

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: Trophies of Grace

SERMON REFERENCE: Titus 1:1-4, 10-11

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #1760

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) The New Testament book of Titus is a letter written by Paul to his spiritual son.
 - i) Paul identifies himself as the author at the beginning of the letter.
- b) Titus 1:1-4
 - i) In these verses, we find who wrote the letter and to whom he has been writing.
 - (1) Paul was writing to Titus, his spiritual son.
 - (a) This means someone he had won to faith in Christ.
- c) As we read through the book of Titus, the word “grace” appears several times:
 - i) Titus 1:4
 - ii) Titus 2:11
 - iii) Titus 3:7
 - iv) Titus 3:15
- d) Paul was very grateful for Titus.
 - i) Titus was a trophy of grace.
 - (1) Paul had won Titus to Christ.
 - (2) Titus was a young Greek; he wasn’t a Jew.
 - (3) Paul, who was a Jew, had witnessed to him.
 - (4) Paul called him his own son in the faith.
 - (a) Titus 1:4
 - ii) In Jerusalem, there was a debate as to whether the Gentiles could be saved without keeping the law.
 - (1) Paul took Titus to Jerusalem and used him to show that the Gentiles were saved.
 - (a) They were saved by grace.
 - (b) Galatians 2
- e) Are you a trophy of grace?
 - i) If you were arrested for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?
 - ii) Not only are we to be witnesses, but we are also to be part of the evidence.
 - (1) Titus was evidence.
 - (a) Paul took Titus to Jerusalem to show what the grace of God can do.
- f) Do you have any children in the faith?
 - i) Are you a spiritual father or mother?
 - ii) Is there anybody that you can look at and say that you won him or her to Jesus?
 - iii) We cannot do anything more wonderful than to share our faith and bring somebody else to Jesus Christ.
 - iv) A Christian who does not win souls is like a bus driver who will not drive a bus.
 - (1) It is not optional.

- (2) God has commanded us.
 - (a) Acts 1:8
 - g) Not only was Paul a father, but he was also a grandfather because Titus was winning others to Christ.
 - i) In fact, Paul was a great, great grandfather in the faith.
 - ii) Some of us are great, great grandfathers and great, great grandmothers.
 - (1) We have won people to Jesus who are winning people to Jesus who are winning people to Jesus.
 - (2) Philippians 2:13
 - (3) We never know what we do when we bring a soul to Christ.
 - (a) We never know the ripple that will touch the shore of eternity when we drop that stone of grace into somebody's heart.
 - iii) Do you have any trophies of grace?
 - (1) Paul said that Titus was his son in the faith.
 - (a) Titus 1:4
 - (2) Commit to God that this year, by His grace, you will bring a soul to Jesus Christ.
 - h) Grace is God's unmerited favor.
 - i) It is the kindness of God shown to one who does not deserve it and who can never earn it.
 - ii) An acrostic of grace:
 - (1) G - God's
 - (2) R - riches
 - (3) A - at
 - (4) C - Christ's
 - (5) E - expense
 - i) In today's message, we will look at three basic aspects of grace.
- 2) THE DELIGHT OF GRACE IS LIBERTY (TITUS 1:1-4)
- a) Grace gives liberty.
 - i) Luke 4:18
 - ii) John 8:36
 - b) This grace is sovereign grace.
 - i) Titus 1:1
 - ii) God elected us.
 - (1) He is the sovereign God, and He has chosen us.
 - (2) If you are saved, then it is because God elected you.
 - (a) God loved you, sought you, and brought you.
 - iii) If anyone wants to be saved, they can be.
 - (1) John 6:37
 - iv) Would you like to find out whether or not you are one of the elect?
 - (1) Just come to Jesus, and you will be one.
 - (2) Do you want to be saved?
 - (a) Whosoever will may come.

- (b) It is sovereign grace, and it is free to all who will receive and say “yes” to the Lord Jesus Christ.
- c) It is seeking grace.
 - i) We come to Him because He took the initiative.
 - (1) He is the one who called us.
 - ii) Our salvation did not start with us.
 - (1) It started with God.
 - iii) Romans 3:11
 - (1) There is none who seek after God.
 - (2) The only reason someone seeks after God is because He first sought them.
 - iv) We love Him because He first loved us.
 - (1) 1 John 4:19
 - v) The Bible is God’s love note to us.
 - (1) It is God saying that He loves us and desires to be our Lord and Savior.
 - vi) If we thirst after God, it is because it was God who made us thirsty.
 - (1) God put that thirst in us.
 - (2) The reason we thirst after God is because God is seeking us.
- d) It is saving grace.
 - i) Titus 2:11
 - ii) The Gospel is good news.
 - (1) It is not good news if God were to tell us to straighten up and do better, then maybe we can be saved.
 - (a) We do not have what it takes to straighten up and do better.
 - (b) Even if we could, we have already done so badly that doing better will not undo what we have done.
 - (c) Salvation is not spelled “do,” and it is not spelled “don’t.”
 - (i) It is spelled “done.”
 - iii) Ephesians 2:8-9
 - (1) Some may say that we are saved by grace and works.
 - (a) This is wrong.
 - (i) Romans 11:6
 - (b) If we were to add works to it, then we would destroy the principle of the grace of God.
- e) It is securing grace.
 - i) Titus 1:2
 - (1) The word “hope” in the Bible does not mean maybe it will happen.
 - (a) It is a bedrock assurance based on the Word of God.
 - ii) The Second Coming of Jesus is called the “blessed hope.”
 - (1) Titus 2:13
 - iii) Our eternal life is a blessed hope.
 - (1) God, who cannot lie, promised before the world began.
 - (a) Titus 1:2

