

"Hope for the Family"

Paul's Letter to Titus

1992 declared "YEAR OF FAMILY" by our Governor of Hawaii

MOST Important for us Christians > How is FAMILY Defined by Scripture?

POSITIVE + marriage, sex, children

NEGATIVE - divorce, homosexuality, abortion, widowhood

END OF SERIES OF SERMONS

DESPITE THE TRAGEDIES - BREAKUPS - CHALLENGES - basis for HOPE

VICTIMS OF HURRICANE ANDREW IN FLORIDA - EVERYTHING DESTROYED

MOST CRUSHED - THEIR WORLD WAS THEIR THINGS

Black woman "My hope is in God"

1. Problems in the Family

HOPE IS NOT IN OURSELVES

a. Nature CORRUPTED BY SIN

1.12 Even one of their own prophets has said, "Cretans are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons."

QUOTE FROM EPIMENIDES - 6th Cent. Greek Philosopher

GREEK word "Cretizo" means "TO LIE"

evil brutes - MEAN ANIMALS // lazy gluttons - UNCONTROLLED GREED

1:13 This testimony is true.

UNIQUE EXPRESSION - COMMON PROBLEM - HUMAN PROBLEM OF SIN

HEART OF THE PROBLEM IS THE PROBLEM OF THE HEART

Jer 17.9 The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure.

Romans 3.10 SWEEPING CONCLUSION OF ALL HUMANITY

"There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."

GREAT PROBLEMS FACING OUR FAMILIES NOT JUST FROM WITHOUT

HEART IN REBELLION AGAINST GOD

"to be a sinner is our distress, to know it is our hope"

b. Falsehood FALSE TEACHING - DISTORTION OF GOD'S WORD

1.1 knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness

John 8:32 you will know the truth, & the truth will set you free

1:11 (rebellious people, mere talkers and deceivers)..they are ruining whole households by teaching things they ought not to teach

RUINING A FEW MEMBERS CAN RUIN WHOLE HOUSEHOLD
DISRUPTION - UNEVENLY YOKED - DIVIDED LOYALTIES

Ex - Just trying to get to church must be group effort of family

Luke 11:17 Jesus...said...a [house divided] against itself will fall.

c. Hypocrisy DESTRUCTIVE TO THE FAITH OF FAMILY

1.16 They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.

MAN COMPLAINS - "MY FAMILY WATCHES TOO MUCH TV"
kids - cartoons // wife - soaps // teens - music videos
"As soon as football season is over I'm going to get rid of it"

HYPOCRITE - "unfit for doing anything good."

Jesus asks: Luke 14:34 "Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out.

"My uncle says he is a Christian, and if that's what a Christian is, I don't want anything to do with it"

TESTIMONY - NEW CHRISTIAN - STILL DRANK WITH FRIENDS

Saturday night - Parties // Sunday - Church

NO RESPECT FROM EITHER GROUP - CALLED ME HYPOCRITE

3.8 This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good.

PROBLEMS - Sinful Nature, False Teaching, Hypocrisy
GOSPEL - GOOD NEWS FOR SINNERS

2. Good News for the Family

HOPE BASED IN GOD AND HIS PROMISES

GOOD NEWS MADE KNOWN

a. by Preaching LIFE CHANGING WORD OF GOD

2:1 You must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine.
SOUND DOCTRINE - BASIS FOR SOUND BEHAVIOR

SCRIPTURE IS NORM FOR BOTH BELIEF AND BEHAVIOR

2:15 These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you.

"Do not let anyone despise you." AUTHORITY OF MINISTER / WORD

AUTHORITY- SPEAK WHERE GOD SPEAKS / SILENT WHERE SCRIPTURE SILENT

PASTOR WHO TELLS HIS PEOPLE WHO TO VOTE FOR / BRAND TOOTHPASTE

TESTIMONY - UPSET WITH PASTOR - COULD NOT HEAR HIM, CRITICAL
GOD'S MESSENGER TO ME - RECEIVE THE WORD - AS FROM THE LORD

1.3 (God) brought his word to light through the preaching

1 Corinthians 1.23,24 FOOLISHNESS OF PREACHING

we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

POLITICIANS - ALL SPEAK OF VALUES, FAMILY VALUES - SOURCE?
parents? schools? churches? / SCRIPTURE UNCHANGING STANDARD

WORD DOES NOT FALL OUT OF THE SKY - WORD BECAME FLESH

b. through People

1.5-9 The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you. {6} An elder must be blameless...{9} He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught

THINGS MADE STRAIGHT BY STRAIGHT PEOPLE

"blameless" IS NOT "sinless" - DEALS WITH SIN - REPENTANCE

YOUNG WOMEN ARE TO OBEY GOD

2:5 so that no one will malign the word of God.

