"ADORNING THE DOCTRINE OF GOD OUR SAVIOUR IN ALL THINGS

Titus 2:10; James 2:18

INTRODUCTION:
1. We could call this lesson "Making Christianity Attractive".
2. To "adorn" is: To beautify; to garnish; to embellish
3. We all know the value of adornment.
   (1) Automobile makers change models of cars every year and emphasize eye appeal.
   (2) A young man becomes interested in a young woman and he adorns himself to appeal to her.
   (3) A young woman will do the same.
4. Satan used this principle in leading Eve into sin -- Gen. 3:5 - 6
5. Satan uses this principle today.
   (1) He makes liquor look attractive -- Prov. 23:31 - 32
   (2) He makes fornication look attractive -- Prov. 6:25
6. As Christians we have the truth and we must learn the importance of making it attractive to our fellowman -- Phil. 1:27; I Tim. 4:12; I Pet. 3:3 - 4
7. As Christians we have caused many people to lose their appetite for the truth because of the way we have failed to adorn the doctrine of Christ in our lives -- Rom. 2:24; I Tim. 5:14; Tit. 2:5
8. Let us look at some of the things that will make the gospel attractive.

I. GOOD WORKS WILL MAKE THE GOSPEL ATTRACTIVE
   1. I Pet. 2:12; Matt. 5:16; Eph. 2:10; I Cor. 15:58; Tit. 2:14
   2. Taking care of the needs of others -- Matt. 25:35 - 40; James 1:27
   3. Teaching the gospel to others -- Acts 20:20; Acts 8:4
   4. The mother in the home with her family -- Tit. 2:4 - 5; I Tim. 5:14
   5. Christians taking care of their old people -- I Tim. 5:4, 8, 16

II. LOVE WILL MAKE THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST ATTRACTIVE
   1. John 13:34 - 35
   2. God used love to make the gospel attractive -- John 3:16; Rom. 5:8; II Cor. 5:14
   3. Hatred and bitterness among brethren does not make the gospel attractive to the world -- Gal. 5:15
      (1) The root of bitterness can destroy families, the church and communities -- Heb. 12:15; Eph. 4:31
III. OUR SPEECH WILL MAKE THE GOSPEL ATTRACTIVE

1. Col. 4:8
3. Eph. 4: 29, 32

IV. UNITY MAKES THE GOSPEL ATTRACTIVE

1. Jesus prayed that all would be united -- John 17: 20 - 21
   (1) Disunity causes unbelief
2. Paul pleaded for unity -- I Cor. 1: 10
3. The Jerusalem church had perfect unity -- Acts 4: 32
4. Unity is good and pleasant -- Psa. 133: 1
5. We must endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit -- Eph. 4:3

V. THE PEACE OF MIND OF REAL CHRISTIANS MAKES THE GOSPEL ATTRACTIVE

1. Phil. 2: 14 - 15; 4: 6 - 8; 4:4; Heb. 13: 5 - 6; Matt. 6:33
2. The world is looking everywhere for this kind of Christian today.
3. When we are about as unhappy and afraid as the world, we don't make the gospel attractive
   - - Heb. 11: 33 - 39

VI. CONSISTENCY WILL MAKE THE GOSPEL ATTRACTIVE

1. The inconsistency of the Jew made Judaism unattractive to the Gentiles -- Rom. 2: 17 - 24
2. Some of our inconsistencies:
   (1) Some say they believe the Bible --
   2. Try to worship with a heart of bitterness -- Matt. 5: 23 - 24
   3. Say they love God, but not the brethren -- I John 4: 20 - 21
   4. Say we want to go to heaven, but we are not spiritual -- Col. 3: 1 - 3

VII. CONSECRATION AND DEVOTION MAKES THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST ATTRACTIVE

1. Paul -- Gal. 2:20; I Cor. 9: 16, 27
2. Consecration and devotion in the lives of Christians attracts people today.

VIII. CONSTANCY WILL MAKE THE GOSPEL ATTRACTIVE

1. I Cor. 15:58; I Pet. 3: 15; II Tim. 4:2; Tit. 3:1
2. Christians who are constant in their duty attract people to the truth.
IX. DOING OUR BEST WILL MAKE THE GOSPEL ATTRACTIVE

1. Half-hearted Christians NEVER made the gospel attractive to anyone.

2. The church at Laodicea is not attractive -- Rev. 3: 14 - 22

3. We admire the widow who gave the TWO MITES because she did HER BEST -- Mark 12: 41 - 44

4. Even though we are imperfect, the gospel will have appeal IF WE DO OUR BEST!

CONCLUSION:

1. Let us recognize the importance of making the gospel attractive.

2. We have the truth, let us serve it to the world in clean, dedicated lives and we will be far more successful!

Donald Townsley