

B. Laboring

Change does not come immediately – but it will come!

It will take an effort on my part to surrender my former beliefs, views and opinions.

Hebrews 4:10-11a AMP – (10) For he who has once entered God's rest also has ceased from the weariness and pain of human labors, just as God rested from those labors peculiarly His own. (11) Let us therefore be zealous and exert ourselves and strive diligently to enter that rest of God.

John 6:29 AMP - Jesus told them, This is the only work God wants from you: Believe in the one who he has sent.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 AMP – (4) For the weapons of our warfare are not physical, but they are mighty before God for the overthrow and destruction of strongholds. (5) Inasmuch as we refute arguments and theories and reasonings and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the true knowledge of God; and we lead every thought and purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ.

We bring every thought captive to the obedience of Jesus, not to our own obedience. We rest in His obedience, in His finished work.

C. Seeing Him

I John 3:2 AMP – Beloved, we are even here and now God's children; it is not yet disclosed, made clear, what we shall be hereafter, but we know that when He comes and is manifested, we shall as God's children resemble and be like Him, for we shall see him just as He really is.

GOD'S GRACE

Part 3: Our Trainer

August 3, 2008 – Debby Baril
www.destintychurch.ca 450 676 6944

INTRODUCTION

Titus 2:11-13 AMP – (11) For the grace of God (His unmerited favor and blessing) has come forward (appeared) for the deliverance from sin and the eternal salvation for all mankind. (12) It has trained us to reject and renounce all ungodliness and worldly passionate desires, to live discreet, temperate, self-controlled, upright, devout, spiritually whole lives in this present world, (13) awaiting and looking for the fulfillment, the realization of our blessed hope, even the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Christ Jesus the Messiah, the Anointed One.

I. GRACE – GOD'S GIFT

God's grace is God's ability working in us making us able to do what we otherwise could not do in our own strength or ability.

1. Grace for Salvation (Titus 2:11)

Ephesians 2:8-9 NLT – (8) God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. (9) Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

2. Grace for Deliverance (Titus 2:11)

The same grace that brings salvation brings deliverance from sin. Sin no longer has dominion over us; we are no longer slaves to sin.

II. GRACE – OUR TRAINER

1. Grace Trains Us to Renounce Ungodliness (Titus 2:12)

A. Desire's Temptation

James 1:13-17 NLT – (13) And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, “God is tempting me.” God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else. (14) Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. (15) These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death. (16) So don't be misled, my dear brothers and sisters. (17) Whatever is good and perfect comes down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow.

Temptation offers an illegitimate way to fulfill our God-given desires and destiny.

John 6:26-27, 29, 35 NLT – (26) Jesus replied, I tell you the truth, you want to be with me because I fed you, not because you understood the miraculous signs. (27) But don't be concerned about perishable things like food. Spend your energy seeking the eternal life that the Son of Man can give you. For God the Father has given me the seal of his approval. (29) Jesus told them, This is the only work God wants from you: Believe in the one who he has sent. (35) Jesus replied, I am the bread of

life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

When we yield to temptation it is because we do not believe that God's way and God's timing is really the best.

B. Sin's Pleasure

Why do we entertain temptation? Something deep down really wants what it is offering.

Why is sin so strong? Because of the way we view sin, what we believe about it, what we believe about ourselves and what we believe about God.

2. Grace Trains us to Live Spiritually Whole Lives (Titus 2:12)

James 4:1, 6-8a AMP – (1) What leads to strife, discord and feuds, and how do conflicts, quarrels and fightings originate among you? Do they not arise from your sensual desires that are ever warring in your bodily members? (6) But He gives us more and more grace, power of the Holy Spirit to meet this evil tendency and all others fully. That is why He says, God sets Himself against the proud and haughty, but gives grace continually to the lowly, those who are humble enough to receive it. (7) So be subject to God. Resist the devil, stand firm against him, and he will flee from you. (8) Come close to God and He will come close to you.

A. Repentance

Repentance starts with believing not with stopping something. Change what you believe and you will change what direction you are going in.