TITUS - MORE THAN JUST PREACHER - PEOPLE SAW HIS LIFE

2:7 In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

c. unto Purity

Titus 1:15 To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted.

PHARISEES THOUGHT PURITY WAS OUTWARD & CEREMONIAL
 JESUS "DEFILED" BY GOING TO BAD PLACES AND BEING WITH BAD PEOPLE
 KIND OF SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS INVADED THE CHURCH

Mark 7:15 Nothing outside a man can make him 'unclean' by going into him. Rather, it is what comes out of a man that makes him unclean.' " "

John Calvin "those who are defiled can touch nothing without defiling it, to them nothing could be pure"

PURITY IS NOT WHERE YOU GO - IT IS WHO YOU ARE-- IN CHRIST

OBEDIENCE OF CHRISTIAN SLAVES..

2:10 in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive.

Titus 2:14 (Christ) gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

3. Commands to the Family

ELDERS SET THE DIRECTION FOR THE CHURCH // KUPUNAS IN HAWAII

REACH YOUNG PEOPLE?? SEE MODELS OF JESUS CHRIST IN ELDERS

NEIGHBOR WOMAN IN CALIFORNIA - WEEDING HER LAWN EVERY SUNDAY
 invited to church- "oh, I had all that training when I was young"
 I.E. - "I have graduated from God" - GROWN TO WHERE I DON'T NEED

a. Older Men: "worthy of respect"

2.2 Teach the older men to be temperate, worthy of respect, self-controlled, and sound in faith, in love and in endurance.

TITUS - STRAIGHTEN OUT THE CHURCH IN CRETE - BEGINS WITH ELDERS

"temperate" - not just alcohol - general restraint - GET A GRIP

"self-controlled" - sound-mind, soberly, sensibly

FAITH - LOVE - AND HOPE (endurance)

AARON'S SOCCER GAME - LEADING 3-0 - GOT TIRED, DISTRACTED 5-3

CUT SHORT ON BIBLE READING - PRAYER - WORSHIP - SERVICE

Matthew 24:13 he who stands firm to the end will be saved.

YOU WILL MAY NOT HAVE SAME PHYSICAL STRENGTH - SPIRITUAL STRENGTH

Aunty Dorothy Brown - 84 years - frail - gasping GOD IS GOOD!

WORTHY OF RESPECT - to your face (culture) and BEHIND YOUR BACK

b. Older Women: "reverent teachers"

DECREASING RESPONSIBILITY - CHILDREN GROWN

2.3,4a Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to each what is good. Then they can train the younger women

LIKEWISE - same faith, love and endurance as OLDER MEN

Mom at HCS said to Dayna this week "what do you do with all time"
YOUNGEST CHILD GOING TO SCHOOL NOW

BEWARE OF 1) Slander 2) Addiction

1 Tim 3.11 Women are not to be malicious talkers

WASTE TIME - SMALL WORLD OF GOSSIP - WORLD OF GREAT NEED

"you can talk about me as much as you please, I'll talk about you when I'm on my knees"

MOST CONVICTING VERSE IN ALL BIBLE - JESUS SAYS

Matthew 12:36 I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every [careless word] they have spoken.

We Christians never gossip - WE JUST SHARE PRAYER REQUESTS

2) NOT TO BE ADDICTED - CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT SOMETHING

"substance abuse" - ALL KINDS OF SUBSTANCES

EFFECT OF ALCOHOL DIFFERENT ON WOMEN

Physiological - MORE VULNERABLE TO TOXIC EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL

BECOME ADDICTED TO ALCOHOL MORE QUICKLY

EFFECT ON UNBORN CHILD - DRINK DURING PREGNANCY

More vulnerable to "Cross Addiction" - more than one substance

COMMONLY DRUGS AND ALCOHOL - GROWING PROBLEM WITH YOUTH USA

Cultural - MORE TOLERANT OF MALE ALCOHOLICS

Assumed also to be sexually promiscuous -

MUSLIM - drunk woman can be killed on spot by male relatives

ANCIENT ROME - could be starved or stoned to death

OLDER WOMEN ARE TO BE "reverent teachers"

ROLE IGNORED BY MOST WOMEN IN WESTERN SOCIETY

TOLD - YOU'VE DONE YOUR CHILD-RAISING - YOU DESERVE A BREAK

OR SOME THAT DO BECOME NOSY, ARROGANT MEDDLERS

GOAL: Humble advisors

CHRISTIAN WOMEN PLAYED KEY ROLE IN GROWTH OF CHRISTIAN CHURCH
EVANGELISM AT HOME // MISSIONS OVERSEAS

Ann Hasseltine - converted in New England - early 1800's

married Adoniram Judson - missionaries to Burma

more than just "missionary wife" - CALLED BY GOD HERSELF

"I desire no higher enjoyment in this life, than to be instrumental in leading Burmese women to a knowledge of the Savior. To have a women's praying society, consisting of those who were once in heathen darkness, is what my heart earnestly pants after, and makes a constant subject of prayer. I am resolved to keep this in view, as one principal object of my life."

c. Younger Women: "home builders" NEED TO ASK AND BE TEACHABLE

2.4b,5 Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.

