

**PAUL'S pastoral letter to TITUS** – who Paul left behind in Crete to “straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town.”

**THEMES:**

1. Teach sound (healthy) doctrine – that which is in accord with / that leads to godliness
2. Good Deeds - those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good

**TODAY'S TEXT:** Titus 2:11–3:8 – primarily verses 3:4-7. Verses of great hope!

**FOR AT ONE TIME**

\_\_\_\_\_ **THE DEPTHS FROM WHICH THE SAVIOR REACHED DOWN TO SAVE YOU**

**BUT WHEN....**

**Our Savior** \_\_\_\_\_ - (Greek: epephane; English: epiphany)

Whether on the Damascus road or raised in the Church, Christ appeared to you.

**Our Savior's** \_\_\_\_\_ - Kindness, Love and Mercy

See Exodus 33:18 – 34:7 (Mercy: Hebrew, *chasid*); the Jewish understanding of mercy – love and faithfulness that inspires compassion to help the helpless (see also Matthew 9:35-37)

Example from nature – the Stork: Hebrew, *chasida*

**Our Savior's** \_\_\_\_\_:

He \_\_\_\_\_ us! (who? Ungodly, helpless sinners who see their need for His salvation)

He \_\_\_\_\_ us \_\_\_\_\_! Rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit

He \_\_\_\_\_ us \_\_\_\_\_! Justified (declared righteous) by His Grace (unmerited favor; the undeserved help of God)

\_\_\_\_\_ **FOR THE GOD WHO SAVED YOU**

**THE HOPE OF ETERNAL LIFE**

Promised before the beginning of time (1:2); made heirs with Christ of His glory

\_\_\_\_\_ **IN WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST**

**THIS PRESENT AGE** - The Evidence of Salvation – Godliness and Good Deeds

\_\_\_\_\_ : **now....live Godly lives in this present age; be ready to do whatever is good; be careful to devote yourself to doing what is good**

**QUESTIONS:**

1. What are the benefits of retelling the gospel to yourself on a regular basis?
2. Does the hope of eternal life affect the way you live? If so, how? If not, why not?
3. Is the direction of your life toward godliness motivated by the kindness, love and mercy of God?