

Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

May 13, 2018

Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading: Ruth 4:9-22

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Message *Grace Take Over Where Mom Left Off* Tit.2:12-15

Announcements:

A blessed Mother's Day to all our moms! "Honour thy father and mother" (Ephesians 6:2)!

Sarah Kenney would like to thank you for your shower gifts

May 27 our guest speaker will be Assistant Pastor Steve Schwieger. Dave Stewart will be our speaker on June 3.

June 10 is our Spring picnic, June 23 is our work day.

Midweek Bible Study: Wednesday night at 7 with Assistant Pastor Steve Schwieger. Call him to confirm: 773-320-2139

Our offering box is located just left of the kitchen door.

Pick up today's cross reference sheet & silence your phone
Titus 2:9-11 *Paul's Advice for Servants*

Usually after addressing "servants" (v.9) Paul addressed masters (Eph.6:5-9;Col.3:22—4:1). But Titus was stationed in Crete, a newer work, and there were no masters yet. The gospel appeals more to base and despised servants (ICor.1:26-29) so they usually get saved first.

The reason Paul has to *tell* servants to obey masters is that all saved servants knew that "in Christ...there is neither bond nor free" (Gal.3:26-28). But if that meant servants didn't have to obey their masters, then wives didn't have to obey husbands, for "in Christ...there is neither male nor female" (Gal.3:26-28). This didn't mean servants and wives were *inferior* for the Lord was "subject" to His parents (Lu.2:51).

When Paul says that servants should obey their masters and "please them well in all things" (2:9) that means a servant should make himself a *delight* to his master (Isaiah 42:1 cf. Mt.12:18). And what Paul says to servants is true for employees today. Employees should obey the boss, but if they please them well in all things they'll make themselves a delight to him! And if *all* of God's people did that, imagine what a testimony that would be to how Christianity can brighten the world!

Servants must also be "answering not again" (2:9)—*no backtalk!* And when he adds, "not purloining" (2:10) that means *no stealing*, but a particular *kind* of stealing. In this context it means stealing *by a breach of trust*, one of the definitions of the word. Servants were often trusted with *all* their master's money (Gen.39:1-6) making it easy to purloin. If lesser servants were given 100 shekels to buy something, and it only cost 90, they could purloin the difference.

Instead, servants were to show "all good fidelity" or *faithfulness* (2:10). And while we don't have masters and servants, plenty of purloining goes on at work—about 50

billion dollars worth a year! Compare that to only 14 billion stolen by men at gunpoint or by burglary. Employees also steal about 4.5 hours a week—6 weeks a year from their employers. More billions lost! It's easy to think, "They don't pay me enough so I'm evening the score," but Paul told *slaves* not to purloin—men who were paid *nothing*.

Servants were to do all this to “adorn” the doctrine of God (2:10), which means *to beautify* it (cf. Isa.61:10). But *which* doctrine does their service adorn? Well, the phrase “God our Saviour” is associated with *the doctrine of salvation* (ITim. 2:1-4; Tit.3:3-5). It makes the doctrine of salvation look *bad* if servants *don't* adorn it by serving well. If they do, people think, “If Christianity can make a *slave* want to be a delight to his master, *it must be the religion of the true God.*”

Servants and aged men and women and young men and women (Tit.2:1-9) should adorn the doctrine of salvation by doing what Paul says because the grace of God that *bringeth* salvation has appeared to all men—old and young men and women and servants—and brought them salvation! If they *didn't* do what Paul said, it made salvation look bad!

But how could Paul say the grace of God that brings salvation had appeared to “all men”? The stars tell all men there is a Creator (Ps.19:1-3), but knowing there's a God isn't enough to save anyone (James 2:19). Well, “all men” sometimes means *all kinds of men* (ITim.2:1-4). The grace of God that brought salvation had appeared to old and young men and women, servants and kings!

Of course, there was a time when the grace of God that brought salvation only appeared to *Jewish* men (John 4:22). But now Paul says it appears to “all men,” including Jews and Gentiles. That's another meaning of the phrase “all men” in Titus 2:10, just as it is in I Corinthians 10:32,33. As Paul went forth preaching salvation, he didn't have to ask if men were Jews or Gentiles as the Jews did in time past

That didn't mean Gentiles couldn't be saved in time past. They saw the wrath of God that brought salvation to Israel at the Red Sea (Ex.15:1-6 cf. Ps.98:1-3) and the grace of God that brings salvation appeared to Rahab (Joshua 2). But today for Gentiles to see the grace of God that brings salvation, *they must see it when saved men and women and servants adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour.*

Faith Bible Church

www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com

May 13, 2018

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Thornton Harrison, Dave Stewart

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Ricky Kurth

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.

Myrtle Harrison

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

Assistant Pastor Steve Schwieger

Faith Bible Church

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