Daily Devotional, May 2, 2020

"God our Savior", (Titus 3:4, NKJV)

"But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life" (Titus 3:4-7)

These verses are absolutely loaded with gospel truth. The first thing we note is that Jesus Christ is clearly stated to be God here. "God our Savior" and "Jesus Christ our Savior" are used interchangeably here. In fact, since a sinless blood sacrifice was required for our salvation, and since only God is sinless, then Jesus Christ had to and has to be God. In the four verses of our text, we find four attributes of God, and four actions of God. This devotional is very much of the doctrinal teaching variety, but I pray that you take these things to heart and marvel at what a great God we have, and the abundant majesty and love that He displays day by day.

Four Attributes:

- 1. "Kindness": God is so kindly disposed toward men that He always acts on behalf of our best interests. He knows what these are perfectly.
- 2. "Love": "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).
- 3. "Mercy": God offers us forgiveness and remission of sins in place of His abiding wrath. He does not give us what we do deserve.
- 4. "Grace": God gives us unmerited favor. We receive this though we do not deserve it, nor could we ever earn God's favor wholly on our own.

Four Actions:

- 1. "Saved": God rescues us from our hopeless sinful condition and aids us.
- 2. "Regeneration": "Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God" (John 3:5). We are born physically, but in order to one day enter heaven, we must undergo a spiritual birth also.

- 3. "Renewing": This is the continual work of God the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer. If you are reading this, God is not done with you.
- 4. "Justified by His grace...to the hope of eternal life": As Christians, we are freed from the eternal punishment of sin, and instead given the certain hope of eternal life with God the Father, because of the work which God the Son has completed for us.

Consider these four attributes of God, and these four actions of God. Which one of each category strikes you the most today? I know, it's a tough call. All of these things taken together give us such a blessed hope in "God our Savior."