

## Lesson 17

Nov 9, 2023

Tit 2:11 - For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,

Tit 2:12 - instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and Godly in the present age,

instructing us - παιδεύω "paideuo" meaning to:

- ① to provide instruction for informed and responsible living
- ② to assist in the development of a person's ability to make appropriate choices, practice discipline, and to receive divine discipline.

This is a different type of learning than that of the word "Didasko". The Greek "pai" refers to children. Sometimes the only way a child will learn is from corporal punishment.

"Paideuo", used in this verse refers to teaching with divine discipline; learning the hard way.

Those who are learning by "Didasko" teaching are learning the easy way by taking in bible doctrine and applying it to our

circumstances of life. Those who refuse to learn doctrine, choose to learn the hard way (Paideuo) through the school of hard knocks. This type of teaching may involve divine discipline. Too many times, this is how we choose to be taught.

Ungodliness - in general ἀσέβεια "asebeia" is a lack of reverence for God. Ungodliness is a reference to negative volition, legalism and worldly lusts.

When we disregard God, and do what we want, we are arrogantly disobeying Him. What follows is divine discipline. God disciplines us to correct our actions as a parent to a child.

worldly desires - These are the things we are most familiar with because they are what WE want. Why are worldly things so important to us? In the world society, this is how man measures his own success. These things are all corruptible and will not last. The lusts of the flesh must be controlled or the next step is willful sin. These sins can destroy our spiritual relationship with the Lord.

Lust - ① a great desire for something, desire, longing, craving.

Types of Lust - approbation lust, power lust, materialism lust, sexual lust. (passionate desire)

1 Pet 1:18-19 - knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, 19) but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.

Vs 12 says to live sensibly, righteously, and Godly lives.

1. Sensibly - "Sophronos" in the Greek = Stability of mind.

What brings stability of mind? **Bible Doctrine and application of what you learn.** We can be stable when we learn to trust God.

Sensible = rational thinking, clear in direction.

2. Righteously = Production of "Divine good" through the filling of the Holy Spirit and application of Bible doctrine. Divine good is different from moral good works. Divine good is that good done by being in fellowship with God and operating in His will.

3. Godly = Filling of the Holy Spirit.

These three things refer to our responsibility in Phase 2 (sanctification) of our spiritual life. This is after Phase 1 when we BELIEVED in Jesus Christ (justification).

It is impossible to live a Christ centered life in our present age without the consistent intake of bible doctrine! Learning from a prepared pastor is the first step to a sanctified life. When we

learn from doctrine and apply it to the circumstances of our life, we can then look ahead for the Hope God promised us.

Tit 2:13 - looking for the blessed hope (guarantee) and the appearing of the glory (the rapture of the church) of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus,

"Teaching" in verse 12 comes before "looking" in verse 13.

We first take in bible doctrine, then we have hope of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ returning to receive His people at the rapture.

Looking - in the Greek is προσδέχομαι "prosdechomai"

"Looking" is a present middle participle of "prosdechomai."

"Pros" is a preposition. When the object of the preposition is in the accusative form it means **face to face with**. The dative case means **"for the benefit of."** Here is a combination of **for the benefit of and face to face with**. "Dechomai" means to receive, to receive and embrace, to receive a gift, to receive something that is beneficial. When you put "pros" together with the verb "dechomai" **it means to receive for the benefit of something, to wait for something with keen anticipation, to anticipate something that you know is going to make you happy**. It has often been used as a retort in vindictiveness or in bitterness or

in a lovers' quarrel, "every dog has his day," meaning "I'm down now but I have something just around the corner". That is the use of this verb "prosdechomai." It means that **eventually there is going to be happiness**. For every believer who experiences something negative as far as happiness is concerned, it won't always be that way and there is a time coming when every believer in the Church Age will be happy, and all at the same time. There is a big Church party coming, in which all members of the Church Age will be involved and all will be simultaneously happy (The Rapture).

for the blessed hope - The word "blessed" is not blessed at all, it is the accusative of μακάριος "Makarios" which means "happiness." The word "hope" is ελπίς "elpis," a word of confidence, a word of guarantee and confidence. So, we would translate" **"With confidence, we are waiting with keen anticipation for that guarantee of that happy occasion to come to pass."**

"The glorious **appearance**" should be "the appearance of glory," there is no adjective here. The noun "appearance" is επιφάνεια "epifaneia" and it refers to the Rapture of the Church. With it is δόξα "doca" which means glory, and with epofaneia it means

"the appearance of glory." But with the compound it means "the magnificent appearance of glory." That is the happy event.

of our great God - Then we have the person about whom we gather... "of the great God" is a reference to Jesus Christ with emphasis on His deity; "our Saviour" emphasises His humanity. "Jesus" emphasises His humanity, "Christ" emphasises His appointment, and this phrase emphasises the hypostatic union, and it tells us that at the Rapture of the Church **Jesus Christ is still God, He is still Man, and He is the God-Man** forever and ever. **Rapture = An experience of being carried away by overwhelming emotion, a manifestation of ecstasy or passion.**

It is crucial, moreover, to see that Jesus Christ, whom Christians look forward to meeting, is the same One who gave Himself for us, "set free by payment of a price" from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do divine good. To have a holy people was His purpose in paying such a price. Therefore, knowing what all He has done and why He has done it, a Christian who truly loves Christ and looks forward to His return will desire to bring his life into conformity with his beloved Lord's will, lest he disappoint Him at His return.

