Lesson—Zealous for Good Deeds

Text—Titus 1:1-3; 2:11-15

I. Aim for Change/Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, we will…

1. Discuss strategies for exercising self-control and godliness in difficult situations.
2. Nurture hope in Christian living while awaiting Jesus’ return.
3. Grow spiritually mature as Christ’s disciples and witnesses.

Why This Lesson Matters: How does a thoughtful consideration of the future inform our actions in the present? Paul instructed Titus to lead others toward lives that were self-controlled, upright, and godly with a view toward the blessed hope of Christ’s return.

Key Verse—(Titus 2:11-13) The grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ. (KJV)

Song of Praise and Worship: “Don’t Hold Back”, by Rev. Daryl Coley

II. Points to be Emphasized

❖ The purpose of the letter is (v.1:1) “for the sake of the faith of God’s elect and the knowledge of the truth that is in accordance with godliness.”
❖ The author notes two different appearances: one that has appeared and one that is future (v. 11 and 13 respectively).
❖ The initial appearance of Christ brings both salvation to all and training.
❖ Good deeds are not a prerequisite but a result of redemption.

III. Historical/Biblical Background and Lesson Context

As the apostle Paul aged, he realized the need to train young pastors to assume pastoral leadership in his absence. Timothy and Titus were two individuals

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whom Paul taught and nurtured for the task. Titus was a Greek believer who likely embraced Christianity through Paul's ministry. Before his assignment as overseer of the churches in Crete, Titus functioned as Paul's special representative while he ministered in Macedonia. The epistle that bears his name was written to him by Paul around AD 64.

In the first chapter, Paul outlined his responsibilities and those of the leaders he was authorized to appoint and train. After presenting a list of church leadership qualifications, Paul compared the marks of faithful and false leadership. Points of emphasis in chapters 2 and three of this brief letter include the importance of good works, relating to various age groups, the importance of a positive example, and the role of righteous living in public life.

IV. Prominent Character(s) in the Lesson

**Paul the Apostle**: A committed follower of Christ (not one of the original 12 apostles). Commonly regarded as one of the most influential figures of the Apostolic Age. Paul founded several churches in Asia Minor and Europe and wrote at least 12 books in the New Testament.

**Titus**: Titus was an early church leader and trusted companion of Paul. Titus was a Gentile (Gal. 2:3) who was led to faith in Christ by Paul and accompanied Paul and Barnabus from Antioch to Jerusalem.

V. Key Terms in the Lesson (KJV)

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VI. Topical Outline of the Lesson

1. Introduction
2. Paul’s Salutation and Explanation of the Faith (Titus 1:1-3)
3. Saving Grace and Salvation Given (Titus 2:11-15)

Food for thought and question for consideration: *(What have we learned Charlie Brown?)*

- God's word tells us that he created humanity for his glory and pleasure period our responsibility and privilege to worship God fulfill an additional purpose for his creating us to do good works. *Eph 2:10* says, “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” What good works will you speak of that you have done when standing before the Lord?