- iv) God chose us, elected us, and planned our salvation before this planet was swung into space.
 - (1) Our salvation was in the heart and mind of God before the world began.
 - f) It is satisfying grace.
 - i) Titus 1:4
 - (1) In this passage of Scripture, Paul links grace with mercy and peace.
 - (a) Grace is God giving us what we do not deserve.
 - (i) We do not deserve His goodness.
 - (ii) Romans 5:8
 - 1. While we were sinners, God sent His grace to us.
 - (b) Mercy is God not giving to us what we do deserve.
 - (i) We deserve judgment.
 - (ii) We deserve Hell.
 - (c) Grace and mercy are linked together, followed by peace.
 - (i) That is God's order.
 - (ii) The Bible never said "peace and grace".
 - 1. It is always "grace and peace" because we cannot find peace until we know grace.
 - 2. We have the peace of God and peace with God because of the grace of God.
 - (iii) Peace is the result of grace and mercy.
 - 1. When we know grace and receive mercy, then we will experience peace.
 - 2. Peace is found in the grace and mercy of God.
 - g) The delight of grace brings liberty.
 - i) Galatians 5:1
- 3) THE DENIAL OF GRACE IS LEGALISM (TITUS 1:10-11)
- a) Every time the devil sees a trophy of grace, he will move in to tarnish that trophy.
 - i) That is the reason Paul was writing to Titus.
 - b) Titus 1:10-11
 - i) In this passage, "filthy lucre" means "dirty money."
 - ii) When the devil sees anybody celebrating liberty and enjoying grace, he moves in to stop it.
 - iii) In verse 10, Paul speaks of those of the circumcision.
 - (1) Under the Jewish law, a male had to be circumcised to show that he was a Jewish male and was in a covenant relationship, the household of faith.
 - (2) There were Judaizers who were saying to the Gentile believers and others that in order to be accepted by God, they would have to put themselves back under the Jewish law.
 - (a) They were legalists.

- (b) The entire book of Galatians was written to deal with this problem.
 - (c) They were endeavoring to put people back under the Mosaic Law.
 - iv) Paul said that their liberty in Christ was worth fighting for.
 - (1) He said that their mouths must be stopped.
 - (2) He called them:
 - (a) Unruly because they did not want to put themselves under the authority of the Word of God.
 - (b) Vain talkers because what they said was hot air.
 - (c) Deceivers because they were in error.
 - (d) Subversive.
 - c) New Christians are very susceptible to legalists.
 - i) Someone can preach Jesus Christ and Him crucified.
 - (1) Acts 16:31
 - (2) They can preach that we are saved by grace through faith plus nothing, and these people will be saved.
 - ii) Then, along will come a legalist who will lay down a lot of rules, rituals, and laws.
 - iii) These new Christians are so insecure in the liberty that they have in the Lord Jesus Christ that they will go back into legalism because they feel secure there.
 - (1) They will find fellowship with somebody who lays down laws, to be legalistic and doctorial.
 - d) Don't let anyone make a legalist out of you.
 - i) We are not saved by keeping laws.
 - ii) We are not saved by ritual.
 - iii) We are not saved by anything other than the grace of God.
 - (1) Ephesians 2:8
 - e) A person who tries to be saved or sanctified by rules is like a person trying to get out of quicksand.
 - i) The more he struggles, the more he sinks.
 - f) Ten thousand rules will not make us more like Jesus.
- 4) THE DISTORTION OF GRACE IS LICENSE (ROMANS 6:1-2)
 - a) Every road has two ditches.
 - i) The devil doesn't care which side of the road he wrecks us on.
 - (1) The devil does not want us to stay on the road of grace.
 - ii) So, if he can get us off that road and put us in the ditch of legalism, he will do it.
 - (1) We will have fallen away from grace.
 - iii) Or, the devil will get us to distort the message of grace.
 - (1) The distortion of this is license.
 - b) License is the philosophy that says we are saved by grace and not by works; therefore, we have a license to sin.
 - i) It says that we can live anyway we like.

- ii) It says that we can do anything we want and go to Heaven.
 - (1) We can have sin and Heaven, too.
 - (a) But if we still want to sin, then we have never been saved.
 - (i) We need to be born again.
- c) The grace of God saves us.
- d) The devil wants to get us away from the delight of grace (which is liberty) into the denial of grace (which is legalism) or into the distortion of grace (which is license).
- e) Romans 6:1-2
 - i) When we are saved, something dies within us.
 - (1) We may stumble and fail; but in our heart, we died to sin.
 - (a) We became alive to the Lord Jesus Christ by the grace of God.
 - (b) We keep the Law of God because Jesus Christ is in our heart.
 - (i) We do not do it in order to be saved, but because we have been saved.

5) CONCLUSION

- a) God reached down His hand of amazing grace and rescued us.
 - i) It is seeking grace.
 - (1) God is seeking you today.
 - ii) God wants to save you today.
 - iii) God's amazing grace can save you, cure you, and satisfy you.
 - (1) It is the only thing that can.
- b) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- c) 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