

SERIES: MAY-JULY: THE MAIN THING

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TUESDAY, 7/5/22 Scripture: Titus

TITLE: Titus - The Gospel Changes Everything!

My parents have recently done a lot of renovations to their house. It's been incredible, I spent my whole life in this house growing up and now I don't even recognize it. There's been such an amazing transformation. Imagine for a second how upset my parents would be if they spent all that time and money for people to come in and work on their house but it looked the same. What a waste of time that would be. You have to wonder if the workers had really done anything or even if they had ever even been there.

When I read the book of Titus, one key theme jumps out: transformation. This book is written to the missionary Titus who Paul sent to the island of Crete because it had become clear that the Christians there weren't living any differently than the evil culture around them. They started to follow the teachings of people who said they needed to go back to following the Jewish laws. Paul wants Titus to teach and demonstrate how the Gospel should change our whole lives.

This book is found immediately after 2 Timothy in your Bible. And in the storyline of scripture, this is during the life and ministry of the apostle Paul as he was traveling all over the world and planting new churches. This book was written somewhere between 63 and 66 A.D. and includes notable people like the apostle Paul and Titus.

Christians should read the book of Titus to help us remember the transformative grace of the Gospel. This book covers ideas like how to live differently from the culture around us, how to be agents of change in the world, and also, how to identify false teachers.

I believe we see Jesus in this letter through the idea of transformation and redemption. Jesus died on the cross not only to pay for our sins, not only to save us from hell and give us hope of eternal life but to transform the way we live our lives here and now.

A key passage that I believe encapsulates the main idea of the book is Titus 2:11-14 "For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works."

Here we see that the Gospel changes everything! Based on the grace of God shown to us through the sacrifice of Jesus we now can live differently than we used to, we can have victory over our sinful desires and live in a way that glorifies Jesus. We can live for Jesus here and now as we wait for his glorious return always remembering the price Jesus paid to bring us back to Himself so we could be His and we could live for His glory.

Our main takeaway from the book of Titus should be this: if we have truly experienced the grace of the Gospel, it should transform us from the inside out. People should be able to look at our lives and see something different. They should see the transformation of the Gospel.