

## Grace Teaches Believers

Titus 2:11 “For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, <sup>12</sup>teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, <sup>13</sup>looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,”

Complete the blanks using the above to reveal 3 aspects of Christian conduct.

1. Christian living denies [ungodliness](#) and [worldly lust](#).
2. Christians should live their lives [soberly](#), [righteously](#), and [godly](#).
3. Christians need to [look for](#) the hope and appearing of [Jesus Christ](#).

Grace which brings salvation also teaches us how to live pleasing to God. Apart from this grace, a believer will not experience spiritual growth. Reference 2 Peter 3:18.

“Teaching” from v 12 - *pahee-dyoo* ‘-o; to *train* up a child, i.e. *educate*, or (by impl.) *discipline* (by punishment):— chasten, instruct, learn, teach.

Grace teaches like a wise [parent](#) teaches a child. Grace thereby instructs us in love, provides spiritual truth, reproof (criticism), admonition (warning), encouragement, and chastening.

“What about God’s law?”, you might ask. Doesn’t God’s law show the standard so that we can know how to live pleasing to God? What is then, the purpose of the law?

True or False – The purpose of the law is to teach righteousness.

Explain your answer. [We can safely say that if the purpose of God’s law was to teach righteousness, then it is a huge failure. No man has lived a godly, righteous life through instruction of the law. Reference Romans 3:19, 20](#).

Read Romans 6:15 and discuss. [Clearly, if you are under the law then you are dominated by sin. God’s law does indeed set a standard for men to live by, but He does did not purpose it to produce godliness in men.](#)

Because of man's sinful nature, man cannot live up to what the law tells us to do. Romans 8:3 states "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh,..." Clearly, the law is not God's means to produce godliness in man.

What was the purpose of the law? See Galations 3:24-25. ["Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith."](#)<sup>25</sup> [But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor."](#) The law brings us to Christ, the [source of grace.](#)

Church of Galatia – Came to believe that the saved are made perfect by keeping the law. Paul calls this a 'different gospel.' See Galations 3:3.

[The church of Galatia had two problems Paul wrote to them about. This is one of them.](#)

Recognize then that grace, not God's law, teaches to us how to live godly, righteous lives.

God's laws are not the standard to which He calls a Christian to live. Through grace, God sets the believer's standard on a higher plane. The standards of the law are on a high human plane; those of grace are on a divine plane. Through God's grace we have the Holy Spirit, which Jesus said would "guide you into all truth" (John 16:13). A divine Person dwelling within in us guiding us to "all truth" is something very different from the law.

Jesus said that "I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." (John 10:10). He came "full of grace and truth" (John 1:14).

The grace that came by Jesus gave [spiritual](#) life; and the same grace makes our life more abundant through [teaching](#).

Paul says of the Phillipians, "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you... being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Phillipians 1:3,6)

What was the beginning of the good work? [Being saved by grace.](#)

What is the balance of the good work? [Being disciplined by grace.](#)

[God doesn't ever save a person then leave it to them to finish the good work. Through God's grace, He perfects what He has begun.](#)

Referencing the opening passage from Titus, who will grace teach? [The believer. His grace does not teach the unsaved. The unsaved are "dead in trespasses and sins" \(Ephesian 2:1\) and can't be taught how to live until they become saved.](#)