

CRESTVIEW WORSHIP NOTES

Sunday June 17, 2018

Four Words: A Study of Titus and Philemon

This Sunday: ***GRACIOUS!***

Titus 3:1-11

Preparation Music Like a brilliant shaft of sunlight piercing the dark clouds of a stormy day—like an unexpected visit from a dear friend at a moment of pained loneliness—like the surprise of winning when loss had already been conceded—so the appearing of your love and kindness, Jesus, has astonished me and set my heart at rest. Thank you for loving me, Lord---not because of my goodness but because of your grace!

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see. Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come; 'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home. When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

Call to Worship Ephesians 2: 8-9. *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.* While sinners, lost and hopeless, without purpose or value, Jesus saved us. We did nothing to earn this---it was only by Jesus power and pleasure that he saved us. He crafted us into a new creation full of divine purpose and value. We have been transformed from death to life, from hopelessness to purposefulness, from ashes to beauty, and all by the power and prerogative of Jesus' grace. What can we do in response but to thank him for living in us and to see with all our hearts to live in him?

Leader: By grace we have been saved through faith. And this is not our own doing; it is the gift of God.

People: For we are God's handiwork, redeemed in Christ Jesus for good works, works God has prepared for us, that we should walk in them.

Leader: Praise the Lord!

People: The Lord's name be praised.

HYMN OF PRAISE The second stanza %Here I find my Ebenezerõ + comes from 1 Samuel 7:12 where the Ebenezer is a symbol of God's faithfulness. The whole hymn speaks of living in God's grace. Isaiah 25:1 praises God for his grace and faithfulness: O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things; your counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.

V1

**Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy
grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues
above.**

**Praise the mount--I'm fixed upon it--mount of God's unchanging
love.**

V2

**Here I find my Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I've come;
and I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.**

V3

**Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to Thee;
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for Thy courts above.**

CALL TO CONFESSION 1 Thessalonians 2:12--We encouraged you and comforted you as we urged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into His kingdom and glory. 2 Thessalonians 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen you and guard you from the evil one.

Leader: You chose us and set us apart as your church to be your bride. Now help us to keep ourselves pure as we await the day of your second coming.

People: Save us, Lord, from our sin. By your grace, teach us to be holy and faithful to you. We love you, Lord Jesus, and we long to please you in all that we do.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON 1 Corinthians 1:3-5---Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Always thank my God for you because of the grace he has given you in Christ Jesus. For in him you have been enriched in every way, in all speech and all knowledge

Leader: Like the brilliant shaft of sunlight piercing the dark clouds of a stormy day...like an unexpected visit from a dear friend at a moment of pained loneliness...like the surprise of winning when loss had already been conceded...so the appearing of your love and kindness, Jesus has astonished me and set my heart at rest.

People: Thank you for loving me, Lord---not because of my goodness but because of your grace!

SCRIPTURE/SERMON Look at Titus 3:1-11. Paul summarized what Jesus does for us when he saves us. We move from a life full of sin to one led by God's Holy Spirit. All our sins, not merely some, are washed away. We gain eternal life with all its treasures. We have the fullness of the Holy Spirit, and he continually renews our hearts. None of this occurs because we earned or deserved it; it is all a gift of God's grace.

OFFERING MUSIC This offertory music at first reminds of Isaiah 43: *1Now this is what the LORD says—He who created you, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are Mine! 2When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you go through the rivers, they will not overwhelm you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, and the flames will not set you ablaze. 3For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior...We are special to God, and he calls us by his name! When going through rivers of difficulty, invite the Lord to go with you, he will protect you and offer you grace and mercy. The end of the lyrics recall 2 Corinthians 12:9 %am with you that is all you need+(my grace is enough!).*

Lord of the troubled sea, when I'm walking through deep water, You alone can be dry ground beneath my feet. And Lord of the flame, when I'm walking through the fire you alone can shield me from the heat. And Lord of the desert, when I walk across the burning sand my mouth with living water You can fill. And Lord of the storms, when the wind would tear my mooring down You alone are my word, "Peace be still." That's why I say, you are my all in all. you're the air I breathe, the song I sing, the help I call. And when I know

I just can't cope, You alone are all my hope, for Your grace is enough for me. Lord of the night, when I'm walking through the darkness, you're my pillar of fire to lead me on my way. And Lord of the desert, when the burning sand would scorch me, you're my Jonah's vine to shield me from the day. And Lord of the body, when I cannot stand the hurting, you are healing of crippling and of pain. And Lord of the mind, when legion brings insanity, you're the word that restores me once again. That's why I say you are my all in all. You're the air I breathe, the song I sing, the help I call. And when I know I just can't cope, you alone are all my hope, for your grace is enough for me. I said your grace is enough, yes, your grace is enough for me.

FINAL HYMN Titus 2:12-13... *training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, 13 waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ...*The power to live the Christian life comes from Jesus Christ. Because Christ died and rescued us from sin, we are free from sin's control. He gives us the power and understanding to live according to God's will, to look forward to his return, and to do good!

V1

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory
divine!**

**Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in
his blood.**

[Refrain:]

**This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day
long;**

**this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day
long.**

V2

**Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst
on my sight;**

**angels descending, bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers
of love. (Refrain)**

V3

**Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and
blest,**

**watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness,
lost in his love. (Refrain)**

SEE YOU SUNDAY IN WORSHIP