

Adorn the Doctrine of God

➤ = next PowerPoint

➤ Intro:

- **Tit. 2:10** Christians are to adorn the doctrine (teaching) of God
- this lesson, explore the question: **Are you adorning the doctrine of God?**

➤ “adorn” – word usage in Bible

- noun: *kosmeo* (kos-meh'-o)
 - "to arrange, to put in order" (Eng., "cosmetic") (Vine's)
 - **illus.:** used of furnishing a room, trimming lamps, adorning tombs and buildings, adoring one's person
 - **Tit. 2:10** metaphorically used of adorning the doctrine of God – **verb, action in Christian life**

➤ - verb: *kosmos* (kos'-mos)

- "a harmonious arrangement or order," then, "adornment, decoration," came to denote "the world, or the universe, as that which is Divinely arranged." (Vine's)
- **1 Pet. 3:3** physical and inner adornment

➤ - **illus.:** Arlington Cemetery (pic)

- **arranged, put in order:** graves, buildings, grounds
- **everything is harmonious:** crosses on graves harmonious order
- **as we adorn our own selves and our possessions, so we adorn the teaching of God**

➤ How do we adorn the teaching of God?

- *kosmeo*: metaphoric, to **embellish with honor**
 - **illus.:** Arlington Cemetery, a place of honor that each visitor must adorn with their behavior and character, or not permitted to be on the premises (embellish with honor) – pic
 - **illus.:** soldiers who guard the tomb of the unknowns – info about what they do

➤ - We adorn the teaching of God, in the same way we adorn Arlington when we visit – **behaving honorably toward**

- **Rom. 1:21a** honor God, His teaching
 - **illus.:** child adorns parents by honoring them (**Eph. 6:2**) – e.g.
 - **illus.:** husband adorns wife by honoring her (**1 Pet. 3:7**) – e.g.

➤ - **2 Jn. 1:9** abiding in Christ's teaching – not go too far

➤ - **1 Tim. 6:1** behave properly, so doctrine not spoken against

- **illus.:** Christian, sin, world blasphemes – e.g. drunk, drunkenness, profanity, fornication
- **Col. 4:6** speech seasoned with salt
- **Matt. 5:16** men see good works and glorify God – His teaching, word

➤ - **Rev. 2:14, 15, 24** not hold to false religious doctrines

- **Col. 2:19** hold fast to Christ
- **Phil. 2:16** hold fast to the word of life

➤ - **2 Pet. 1:2-4** when we behave honorably toward God's teachings, we partake of His divine nature, and adorn His teaching with our good behavior

➤ **What's the result of adorning the teaching of God?**

- What does earthly adornment do?

- makes something look good

- attractive, appealing, others want to be the same way, the person is made to look good and the adornment also

- illus.: woman who adorns herself to reflect godliness (1 Tim. 2:9-10; 1 Pet. 3:4)

- makes something look honorable

- illus.: Arlington (above)

- Likewise, what do we do by adorning the teaching of God?

- make it look good to ourselves and others

- attractive, appealing, others want to be the same way, the person is made to look good and the adornment also

- make it look honorable

➤ - affects others: cause others to glorify God because of our good works

- Matt. 5:13-16 light, city upon a hill, salt of the earth, men see good works and glorify God

- honor God by actions, whereby others honor Him, even if not a Christian

- illus.: Daniel, released from lion's den, King Darius made a decree that in all the dominion of his kingdom "men are to fear and tremble before the God of Daniel; For He is the living God and enduring forever, And His kingdom is one which will not be destroyed, And His dominion will be forever" (Dan. 6:26)

➤ - evangelism: save some by the testimony of our lives

- 1 Pet. 3:15 people ask the reason for the hope within us

- illus.: Paul, a walking testimony of God's power and grace, often told his life's story to convert

- illus.: 1 Pet. 3:1-4 Christian woman can win unbelieving spouse without a word, godly adornment

- godly earthly adornment adorns the teaching of God

➤ - because, you're different from the world (2 Cor. 6:14-18)

- Matt. 7:13-14; 21-23 persecution, in the minority

- not popular with those who respect sin over godliness

- all godly people suffer persecution (2 Tim. 3:12) – part of adorning the teaching of God

- so, important for us to help one another: encourage, stimulate, assemble

- not in the mire with them, participating in their sinful deeds (Eph. 5)

- Eph. 5:7-11 rather exposing their deeds by your example of life, and speech, as a light

- persecution results: ridicule, brunt of jokes, spoken evil of

➤ - so then, must be patient when people around us doing what's wrong – can be irritating, annoying, harmful to you personally

- illus.: students who cheat and get a better grade than us

- illus.: drivers who purposely break laws and wreck, causing us bodily injury

- illus.: people who are impatient with us for doing the right things the right way, rather than cheating and breaking the rules like them

- have to be different to make a difference

➤ **Summary / Inv.**

- We adorn God's teaching by:

- honoring Him, His word, His teaching
- abiding in Christ's teaching
- behaving properly, so doctrine not spoken evil against
- not holding to false religious doctrines

- The result:

- God is glorified
- some saved

- Are you adorning the doctrine of God? – bring honor and glory to it, and to God?

- inv.: bring glory to the doctrine of God by obeying it – God will be glorified