3. Politics say to legislate our way out.
		4. Militarism says to fight our way out.
		5. Industry says to work our way out.
		6. Philosophy says to think our way out.
		7. Deception says to bluff our way out.
		8. But the grace of God is the way out.
	3. Paul told Titus (who was saved and living in Crete among those who were lost) that he should live like a Christian and display Christian character.
		1. Titus 3:1-2
	4. This world is not our home.
		1. We are pilgrims going home.
		2. We are on our way to glory.
		3. We are to demonstrate the wonderful grace of God to all of those around us.
	5. In today’s message, we will be talking about our grace lives.
		1. This is the life that we can have.
		2. We will see that the Apostle Paul divides our spiritual life up into three categories:
			1. The past.
			2. The present.
			3. The future.
2. Our past guilt (titus 3:3)
	1. This is what we used to be.
	2. Titus 3:3
		1. The Apostle Paul talks about what our past guilt was intellectually, morally, and socially.
	3. Our past guilt intellectually:
		1. We were foolish.
			1. Titus 3:3
				1. The word “foolish” here does not mean lacking in intelligence.

A person can have a high IQ and be foolish.

The Bible says that great men are not always wise.

Job 32:9

* + - 1. 1 Corinthians 1:18-20
				1. If we are saved, then it is the power of God.
				2. If you are not saved, then it may seem foolish.
			2. If we are so smart, then why are we in such a mess?
			3. The cross that we preach is foolish to this world.
				1. 1 Corinthians 1:18
				2. We are saved by the cross alone, by grace alone, through faith alone, and in Christ alone.

The statesmen, the philosophers, and the thinkers do not understand this.

It is foolishness to them.

* + - 1. John 3:14-15
				1. The people had disobeyed God, and God sent fiery serpents into the camp.

Numbers 21:4-9

The serpent is a symbol of sin.

* + - * 1. The people were dying.
				2. God told Moses to make a brazen serpent and put it upon a pole.

Whoever looked at the serpent in faith would be healed of his snake bite.

* + - * 1. This is an Old Testament illustration of salvation.

John 3:14

The brazen serpent represents the Lord Jesus.

2 Corinthians 5:21

He took our sin and carried it to the cross.

Brass is a symbol of judgment, and Jesus was sin being judged.

* + - * 1. In the Old Testament, the people were told to look and to live.

They did not have to die.

God had made a provision.

But to some, it probably seemed foolish to look upon the brass serpent for healing.

1 Corinthians 1:18

A person can refuse Jesus if they want to.

* + 1. We were disobedient.
			1. Titus 3:3
			2. The word “disobedient” doesn’t mean simply that we disobey.
				1. It has the idea of willful, obstinate, and stubborn disobedience.
				2. Disobedience in the light of truth; not wanting to know the truth.

The problem is not in the mind but in the heart.

It has the idea of being unyielding.

* + 1. We were deceived.
			1. Titus 3:3
			2. Why were we so willfully disobedient before we got saved?
				1. Because there is a devil who is the great deceiver.
			3. The Bible says that Satan deceives the whole world.
				1. Revelation 12:9
			4. No one like this would be saved apart from the grace of God.
	1. What we were morally:
		1. Titus 3:3
			1. “Serving divers lusts and pleasures” can be translated, “habitual slaves to all sorts of passions.”
				1. That is how we were.
				2. We were simply living for ourselves.
		2. Living in sin is not only a vise, but it is also a trap.
			1. The more we are into it, the deeper we sink.
			2. It may be sins of the back ally, the refined pleasures of the social club, or the niceties of this world.
				1. It does not make any difference.

Sin is sin.

* 1. What we were socially:
		1. Titus 3:3
		2. The reason we hate one another is because we are hateful.
			1. The problem is in us.
				1. We cannot get along with other people because we cannot get along with ourselves.
		3. Over the years, there has been an increase in violent crime in America.
			1. The problem is sin.
			2. Those who have never committed a crime like this may think that they are alright.
				1. Self-righteousness is one of the worst sins of all.
				2. It is not the amount of sin but the fact of sin that condemns us.

We are sinners.

Sinners by birth.

Sinners by nature.

Sinners by choice.

Sinners under condemnation.

1. present grace (titus 3:4-5)
	1. Titus 3:4-5
	2. It is rooted in the sovereign love of the Father.
		1. Titus 3:4
			1. God loves us.
				1. We are blessed because God loves us.
				2. This is grace.
		2. Romans 5:8
		3. God does not love us because we are valuable.
			1. We are valuable because God loves us.
				1. That is what the Gospel is all about.
		4. Titus 3:5
			1. If it were by works of righteousness that we have done, then how could we save ourselves?
				1. Isaiah 64:6

We do not have any righteousness.

Even our righteousness is as filthy rags in God’s sight.

* + 1. Grace spells salvation not “do” and not “don’t,” but “done.”
			1. It is not addition.
				1. There is nothing we can do that will take away what we have already done.
			2. It is not subtraction.
				1. There is nothing we can stop doing.
			3. Sin is sin and must be atoned for.
			4. If we try anything other than the grace of God, then we will be eternally lost.
				1. No matter what else we hold onto, if we are not linked by grace to the heart of God, then we are going to perish.
				2. Titus 3:5
		2. If we were saved by works, then we could brag about it.
			1. Ephesians 2:8-9
			2. We are going to Heaven by the grace of God.
				1. All the glory, praise, and honor go to Him.
	1. It is the supernatural work of the Spirit.
		1. Titus 3:5
		2. Salvation is supernatural.
			1. He regenerates us.
				1. He calls it “the washing of regeneration.”

