

## SERMON OUTLINE

**SERMON TITLE:** This Is Your Life

**SERMON REFERENCE:** Titus 3:3-7

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:** #1765

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) Titus 3:3-7
- b) Grace is amazing and so contrary to human nature.
  - i) We want to do things ourselves.
  - ii) Materialism says to buy our way out.
  - iii) Politics say to legislate our way out.
  - iv) Militarism says to fight our way out.
  - v) Industry says to work our way out.
  - vi) Philosophy says to think our way out.
  - vii) Deception says to bluff our way out.
  - viii) But the grace of God is the way out.
- c) 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.
  - i) Titus 3:1-2
- d) This world is not our home.
  - i) We are pilgrims going home.
  - ii) We are on our way to glory.
  - iii) We are to demonstrate the wonderful grace of God to all of those around us.
- e) In today's message, we will be talking about our grace lives.
  - i) This is the life that we can have.
  - ii) 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)

- a) This is what we used to be.
- b) Titus 3:3
  - i) The Apostle Paul talks about what our past guilt was intellectually, morally, and socially.
- c) Our past guilt intellectually:
  - i) We were foolish.
    - (1) Titus 3:3
      - (a) The word "foolish" here does not mean lacking in intelligence.
        - (i) A person can have a high IQ and be foolish.
        - (ii) The Bible says that great men are not always wise.
          - 1. Job 32:9
      - (2) 1 Corinthians 1:18-20
        - (a) If we are saved, then it is the power of God.
        - (b) If you are not saved, then it may seem foolish.
      - (3) If we are so smart, then why are we in such a mess?
      - (4) The cross that we preach is foolish to this world.

- (a) 1 Corinthians 1:18
- (b) We are saved by the cross alone, by grace alone, through faith alone, and in Christ alone.
  - (i) The statesmen, the philosophers, and the thinkers do not understand this.
    - 1. It is foolishness to them.
- (5) John 3:14-15
  - (a) The people had disobeyed God, and God sent fiery serpents into the camp.
    - (i) Numbers 21:4-9
    - (ii) The serpent is a symbol of sin.
  - (b) The people were dying.
  - (c) God told Moses to make a brazen serpent and put it upon a pole.
    - (i) Whoever looked at the serpent in faith would be healed of his snake bite.
  - (d) This is an Old Testament illustration of salvation.
    - (i) John 3:14
    - (ii) The brazen serpent represents the Lord Jesus.
      - 1. 2 Corinthians 5:21
      - 2. He took our sin and carried it to the cross.
      - 3. Brass is a symbol of judgment, and Jesus was sin being judged.
  - (e) In the Old Testament, the people were told to look and to live.
    - (i) They did not have to die.
    - (ii) God had made a provision.
    - (iii) But to some, it probably seemed foolish to look upon the brass serpent for healing.
      - 1. 1 Corinthians 1:18
      - 2. A person can refuse Jesus if they want to.
- ii) We were disobedient.
  - (1) Titus 3:3
  - (2) The word “disobedient” doesn’t mean simply that we disobey.
    - (a) It has the idea of willful, obstinate, and stubborn disobedience.
    - (b) Disobedience in the light of truth; not wanting to know the truth.
      - (i) The problem is not in the mind but in the heart.
      - (ii) It has the idea of being unyielding.
- iii) We were deceived.
  - (1) Titus 3:3
  - (2) Why were we so willfully disobedient before we got saved?
    - (a) Because there is a devil who is the great deceiver.
  - (3) The Bible says that Satan deceives the whole world.
    - (a) Revelation 12:9
  - (4) No one like this would be saved apart from the grace of God.
- d) What we were morally:

- i) Titus 3:3
    - (1) “Serving divers lusts and pleasures” can be translated, “habitual slaves to all sorts of passions.”
      - (a) That is how we were.
      - (b) We were simply living for ourselves.
    - ii) Living in sin is not only a vice, 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 alley, the refined pleasures of the social club, or the niceties of this world.
        - (a) It does not make any difference.
          - (i) Sin is sin.
  - e) What we were socially:
    - i) Titus 3:3
    - ii) The reason we hate one another is because we are hateful.
      - (1) The problem is in us.
        - (a) We cannot get along with other people because we cannot get along with ourselves.
      - iii) 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.
          - (a) Self-righteousness is one of the worst sins of all.
          - (b) It is not the amount of sin but the fact of sin that condemns us.
            - (i) We are sinners.
              - 1. Sinners by birth.
              - 2. Sinners by nature.
              - 3. Sinners by choice.
              - 4. Sinners under condemnation.
- 3) PRESENT GRACE (TITUS 3:4-5)
- a) Titus 3:4-5
  - b) It is rooted in the sovereign love of the Father.
    - i) Titus 3:4
      - (1) God loves us.
        - (a) We are blessed because God loves us.
        - (b) This is grace.
    - ii) Romans 5:8
    - iii) God does not love us because we are valuable.
      - (1) We are valuable because God loves us.
        - (a) That is what the Gospel is all about.
    - iv) Titus 3:5
      - (1) If it were by works of righteousness that we have done, then how could we save ourselves?
        - (a) Isaiah 64:6

