<u>"THE OUTWORKING OF GOD'S GRACE IN OUR LIVES"</u> <u>TITUS 2:11-15</u>

<u>INTRO:</u> As Christians so often we speak of God's GRACE and sing of God's GRACE, but it is probable that we do not really COMPREHEND GOD'S GRACE as we should. In fact, Ephesians 2:7 indicates that throughout THE AGES TO COME we will be learning of the GRACE OF GOD. Titus 2:11-15 is a short text that gives us a LOT OF INFORMATION about the GRACE OF GOD that is necessary to study and refreshing to learn. So, let's take a look at it in our lesson. <u>THE BEAUTY OF VERSE 11:</u>

1) The GRACE OF GOD brings salvation.

- The GRACE OF GOD is GOD'S UNMERITED FAVOR TOWARD ALL MANKIND THROUGH JESUS CHRIST IN PROVIDING ALL HUMANITY A SALVATION THAT WE DO NOT DESERVE AND WE CANNOT OBTAIN IN AND OF OURSELVES.
- The LOVE, the GOODNESS and the MERCY OF GOD could not provide salvation in and of themselves. Truly they motivated GOD'S GRACE, but without the GRACE OF GOD there would be NO SALVATION AT ALL!

-Ephesians 2:8,9; Titus 3:7

2) The GRACE OF GOD has appeared to ALL MANKIND!

- The GRACE OF GOD has appeared to ALL PEOPLE EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD -
 - THE MOTIVATION FOR MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM.

A) There is COMMON GRACE – That fact that God pours out His grace upon all people everywhere in providing for general needs. Through GOD'S COMMON GRACE the Holy Spirit convicts all mankind of their sin of unbelief – John 16:7-11

B) There is SAVING GRACE – That fact that God SAVES ANY OR ALL WHO CALL UPON HIS NAME FOR SALVATION.

CHARLES CALDWELL RYRIE SAID OF THE GRACE OF GOD AND CHRISTIANITY: "CHRISTIANITY IS DISTINCT FROM ALL OTHER WORLD RELIGIONS BECAUSE IT IS A MESSAGE OF GRACE. JESUS CHRIST IS THE SUPREME RELEVATION OF GOD'S GRACE; SALVATION IS BY GRACE; AND GRACE GOVERNS AND EMPOWERS CHRISTIAN LIVING. WITHOUT GRACE CHRISTIANITY IS NOTHING."

I. BY GOD'S GRACE WE LIVE – VS. 12

- A. God's Grace Teaches us to Live.
 - -The word for "teaching" implies "child-training."
- B. God's Grace Teaches us to Live Biblically
 - 1. By Denying Ungodliness and Worldly Lusts
 - 2. By Developing Sober, Righteous and Godly Living

The Phrase "IN THIS PRESENT WORLD" speaks of THIS PRESENT AGE.

II. BY GOD'S GRACE WE LOOK – VS. 13

Because of the GRACE OF GOD, we are enabled and instructed to look forward to two great prophetic events:

A. The Blessed Hope – THE RAPTURE - When Christ comes in the air and all believers will be caught up to meet Him. – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. This could happen at any moment before the GREAT TRIBULATION BEGINS.

B. The Glorious Appearing – THE RETURN TO EARTH – When Christ comes to the earth to set up His kingdom – Revelation 19:11-16. This will begin the Millennium.

THE SCRIPTURE RECORDS 15 MAJOR DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE BLESSED HOPE AND THE GLORIOUS APPEARING.

III. BY GOD'S GRACE WE LABOR - VS. 14

- A. By God's Saving Grace we experience Redemption
- B. By God's Saving Grace we are a Peculiar People
- -The word "Peculiar" means "BEYOND USUAL AND SPECIAL"
- 1.We are Saved by the Blood of Christ
- 2. We are Indwelt by the Holy Spirit
- 3. We are the Eternal Children of God
- 4. We have an Eternal Inheritance in Heaven
- C. By God's Grace we Perform Good Works of Ministry
 - 1. Not Good works to be saved
 - 2. But Good works because of Salvation
 - -Utilizing our spiritual gifts. (Cp. Ephesians 2:10)

THE LESSON OF VERSE 15

"THESE THINGS SPEAK, AND EXHORT, AND REBUKE WITH ALL AUTHORITY. LET NO MAN DESPISE THEE."

THE POINT: COMMUNICATE THE MESSAGE OF THE TEXT CONSISTENTLY TO ALL CONTINUALLY – TO BELIEVERS AND NON-BELIEVERS ALIKE!