Titus - Commentaries by Henry Allan Ironside

Continual Burnt Offering: Daily Meditations, November 21

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“For 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; who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works” —Titus 2:11-14.

THE same grace that saves becomes our instructor after we know Christ. In this school we learn important lessons of the profitableness of the flesh, and need to turn away from all carnality and worldliness that Christ may be glorified in our lives. To spur us on to earnest endeavor the blessed hope of the Lord’s return, is put before us. When we behold His face we shall never regret one thing we have suffered for His sake nor think His demands upon us have been too great. Viewed in the light of that cross where He gave Himself for us, our most devoted service seems trivial indeed, and the least we can offer as an expression of our love for the One to whom we owe so much.

—J. Denson Smith.

Daily Sacrifice, October 12

“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost” —Titus 3:5.

GOD’S sovereignty enables Him to deal in grace with erring mortals, apart altogether from any ability on their part to earn or deserve His loving favor. But our poor, legal hearts respond very feebly to His goodness and loving-kindness. It is difficult for us to abide in a sense of grace. We would far rather try to put God in our debt (Rom. 4:4) than take Him at His word and receive His gifts in simple faith. When we do come to Him in faith we are regenerated and God the Spirit takes His abode in us.

—J. G. Deck.

Continual Burnt Offering: Daily Meditations, November 22

“Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work, to speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men” —Titus 3:1, 2.

THE things that are highly esteemed among men are often thoroughly opposed to the mind of God (Luke 16:15). It is the ambitious, energetic man, who presses to the front, striving to excel his fellows, who has the admiration of men of the world, who suppose that present gain is the great thing to be desired. But Jesus taught us that it is the meek who inherit the earth (Matt. 5:5). The “terrible meek,” one has called them, who are content to be passed over and to be unnoticed by men, but to whom the approval of the Lord means more than all else; these are they who overcome the world by faith (1 John 5:4). They can afford to relinquish present advantage, for they know they shall find a sure reward at the judgment-seat of Christ.

There is no room for earthly pomp or worldly glory in the circle of Christ’s followers. To seek for personal advancement and to endeavor to lord it over one’s brethren is thoroughly contrary to the spirit of Him who became Servant of all, though He created the universe. The spirit of a Diotrephes (3 John 9) is far removed from the spirit of Christ and should be avoided by all of His servants, but that of an Epaphroditus (Phil. 2:25-29) is a worthy example which all may well emulate.