- (i) We do not have any righteousness.
  - 1. Even our righteousness is as filthy rags in God's sight.
- v) Grace spells salvation not "do" and not "don't," but "done."
  - (1) It is not addition.
    - (a) There is nothing we can do that will take away what we have already done.
  - (2) It is not subtraction.
    - (a) 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.
    - (a) 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.
    - (b) Titus 3:5
- vi) 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.
    - (a) All the glory, praise, and honor go to Him.
- c) It is the supernatural work of the Spirit.
  - i) Titus 3:5
  - ii) Salvation is supernatural.
    - (1) He regenerates us.
      - (a) He calls it "the washing of regeneration."
        - (i) Titus 3:5
        - (ii) This is not baptism.
          - 1. Water on our skin cannot take sin out of our hearts.
      - (b) Zechariah 13:1
        - (i) There is a fountain that we can wash in for sin and uncleanness.
      - (c) What is that fountain?
        - (i) Revelation 1:5
          - 1. The Lord Jesus Christ is called the faithful witness in this passage.
        - (ii) Revelation 7:14
        - (iii) We are not washed in water.
          - 1. We are washed in blood.
    - (d) 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
      - (i) We are sanctified.
      - (ii) In this passage of Scripture, he does not say such "are" you.
        - 1. You may have been a thief, an extortioner, or an adulterer.
        - 2. But when you were saved, you were washed whiter than snow in the precious blood of Jesus Christ.
          - a. You were made new.
          - b. 2 Corinthians 5:17
            - i. Old things are passed away.

- ii. They are buried in the grave of God's forgetfulness.
      - (e) There is a washing of regeneration in the blood of the Lamb.
      - (f) It doesn't make any difference what denomination you are; there's no other way to be saved than by the grace of God.
    - (2) We are renewed by the Holy Ghost.
      - (a) He makes us new and keeps renewing.
        - (i) This means continued action.
        - (ii) Day by day, moment by moment, He renew us, restores us and refreshes us.
          - 1. Lamentations 3:22-23
      - (b) He does not just forgive and then say, "That's it."
  - d) It is the saving death of the Son.
    - i) Titus 3:6
    - ii) Our Savior is God.
      - (1) Titus 3:4
        - (a) In this verse, God is called our Savior.
      - (2) Titus 3:6
        - (a) In this verse, Jesus Christ is called our Savior.
      - (3) Is God our Savior, or is Jesus Christ our Savior?
        - (a) The answer is yes.
        - (b) God our Savior; Jesus Christ died for us.
    - iii) 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.
        - (a) The Bible says that they pulled the beard from His face.
          - (i) Isaiah 50:6
          - (b) They mocked Him.
        - (4) Jesus Christ suffered as no one else has suffered.
        - (5) God the Father had to turn His back on Jesus.
          - (a) The Lord Jesus became sin.
          - (b) God the Father is of purer eyes than to behold sin.
            - (i) Habakkuk 1:13
        - (6) Jesus, who knew no sin, took our sin and carried it to the cross.
          - (a) 2 Corinthians 5:21
          - (b) That is grace.
- 4) OUR FUTURE GLORY (TITUS 3:7)
  - a) Titus 3:7
    - i) This passage talks about what is coming
      - (1) It's talking about our future.
    - ii) 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.
  - (a) Revelation 21:7
- (3) The best is yet to come.
- b) The Bible calls the Holy Spirit in our hearts, that we have right now, the down payment.
  - i) Ephesians 1:13-14
  - ii) When a person is going to buy something, they give “earnest” money.
    - (1) The Holy Spirit in our hearts is the earnest money.
  - iii) We get the full legacy later on.
    - (1) We do not have it all now; it is a future glory.
      - (a) This is the reason that this world is not our home.
        - (i) We are pilgrims just passing through.
- c) In the Old Testament, we read where Abraham sent his servant, Eliezer, to get a bride for Isaac.
  - i) Genesis 24
  - ii) Isaac is a picture in the Old Testament of the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - iii) Eliezer is a picture and a type of the Holy Spirit, who seeks a bride for Jesus.
  - iv) 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.
  - v) Abraham gave Eliezer incredible wealth.
    - (1) He had all the disposal of the father at his hand to go seek a bride.
  - vi) Eliezer went into a far country and found the one led of God, whose name was Rebecca.
  - vii) 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.
      - (a) This is an illustration of how the Holy Spirit teaches us to love Jesus, whom having not seen we love.
        - (i) 1 Peter 1:8
      - (2) Eliezer told Rebecca about Isaac and how blessed she was going to be.
      - (3) Rebecca agreed to go back with Eliezer.
  - viii) Eliezer, representing the Holy Spirit, took treasures and gifts and gave them to Rebecca as they traveled.
    - (a) 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.
    - (b) Perhaps he would tell her that Isaac wanted her to have the gifts and that she would love Isaac.
  - ix) 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.
  - (a) He drops little gems into our hearts.
  - (b) He sees our fears and tears.
- d) Right now, we have the earnest of the Spirit.
  - i) But the Bible speaks of our future glory.
  - ii) We are going to inherit all things.
    - (1) Revelation 21:7

## 5) CONCLUSION

- a) When you receive Jesus, you receive the eternal life that is in Jesus.
  - i) You cannot have that life without having Jesus.
  - ii) In Him is life.
    - (1) Receive Him today.
- b) Salvation is a gift.
  - i) You receive it.
  - ii) You will never earn it.
- c) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- d) 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.
  - i) Romans 3:23
  - ii) Romans 10:9-10
  - iii) Romans 10:13
  - iv) Acts 16:31
  - v) John 3:16