

## Titus

### Lesson #11, Chapter 2:3

In our previous lesson we began our look at the godly qualities the older women in the church are to possess. This lesson will continue our look at the virtues God desires in those He has redeemed.

1. What does the word *likewise* (verse 3) mean? What thoughts is the word *likewise* connecting in verses 2 and 3?
2. Older women are to be *reverent in their behavior* (KJV translates it as *behavior that becomes holiness*). The word *reverent* (hieroprepes) used only here in Titus 2:3 contains the idea of sacred and holy duties performed in everyday living. It does not point to a specific behavior, but encompasses all aspects of demeanor. Walter Lock in his commentary on the Pastoral Epistles describes reverent behavior in this way: "They are to carry into daily life the demeanor of priestesses in a temple." Look up the following verses and note the manner of a godly woman. See Prov. 31:30; 1 Tim. 2:9-15; 1 Pet. 3:1-6.
3. Why are women to be reverent in their behavior? See Titus 2:11-14 and 3:4-7. Why is it important that you understand and remember those truths?
4. What are the "sacred and holy duties" we are to perform each day as women as seen here in Titus 2 and the verses you looked up in question #2?
5. What does reverent behavior look like in your life? Try to put into words the behaviors that define reverence in your daily life. What attitudes are necessary for reverent behavior?

They that borrow the fashions of the Egyptians may get their boils and their blotches. Certainly such as fear the Lord should go in no apparel but first, such as they are willing to die in; secondly, to appear before the Ancient of Days in; thirdly, to stand before the judgement seat in. ~Thomas Brooks

Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she smiles at the future. ~Prov. 31:25

6. Next we read that women are not to be *malicious gossips* (also translated *false accusers or slanderers*). Define *malicious, gossip, accuse, slander*.
  
7. What do the Scriptures have to say about the effects of slander? See Ps. 31:13; Prov. 6:19; 16:28; 25:23; 26:20.
  
8. How should you respond to slander? See Ps. 34:13; Prov. 20:19; 24:25, 28; Eph. 4:31; Col. 3:8; Titus 3:1-2; 1 Pet. 2:1; 3:10.
  
9. Even when we know how bad slander is and how hurtful it can be, there are times when we still indulge in it. Why? See Jer. 17:9; Luke 6:45; James 3:2-10.
  
10. What is necessary if we are going to control our tongues (Gal. 5:16-17; 22-23; Col. 3:1-11; Titus 3:5)?
  
11. When we are walking in the Spirit what is our speech going to be like? See Eph. 4:25-27, 29, 32; 5:19-20; Col. 3:16-17.

12. Stop right now and ask the Lord to show you times when you have not guarded your tongue. Maybe you didn't say anything out loud, but could it be you are slandering someone in your heart, harboring bitterness against them? Confess your sin to the Lord, and if necessary, go to the person you have wronged and ask for their forgiveness. Write out a prayer to the Lord about your speech.
  
13. What is the next quality we are not to be characterized by (verse 3)?
  
14. Who is to abstain from drinking excessively? See Lev. 10:8-10; Num. 6:2-4; Prov. 31:4-5; Eph. 5:18; 1 Tim. 3:2-3, 8; Titus 2:2-3.
  
15. Why are we to exercise self-control in drinking alcohol? See Prov. 20:1; 23:20-21, 29-35.
  
16. What is drunkenness associated with? See Rom. 13:12-13; Gal. 5:19, 21; Eph. 5:15-18; 1 Pet. 4:3-4.
  
17. What is the rule of thumb for the believer in this area? Examine the following passages and determine what course of action needs to be taken, for what purpose, and any other things you see. See Prov. 25:16; Rom. 13:14; 14:13-23; Gal. 5:22-24.
  
18. Define *enslaved* (also translated *addicted* or *given to*) from verse 3. What kinds of things can someone be enslaved to?

19. What do the following Scriptures teach us about breaking free from anything that enslaves us? See Ps. 119:11; Rom. 6:16-18, 22; Gal. 5:1; Titus 2:12, 14; 3:3-7; 2 Pet. 1:3-8; 2:19.
  
20. Ladies, if you are enslaved to something other than the Lord, you need to begin taking steps to break those bonds. First, write down the sin here. Then, confess it to someone else who will begin to pray for you and hold you accountable to stop committing it. Next, come up with a plan to overcome your bondage to this area—not only ways to stop, but also good, new things you will begin doing to replace it.
  
21. What final characteristic is listed for the older women (verse 3)?
  
22. What is the content of the older woman's teaching (verses 3-5)?
  
23. Not all of us consider ourselves teachers, but this quality is addressed to all women. What are some ways to teach others? See Deut. 6:7, 20; Prov. 22:17-21; 1 Thess. 5:14; 1 Tim. 4:12, 13; 1 Pet. 5:3.
  
24. Of course, in order to teach what is good to others you need to be living a life that models those good things. 2 Cor. 13:5 urges us to examine ourselves so we can align ourselves with God's Word. Is there anything you need to work on so your life will match your words?
  
25. Review the godly qualities to be found in any woman who follows Jesus Christ from this week's lesson. What truth or exhortation has impacted you through this study?

Godliness (from the Greek word *eusebia*) denotes an everyday living or conduct that displays devotion to God.