

## **Titus 3:3-8 Weekly Devotional - December 28**

For the weekly devotional this week, we are going to spend some time sitting in **Titus 3:3-8**. In this short letter, the Apostle Paul gives instructions to Titus, whom he set on the island of Crete, to help him put things in “order” there for the Church.

Foundational to all of the do’s and don’ts, the Apostle tells Titus to remember their Great Salvation in Christ Jesus. In other words, Paul reminds Titus that all of our work, all of our doing, all of our abstaining from sin...we do it because of what Christ has already done for us!

Let’s remember what Christ has done for us as we prepare to enter into a New Year.

### **PRAY**

Find a quiet place where you can slow down. Open with a prayer to God. Ask Him to help you honor Christ as Lord in thought, word, and deed. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you live and love more like Christ.

### **READ**

Read **Titus 3:3-8**.

### **OBSERVE**

1. What are all of the ways (list them out) that Paul describes how “we” once were apart from Christ in verse 3?
2. What specific attributes of God are mentioned in verse 4, and how do they relate to the action described?
3. According to verse 5, why were we saved? What is explicitly not the reason, and what is the basis instead?
4. What should be the fruit of our salvation according to verse 8?

5. Are there any words or phrases or concepts you are unfamiliar with? What? How can you begin to explore their meaning?

## **APPLY**

1. When you honestly reflect on your life before Christ (or seasons of wandering), which descriptions in verse 3—foolish, disobedient, led astray, enslaved to passions, malice, envy, hating and being hated—resonate most deeply with you? Why do you think that is?
2. The text emphasizes that God saved us “not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy” (v. 5). How does this truth challenge any lingering tendency in your heart to earn God’s favor through performance or good behavior?
3. Being “justified by his grace” means we are declared righteous and adopted as heirs with the hope of eternal life (v. 7). How does this identity as an heir of God affect your sense of security, purpose, and daily decision-making?
4. Verse 8 calls this gospel message a “trustworthy saying” that we should “insist on.” Why do you think Paul stresses that believers must keep returning to these foundational truths rather than moving on to other teachings?
5. The stated purpose of insisting on these gospel truths is “so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works” (v. 8). How does a fresh grasp of God’s mercy in salvation actually fuel and motivate good works more than guilt, duty, or self-effort ever could?

## **PRAY**

Spend a few final moments reflecting on the Scripture and your responses to the questions above. Bring anything that is resonating or challenging to the Lord. Thank God for the salvation we have in Christ!