

TOUGH GRACE IN DIFFICULT PLACES: A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF TITUS

LIVING BEFORE A WATCHING WORLD

TITUS 3:1-8



The Heart of the Matter

There is no more exacting ordeal for a Christian than living in the public eye. The public is looking, hoping to spot flaws. Once observed, they are quick to judge and criticize, and their memory of our failure is long lasting. Finding inconsistencies and irritabilities fuels their fire of unbelief. Non-Christians only live in the here-and-now and are unaware of another, better world. But if we are to help their unbelief turn into belief, we must prop open the eternal door. We can help them see beyond today with our good deeds.



Discovering the Way

1. Remembering Three Statements from the Scriptures

Our world is dark, desperate, and doubting. And that is why the Lord leaves us here and hasn't taken us to Heaven—so that we will be witnesses to His mercy, grace, and love.

2. Being Submissive Citizens and Good Neighbors (Titus 3:1-2)

The importance of a life well lived before a skeptical world was paramount in Paul's mind. Two good places for us to start are to be good citizens and good neighbors.

3. Humbling Reminders and Amazing Grace (Titus 3:3-7)

Being good citizens and neighbors is *what* we should be, but *why*?

4. Balancing Right Belief and Convincing Behavior (Titus 3:8)

Paul summed up his command with *how* to live in front of a watching world.

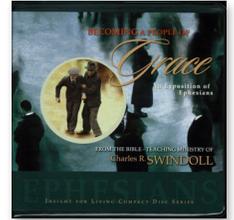


Starting Your Journey

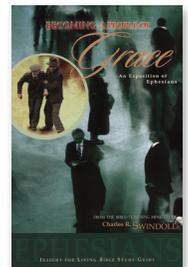
Keep in mind these two reminders while living before a watching world. First, *it takes authenticity and integrity to win a hearing*. Second, *it's impossible to convince anyone of any truth you are not living*.



Tools for Digging Deeper



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Becoming a People of Grace
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The Grace Awakening
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