YORNING STUDY

The Letter to Titus

10

Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God's Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

Morning Study

Today we continue studying Paul's letter to **Titus**, this time looking at the second chapter, which can be divided into two subsections.

You will notice that several expressions are repeated constantly throughout the letter to Titus, and in this chapter particularly. These expressions are:

- ➡ "Self-controlled"
- ➡ "Doing what is good"

Read each subsection, below, answering the questions associated with them. Type out your answers or jot them down on a piece of paper and file your answers with your morning study.

Read Titus 2:1-10

- S What did Paul instruct Titus to teach? (2:1).
- In 2:2, what is the first thing that Paul tells Titus to instruct older men to be and how does this relate to 1:12.
- ➡ In 2:3, Paul instructs Titus to teach older woman not be slanderers, but to "teach what is good." How do you think this verse relates to 1:10-11?
- ◆ At the end of three verses 2:5, 2:8 and 2:10 Paul writes a phrase beginning with "so that..." Compare these three phrases to see what Paul is particularly concerned about.
- S What was Paul's recommended strategy for teaching younger women? (2:4).
- How was Titus to set an example for everyone? (2:7-8).

Read Titus 2:11-15

- ➡ What was the grace of God teaching the Cretans to say "No" to? (2:11-12).
- Why did Christ give himself for the Cretans? (2:14).
- ➔ How was Titus to encourage and rebuke? (2:15).
- S What was Titus to rebuke? (note 1:13)

Memory Verse

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.

Titus 2:11-12

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see John 14:26).
- Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: reference; Step 2: verse content; Step 3: reference. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- The next day, before you begin commiting a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice (James 1:22). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts (John 15:7). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!

MEMORY VERSE