

God and our Saviour. In the Greek there is just one definite article “the” before God and Saviour. This means that both refer to the same object – Jesus Christ. This is called the Granville Sharp Rule.

3. God’s Enabling Grace is Powerful (v.14)

a. Christ himself died to redeem us

- 1) He gave Himself to set us free from the bondage of **all** iniquity (wickedness).
- 2) No wicked sin is beyond victory in Christ.
✠ (1 John 4:4) "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."

b. Christ himself died to transform us

- 1) He died to cleanse us and make us a special people for His possession. This is what the word “peculiar” means here.
- 2) As we allow God to transform us, it will make us eager to do good works – things that please Him.

4. God’s Enabling Grace is Essential (v.15)

a. It must be preached

- 1) Titus was commanded to speak it (explain it), exhort it (call to your side and beg), and rebuke (speak with convicting words) those who opposed it.
- 2) He was to speak, exhort, and rebuke with an authoritative command.

b. It must not be despised

- 1) Sound doctrine is not the preacher’s idea. It is God’s authoritative word.
- 2) It comes from God and must not be despised.

Conclusion: When you feel like God expects more from you than you can do, remember this section of scripture. God’s grace, His divine enabling, is able to help you deny **ungodliness** and **worldly lusts** so that you might live a **self-controlled, righteous, godly** life in this wicked world. If you have been struggling, confess your failures and follow the victory steps in James 4:7-10. Then keep looking for the Lord’s return.

Song: Yield Not to Temptation - **364**

Enabling for Sound Doctrine

16 November 2014 pm – Titus 2:11-15 – Tit 14 – Scott Childs

Introduction: The Holy Spirit anticipated that the sound doctrine He requires of men and women, old and young, bond and free would seem beyond human ability. Thus, He reminds us of His grace.

Grace is the *divine enabling of God*. It is God’s help and provision. We need God’s grace for salvation, for sanctification, for service, for sacrificial giving, and for suffering. We are helpless without God’s grace. We do not deserve it, and we cannot earn it. This grace will help us when our sound doctrine duties seem more than we can do.

Transition: In this section God encourages our hearts by showing us that His enabling grace is available, instructional, powerful, and essential.

1. God’s Enabling Grace is Available (v.11)

a. It was provided in the past

- 1) He states that God’s grace “hath” appeared. That is in the past.
- 2) God’s enabling grace appeared to man when Christ became a man. It also appeared to us in the Gospel of salvation, which Christ provided for us.

b. It is available to all men

- 1) This verse states that God’s grace appeared to ALL men. Many today are adopting the Calvinistic error that Christ died only for the elect. That is twisting scripture.
✠ (John 3:16) "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that **whosoever** believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."
✠ (1 Timothy 2:4) "Who will have **all men** to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth."
✠ (1 Timothy 2:6) "Who gave himself a ransom **for all**, to be testified in due time."
✠ (2 Peter 3:9) "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that **any** should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

- ✚ (1 John 2:2) "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the **whole world**."
- 2) Do not be deceived. Just as God's saving grace is available for all so God's enabling grace is available to all – male or female, old or young, bond or free.

2. God's Enabling Grace is Instructional (v.12-13)

a. It teaches us how to fulfil our doctrinal duties.

- 1) Not only does God's grace save, it also teaches. The word here translated "**teaching**" means "to train or to correct". It is much more than explaining information. It is continual, constant, enforced, instruction.
- 2) God's enabling grace is training us in order that we might reach a double goal.
 - a) The goal is that **having denied ungodliness and worldly lust, we might live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world**.
 - b) "**Ungodliness**" speaks of things God would not approve, any type of wickedness. "**Worldly lust**" describes lusts typical of the unsaved world. God wants every one of His children to live a **self-controlled, righteous, godly** life in this wicked world.
 - c) Today, many Christians have ungodly private lives. They feed their minds with ungodliness from the TV, videos, DVDs, books, and music. Many Christians, young and old, are addicted to lustful viewing, lustful thoughts, and lustful gratification.
 - d) Notice carefully what this verse says. You will **NEVER** become self-controlled, righteous, or godly until you learn to deny ungodliness and worldly lust. The word "deny" means to reject. You must say "NO" to all that is ungodly and to every worldly lust.
 - e) If you are struggling with a sinful habit, you must say "NO" to that sin. You will never break that habit by slowing it down. Victory will only come when you **totally** stop. Never give in. Never give near. Never give

up. Never say, "I can't stop".

- ✚ (Romans 13:14) "But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof."
 - f) Remember that God promises enabling grace to help you.
 - ✚ (1 Corinthians 10:13) "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."
 - g) You must follow James' victory steps.
 - ✚ (James 4:7-10) "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."
- ### b. It teaches us how to stay encouraged (v.13)
- 1) Await expectantly for two events when the Lord returns at the rapture.
 - a) The blessed hope is the expectation of resurrection and transformation.
 - b) The glorious appearing of Jesus Christ.
 - ✚ (1 Corinthians 15:51) "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,"
 - ✚ (1 John 3:2) "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."
 - 2) This will encourage us in our efforts to fulfil our doctrinal duties. It will also encourage us on to victory over ungodliness and worldly lust. **If we are looking for Christ to come at any moment, we will not be wallowing in sin.**
 - 3) Note the description of Jesus Christ. He is called the great