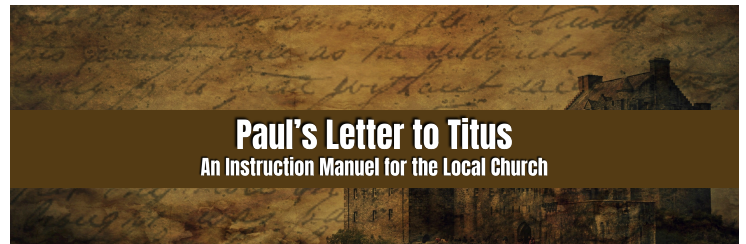


**Washed Clean So We Can Live
Attractively**

September 22, 2024 – Titus 3:1-7
Michael Stevens



Notes:

Point 1: Practicing the 'Politics of Jesus' to the Powers-That-Be (v. 1-2)

Point 2: What We Were (and Need to Leave Behind)—Lives Run by Selfishness (v. 3)

Point 3: What We've Become (and Need to Keep Becoming)—Reborn, Renewed, Ready for Anything (v. 4-7)

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think Paul put the command to obey authorities and to be ready to do good right after the injunction at the end of Ch. 2 “Do not let anyone despise you”? What could we learn from that command as it relates to our lives in the public sphere?
2. How might displays of goodness, refusal to slander, peaceableness, consideration, and humility (vv.1b-2) towards the powers-that-be have a redemptive effect, and make the reality of the Gospel more attractive?
3. What connects together all the negative characteristics that used to define us (v. 3 gives a whole list)? What is the fundamental motive for the natural man, as revealed here?
4. Try to enumerate all the things Christ has done to us and for us, based on the list in vv. 4-7—how is He shaping and transforming us?
5. The notion of the “hope of eternal life,” mentioned at the end of v. 7, has been a recurrent theme in Paul’s letter to Titus to get him ready to minister in Crete—what are the implications of this hope in our lives today, this week, this coming year?

Shakespeare’s Sonnet 94

They that have power to hurt and will do
none,
That do not do the thing they most do show,
Who, moving others, are themselves as
stone,
Unmoved, cold, and to temptation slow:
They rightly do inherit heaven's graces
And husband nature's riches from expense;

They are the lords and owners of their faces,
Others but stewards of their excellence.
The summer's flower is to the summer sweet
Though to itself it only live and die,
But if that flower with base infection meet,
The basest weed outbraves his dignity:
For sweetest things turn sourest by their
deeds;
Lilies that fester smell far worse than weeds.

September 2024

Week 1 Starting Sept 2	Week 2 Starting Sept 9	Week 3 Starting Sept 16	Week 4 Starting Sept 23	Week 5 Starting Sept 30
Day 1: Hebrews 6	Day 1: John 1	Day 1: John 5	Day 1: John 9	Day 1: John 13
Day 2: Hebrews 7	Day 2: John 2	Day 2: John 6	Day 2: John 10	Day 2: John 14
Day 3: Hebrews 8	Day 3: John 3	Day 3: John 7	Day 3: John 11	Day 3: John 15
Day 4: Hebrews 9	Day 4: John 4	Day 4: John 8	Day 4: John 12	Day 4: John 16
Day 5: Hebrews 10	Day 5: John 1:1-18	Day 5: John 1:19-34	Day 5: John 1:35-51	Day 5: John 2:1-12
¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To God’s holy people in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus: ² Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. Ephesians 1:1-3 (NIV)				