

“Hope in the Presence of Racial Tension”

Sermon Notes

➤ **Three reassurances for hope in Paul's novel approach to racial tension**

1. The Past of the saved (3:3)

Problems of the head

Problems of the heart

Problems of the hands

2. The Process of salvation (3:4-6)

(See Joel 3:28-29)

3. The Plan of salvation (3:7)

(see Rev 21:5; Phil 2:6-11)

MEFC Community Group Study Guide
For the week of June 14th - 20th

As Pastor Aaron introduced us to last week, we're going to follow the general COMA method of studying the Bible, with adaptation to our text, Titus 3:3-7. The COMA method comes from Pastor David Helm in the book *One-to-One Bible Reading* .

Context

What clues do these verses of Paul's letter to Titus provide about Paul himself? About the person of Titus and the situation in Crete?

What was the main point of the passage before Titus 3:3-7, in 3:1-2? What about after, in 3:8-11?

Observation

How does this text break down into sections?

What does the word "For" at the beginning of 3:3 tell us about the relationship between Titus 3:1-2 and Titus 3:2-7?

What is being contrasted by the word "But" at the beginning of 3:4?

What are the main points that Paul is making here?

Are there any surprises in this passage?

The word "Savior" appears twice in these verses. To whom does it apply? Saved from what?

What is the point of the contrast between malice and goodness? Hatred and loving kindness?

Meaning

How does Paul's argument in Chapter 3 relate to his instructions about elders in Chapter 1, and to his exhortation to teach sound doctrine in Chapter 2?

How does this passage relate to Jesus?

What does this passage teach us about God?

How can we sum up the meaning of this passage in our own words?

What do the following key terms mean?

- *Righteousness*
- *Mercy*
- *Regeneration and Renewal (are they two different things)?*
- *Justified*
- *Grace*
- *Hope*
- *Eternal Life*

Application

How does Titus 3:3-7 confirm or challenge your beliefs, desires and actions?

How does this passage call on me to change the way I live?