Duane Litfin, "Titus," in The Bible Knowledge Commentary:

## Doctrine of the Rapture

- The intake of Bible doctrine gives one confidence

regarding death, the Rapture (Tit 2:13) and the Second Advent.

Job 19:25-27 - "As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last, He will take His stand on the earth. 26) "Even after my skin is destroyed, yet from my flesh I shall see God; 27) whom I myself shall behold, and whom my eyes will see and not another. My heart faints within me!

- The Rapture makes it possible for Jesus Christ to keep His promise. (John 14:1-3)

John 14:1-3 - "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. 2) "In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. 3) "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also.

Rev 22:7 - "And behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is he who heeds the words of the prophecy of this book."

Rev 22:12 - "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done.

Rev 22:20 - He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

a) The promise to the Jews will be fulfilled at the Second Advent.

b) The promise to the church will be fulfilled at the Rapture.

- At the Rapture, every church age believer receives a Resurrection body.

Phil 3:20-21 - For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;

21) who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has, even to subject all things to Himself.

1 Cor 15:51-53 - Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep (die), but we will all be changed, 52) in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. 53) For this perishable (mortal body) must put on the imperishable (resurrection body), and this mortal (earthly life) must put on immortality (eternity).

1 John 3:1-2 - See how great a love the Father has bestowed on us, that we would be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason, the world does not know us, because it



did not know Him. 2) Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is.

- The Rapture takes the sting out of death.

1 Cor 15:54-56 - But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP" in victory. 55) "O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?"

56) The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law;

- The Rapture gives stability to phase 2 (sanctification).

1 Cor 15:58 - Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

Some want to see the Rapture occur more than others. All your believer loved ones will be there! The Rapture removes hysteria and the hopelessness of bereavement.

1 Thes 4:13-18 - But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. 14) For if we believe

that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. 15) For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16) For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17) Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. 18) Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**Archangels** - (Gabriel→Church) (Michael→Israel)

- The Rapture is a roudiview for both the living and the dead of the Church age. (1 Thes 4:15-17 above)
- Confidence of the Rapture is based on the Resurrection of Christ.

1 Thes 1:10 - and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come. (Tribulation period)

1 Cor 15:20-23 - But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep (dead). 21) For

since by a man (Adam) came death, by a man also (J.C.) came the resurrection of the dead. 22) For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. 23) But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming

The process is an orderly one. Christ is the first, then at his appearing, Christians follow. Then comes the end, the last event in this cosmic history, when Christ delivers into the hands of the Father the kingdom, having subdued all.

- The Rapture is a source of comfort to all believers in bereavement.

1 Thes 4:18 - Therefore comfort one another with these words.

- The word Hope is a technical reference to the Rapture in at least 3 passages:

1 Pet 1:3-4 - (The Living Hope) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4) to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

Our Hope - (The Church age believer) - Rapture

O.T. Hope - (Old Testament believer) - Second Advent

Titus 2:13 - (The Blessed Hope) looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus

1 John 3:3 - (The Purifying Hope) And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

- Our reservation in Heaven is guaranteed.

1 Pet 1:4 - to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you.

Eph 2:6 - and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus

Mark 13:32 - "But of that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.

### Signs of the coming End times:

False Teachers Matt 24:5

Wars and rumors of wars (Nuclear) Matt 24:6

Famines and Earthquakes Matt 24:7

Israel becomes a nation (1948)

Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom

**Moral Degeneration (Rampant now)**

**Pestilence** -The meaning is a contagious or infectious epidemic disease that is virulent and devastating

**Preparation to rebuild the 3<sup>rd</sup> Temple (2<sup>nd</sup> Advent)**

**World (Government and Religion) (United Nations, Muslim religion)**

**200 Million man army (China) Rev 9:16** - The number of the armies of the horsemen was two hundred million; I heard the number of them.

**Euphrates river dried up (Rev. 16:12)**

**Over population and strained earthly resources**

• **Waiting for Christ's return**

**2 Tim 3:1-5** - But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. 2) For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3) unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, 4) treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5) holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.

2 Tim 4:3-4 - For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance with their own desires, 4) and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

1 Tim 4:1 - But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.

2 Pet 3:3-6 - Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, 4) and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation." 5) For when they maintain this, it escapes their notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water, 6) through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water.

Jude 18-19 - that they were saying to you, "In the last time there will be mockers, following after their own ungodly lusts."

19) These are the ones who cause divisions, worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit.

We have a Hope (guarantee) that Jesus will return in the clouds (Rapture), receiving the believers to Himself.

For the Church age believer, we look forward to the Rapture.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent will be the return of Christ with the saints to bind Satan and create a perfect environment. After 1000 years, Christ will release Satan one last time and throw him into the lake of fire.