Titus 3:5

This is not baptism.

Water on our skin cannot take sin out of our hearts.

* + - * 1. Zechariah 13:1

There is a fountain that we can wash in for sin and uncleanness.

* + - * 1. What is that fountain?

Revelation 1:5

The Lord Jesus Christ is called the faithful witness in this passage.

Revelation 7:14

We are not washed in water.

We are washed in blood.

* + - * 1. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

We are sanctified.

In this passage of Scripture, he does not say such “are” you.

You may have been a thief, an extortioner, or an adulterer.

But when you were saved, you were washed whiter than snow in the precious blood of Jesus Christ.

You were made new.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Old things are passed away.

They are buried in the grave of God’s forgetfulness.

* + - * 1. There is a washing of regeneration in the blood of the Lamb.
				2. It doesn’t make any difference what denomination you are; there’s no other way to be saved than by the grace of God.
			1. We are renewed by the Holy Ghost.
				1. He makes us new and keeps renewing.

This means continued action.

Day by day, moment by moment, He renew us, restores us and refreshes us.

Lamentations 3:22-23

* + - * 1. He does not just forgive and then say, “That’s it.”
	1. It is the saving death of the Son.
		1. Titus 3:6
		2. Our Savior is God.
			1. Titus 3:4
				1. In this verse, God is called our Savior.
			2. Titus 3:6
				1. In this verse, Jesus Christ is called our Savior.
			3. Is God our Savior, or is Jesus Christ our Savior?
				1. The answer is yes.
				2. God our Savior; Jesus Christ died for us.
		3. There is the sacrificial work of the Savior.
			1. He provided Himself as an innocent sacrifice.
			2. He bore our sin.
			3. Jesus stepped out of Heaven, came to this Earth, lived a sinless life, and was brutalized.
				1. The Bible says that they pulled the beard from His face.

Isaiah 50:6

* + - * 1. They mocked Him.
			1. Jesus Christ suffered as no one else has suffered.
			2. God the Father had to turn His back on Jesus.
				1. The Lord Jesus became sin.
				2. God the Father is of purer eyes than to behold sin.

Habakkuk 1:13

* + - 1. Jesus, who knew no sin, took our sin and carried it to the cross.
				1. 2 Corinthians 5:21
				2. That is grace.
1. our future glory (titus 3:7)
	1. Titus 3:7
		1. This passage talks about what is coming
			1. It’s talking about our future.
		2. We will be heirs of God and joint heirs of Jesus Christ.
			1. A joint heir means that we share and share alike.
			2. We inherit all things.
				1. Revelation 21:7
			3. The best is yet to come.
	2. The Bible calls the Holy Spirit in our hearts, that we have right now, the down payment.
		1. Ephesians 1:13-14
		2. When a person is going to buy something, they give “earnest” money.
			1. The Holy Spirit in our hearts is the earnest money.
		3. We get the full legacy later on.
			1. We do not have it all now; it is a future glory.
				1. This is the reason that this world is not our home.

We are pilgrims just passing through.

* 1. In the Old Testament, we read where Abraham sent his servant, Eliezer, to get a bride for Isaac.
		1. Genesis 24
		2. Isaac is a picture in the Old Testament of the Lord Jesus Christ.
		3. Eliezer is a picture and a type of the Holy Spirit, who seeks a bride for Jesus.
		4. Abraham is a picture of God the Father.
			1. Abraham sent Eliezer to seek a bride for his son.
			2. God the Father is seeking a bride for His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.
		5. Abraham gave Eliezer incredible wealth.
			1. He had all the disposal of the father at his hand to go seek a bride.
		6. Eliezer went into a far country and found the one led of God, whose name was Rebecca.
		7. He had to convince Rebecca to go with him to marry a man she had never seen.
			1. She went with a man she had never seen to marry a man she had never seen.
				1. This is an illustration of how the Holy Spirit teaches us to love Jesus, whom having not seen we love.

1 Peter 1:8

* + - 1. Eliezer told Rebecca about Isaac and how blessed she was going to be.
			2. Rebecca agreed to go back with Eliezer.
		1. Eliezer, representing the Holy Spirit, took treasures and gifts and gave them to Rebecca as they traveled.
			- 1. Perhaps he gave them to her when she became fearful and wondered if there was really an Isaac and if he was really that wonderful.
				2. Perhaps he would tell her that Isaac wanted her to have the gifts and that she would love Isaac.
		2. When she met Isaac, she had already heard so much about him that she knew him.
			1. Eliezer had done his job.
			2. That is what the Holy Spirit does for us.
				1. He drops little gems into our hearts.
				2. He sees our fears and tears.
	1. Right now, we have the earnest of the Spirit.
		1. But the Bible speaks of our future glory.
		2. We are going to inherit all things.
			1. Revelation 21:7
1. CONCLUSION
	1. When you receive Jesus, you receive the eternal life that is in Jesus.
		1. You cannot have that life without having Jesus.
		2. In Him is life.
			1. Receive Him today.
	2. Salvation is a gift.
		1. You receive it.
		2. You will never earn it.
	3. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
	4. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
		1. Romans 3:23
		2. Romans 10:9-10
		3. Romans 10:13
		4. Acts 16:31
		5. John 3:16