

Deny godlessness and worldly lusts:

But – denying the bad is sometimes ineffective in itself...

“I’m not going to eat the cookie, I’m not going to eat...”

Live in a Sensible, Righteous, and Godly Way:

Sensible - to think rightly and to have proper perspectives

– this is how we deal with our own thoughts and emotions.

Righteous – relates to our interactions with others – our behaviors... we are to live a “righteous life”

Godly – in this context, this relates to our proper relationship with God – being led by Him, directed by His character and living by His principles... and, as a result, doing “good works”

2 Tim 3:16 - “All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”

Have you recognized the Creator’s love for you? – will you trust Him?

Have you acknowledged the Craftsman’s knowledge of what is best for you? – will you follow Him?

Have you received Christ’s forgiveness of sin and the fresh start of a new birth? – will you surrender?

Godly Living in a Godless Culture

Introduction Message

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The Right Perspective on “Works”:

Romans 3:20 - “For **no one** will be justified in His sight by the works of the law...”

The Right Perspective on “World”:

“lost and don’t know it”... they are deceived, darkened, and unable and unwilling to pursue God.

Ephesians 2:12 they are “without hope and without God in the world”

The Right Perspective on “Witness”:

2 Corinthians 5:20 - “Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, certain that God is appealing through us. We plead on Christ’s behalf, “Be reconciled to God.”

2 Peter 3:9 - “not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance.”

Matt 5:16 - "let your light shine before men, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

1 Peter 2:12- "Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that in a case where they speak against you as those who do what is evil, they will, by observing your good works, glorify God on the day of visitation."

Eph 2:10 - For we are His creation, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time so that we should walk in them.

Survey of Titus:

Cretans have an apparently well-deserved reputation of being "liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons."

Chapter 1, Paul gives instructions about elders and how the church should be led...

Chapter 2, he speaks of how believers should interact...

Chapter 3, he reminds believers how to respond to the government and to other outsiders...

In short, Paul is instructing Titus on how to lead believers on Crete into "Godly Living in a Godless Culture!"

Titus 2:11-14 - "For the grace of God has appeared with salvation for all people, 12 instructing us to deny godlessness and worldly lusts and to live in a sensible, righteous, and godly way in the present age, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope and appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. 14 He gave Himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for Himself a people for His own possession, eager to do good works."

Salvation for All People:

1 John 2:2 - "He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not only for ours, but also for those of the whole world."

John 1:12 – "But to all who did receive Him, He gave them the right to be children of God, to those who believe in His name..."

Redeemed – and eager to do good works:

2:7 Titus is to set an example good works

That believers should be:

2:14 eager to do good works

3:1 ready for every good work

3:8 devoted to good works – these are good and profitable for everyone

3:14 devoted to good works – so that they will not be unfruitful.