

Holiness

Part 6

Saints, Sons & Sin:

How Grace Conquers Sin, Cultivates Good & Calls us to Glory

(Part 2)

Titus 2:11-14

11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. 12 It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Introduction:

Last Week: *The Gospel Theology of Sin and Change in the Christian Life* - Romans 6-8

Today: *Grace Resources and Our Responsibility in the Decline of Sin and the Growth of Holiness*

Grace Transforms Dreadful Condemnation into Deep Affections

Making us aware of Sin, not by Law and Guilt, but through:

Reputation - A Passion for God's Glory & Pleasure

Relationship - The Preciousness of Whose we are and Who we are because of Him

Reward - The Prize of God & Dissatisfaction with anything less

(Titus 2 like Romans 8 and so many other Scriptures...)

Grace, then, Equips us. . .

I. To Say **No** to Sin. (situation by situation)

A. Purifying Power - Titus 2:11-14

B. Personal Provision - Hebrews 4:14-16

C. Promised Protection - 1 Corinthians 10:12-13

D. Provided Path - Ephesians 2:10

(Remember Romans 6-8...)

II. To Transform Sinful **Patterns**. (habits)

A. Unmasking Sin: *Sin is a Pretender, a Perverter, a Parasite...*

B. Undermining Sin: *Sin is best defeated indirectly* Ephesians 4:25-32

A Plan (when consistent or stubborn sin is recognized):

1. Select One Battle.
2. Discern the Good that is being Twisted or Perverted.
3. Deliberately Feed and Run after that Specific Goodness.
4. Watch Many changes.

III. To Cultivate a Sin-**Frustrating** Life. (calling)

A. Our Calling: *The Overwhelming Accent of Scripture in the Pursuit of Holiness*

Ephesians 4:1

Romans 12:1-2

Hebrews 12:1-2

B. Seven Habits of a Sin-frustrating Life

1. Recognize the Holiness of the Mundane
(& the Unannounced Appointments of Divine Providence).
2. Start at Home
3. Soak in the Story of Scripture & Read Biographies (and other Epic Stories)
4. Sing
5. Talk constantly about truth and life
6. Feast, Laugh & effusively Express Gratitude
7. Constantly Estimate Eternal Value & Lasting Pleasure