

Representing Redemption

Titus 3:1-2

¹ Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, ² to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and always to be gentle toward everyone.

What are the causes and methods of:

Revolution

Reformation

Redemption

The Way of the Christian Life:

To live in such a manner that there is both hope for redemption and actual redemption.

Titus is concerned about legalism, the way of life.

Christianity is an all encompassing lifestyle, an identity, commitment allegiance.

Titus' list of simple traits:

Subject

This is the hardest of all in these days.

We are hardened independents and individualists.

We occupy, we protest, we fight.

There are times and places where this is may be necessary, but when?

Why does Christian faith demand obedience to the powers that are?

Because it is something Ghandi learned from Christianity.

That change does not come by guns and guillotines.

It comes from the human heart.

Communication, communion, friendship.

Ready for Good

The Greek is better translated a yielding to the good.

But what is the good?

It is about the right choices in life.

Who you date. # the tough choices.

How you handle your money (or someone elses) - # Cashier mistakes.

What you choose to do for work.

How you handle conflict.

Speak no Evil

The power of the tongue.
A word can break a person or give them life.
The context here is about speaking falsely, making assumptions.
The Bible teaches us to listen before we speak and jump to conclusion.
Slander comes from a place of anger, malice and lies.

At Peace

I always thought this just meant peace with others.
I realise that peace with others does not come without peace within.
We place expectations on others because our own compulsions.
As a young man I judged my Christian friends by my own standards.
I felt more comfortable if they were like me or held my own views.
But how am I to cultivate peace?
I am still upset when others don't measure up to my expectations.
The next trait lays it out.

Considerate

So what does it mean to be considerate?
The Greek word actually means not to fight with someone
It is tied to peace because when you are unwilling to fight someone,
you try to understand them.
You have compassion on them.
This does not mean you don't speak truth.
It means that you understand them and don't write them off.
Archie.

Gentle

One of the most painful and annoying things in the world is a crying baby.
It is like a water tap that you can't shut off.
It can drive you off the deep end, make you think violent thoughts.
In some cases, people do go off the deep end.
But does a sane and wise parent do with a crying baby?
They check the diaper, check the feed schedule, check their own actions.
And they gently care for a screaming baby.
You and I deal with crying babies every day.
They don't wear diapers. In fact they are 14, 23, 35, 42, 65, 76 years of age.
We don't smack babies upside the head and yell at them.
We are firm but tender. We counter our annoyance with patience.

We Are the Salt and Light of the World.

We Represent the Redeemer.

And yet we are also the redeemed.

For all my faults and all my flaws.

There is a revolution, a reformation ongoing inside me.

And it will redeem everything around me.

My whole world.

And yours.

What is Needed?

What is Offered?