

HIT AND RUN

In the last couple of months, one of the drivers in our family was in a hit-and-run accident. The result was a significantly damaged vehicle that could not be driven as it was intended. It could roll short distances around town, but it was limping along. It was an unfortunate event like that we have become acquainted with over the last couple of years. Nevertheless, it was yet another experience that offered great learning. One of those lessons was patience. This episode only took about 3 months. However, the most significant lesson learned is explained in Titus. Truth be told, the car was wrecked, and we couldn't fix it.

Titus 3

3 For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. 4 But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

When it comes to our spiritual lives, we are just as crunched up and damaged as that car was. As a result, we cannot live according to the designed purpose that our creator made us for. Sin has a way of doing that to us. Still more, it sets us at odds with the world around us. This is more than an inconvenience. It is a total catastrophe.

It is fascinating and pure grace that we don't get sent to the junkyard. We aren't totaled and scrapped. God provided Jesus to make us whole again in his infinite love and goodness. This is not something we earned or were due because we paid high insurance premiums. It is purely a result of his goodness and loving-kindness. The outcome of this gracious work is a complete restoration of what was broken. His perfect craftsmanship fixes us and ultimately changes our ownership to the father of a family that offers eternal hope.

Sin destroys. Jesus restores. As heirs, this is our sustaining joy and our message to the world around us.

Praise be to Christ our King.

Shalom,
Ryan