BOOKS, PROGRAMS, FAMILY ADVISORS - OVERLOOK RESOURCES RIGHT HERE

"self-controlled" - MENTIONED FOR ALL FOUR CATEGORIES

"pure" GOAL OF PREACHING - 1.15 / upright moral character

"kind"

TAUGHT TO LOVE HUSBAND AND CHILDREN "busy at home" HOMEBUILDER

TAUGHT?? ISN'T IT NATURAL?? - Not in Crete, Not in America

"NOTHING IS MORE BORING, MEANINGLESS, LESS EXCITING -
THAN BEING JUST HOUSEWIFE"

HAVE TO GET OUT INTO WORKING WORLD - MADE-UP FOR OTHERS
HUSBAND COMES HOME AND FINDS TOO TIRED - MADE DOWN

d. Younger Men: "self control"

2:6 Similarly, encourage the young men to be self- controlled.

NEEDED FOR ALL - ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG MEN

HEIGHT OF STRENGTH - PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, SEXUAL - USE IT RIGHT

CONTRARY TO THE LICENSE AND DECADENCE OF GREEK (Cretian) Society
WE TELL YOUNG PEOPLE IN AMERICA "Just Do It"

4. Hope for the Family

WHAT IS THE BASIS OF OUR HOPE FOR FAMILY - SELVES? SOCIETY?

a. Promised SOLID HOPE BASED ON GOD'S SURE WORD

1.2 the hope of eternal life which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time

2 Peter 1.4 he has given us his very great and precious promises

b. Accomplished HE HAS MADE GOOD ON HIS PROMISES

2.11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men.

Word for APPEARED "epiphany" - OPERATION RESCUE -

CONNECTION - Salvation // the Grace of God

3:4 the kindness and love of God our Savior, appeared he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.

ONLY THING WE CONTRIBUTE TO OUR SALVATION
IS THE SIN TO MAKE IT NECESSARY

c. Experienced

3:5 He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,

Jesus calls in BORN OF THE SPIRIT / EXPERIENCE OF SALVATION

EVIDENCE OF EXPERIENCE??

2:12 It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age

DOUBLE DENIAL 1) ungodliness / SINFUL NATURE 2) worldly passions

NOT ENOUGH TO RENOUNCE UNGODLINESS - MUST BECOME GODLY

2:14 CHRIST gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

UNDERSTAND - SIN NAILED THE SON OF GOD TO THE CROSS - HATE IT

"eager to do what is good."

1 John 3:2 now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

NOW BUT NOT YET - NOW "children of God" NOT YET made like him

STRUGGLE AGAINST SIN- NEVER FULLY VICTORIOUS - SINLESS PERFECTION

SALVATION EXPERIENCE CORPORATE - "we are the children of God"

"Christ redeemed us" / "a people that are his very own"

GOD FORMS A NEW FAMILY - A NEW OHANA IN JESUS CHRIST

PAUL TELLS GENTILE "OUTSIDERS" - NOW IN CHRIST

Ephesians 2:19 you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household,

d. Anticipated LAST ACT OF GOD'S DRAMA OF REDEMPTION

2.13 we wait for the blessed hope--the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,

HISTORICAL EVENT OF FIRST COMING -
incarnation, life, death, resurrection, ascension

ANGELS TO DISCIPLES AT ASCENSION

Acts 1:11 "This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

HARD TO BELIEVE- LIFE SEEMS SO NORMAL, PREDICTABLE, EVIL GROWS •

// RESIDENTS OF KAUAI - ALL IS WELL - HIT BY WINDS OVER 100 MPH

JESUS ASKS

Luke 18:8 when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

TO THOSE WHO ARE WAITING IN HOPE

Matthew 25:23 "His master will say, ['Well done], good and faithful servant!...Come and share your master's happiness!"

WHERE HAVE YOU PLACED YOUR HOPE FOR YOUR FAMILY??

job, education, stock market, Christian schooling??

NOT myself as Pastor, Christian parent, not Haili Church

PUT YOUR HOPE IN GOD ALONE - ONLY SOLID HOPE