

Titus

Introduction

- Titus is one of the three books that we call the Pastoral Epistles – 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus
- Titus was probably written during the same time as 1 Timothy – Timothy was in Ephesus and Titus was in Crete
- Titus was a Gentile companion of Paul and Barnabas who accompanied them to the council at Jerusalem

Galatians 2:1-3 Then fourteen years after I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and took Titus with me also. And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them which were of reputation, lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain. But neither Titus, who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised:

Acts 15:1-2 And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved. When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

- Titus was sent to Corinth by Paul to collect the offering for the saints at Jerusalem

2 Corinthians 8:6 Insomuch that we desired Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also finish in you the same grace also.

- Titus is mentioned several times in 2 Corinthians – he was probably the one who delivered the letter

2 Corinthians 7:5-7 For, when we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled on every side; without were fightings, within were fears. Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus; And not by his coming only, but by the consolation wherewith he was comforted in you, when he told us your earnest desire, your mourning, your fervent mind toward me; so that I rejoiced the more.

2 Corinthians 7:13 Therefore we were comforted in your comfort: yea, and exceedingly the more joyed we for the joy of Titus, because his spirit was refreshed by you all.

2 Corinthians 8:16 But thanks be to God, which put the same earnest care into the heart of Titus for you.

2 Corinthians 8:23 Whether any do enquire of Titus, he is my partner and fellowhelper concerning you: or our brethren be enquired of, they are the messengers of the churches, and the glory of Christ.

- Paul wrote to Titus whom he had left on the island of Crete to set in order things in the churches there

Titus 1:4-5 To Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour. For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:

- Titus is mentioned as being with Paul in Rome and being sent to Dalmatia

2 Timothy 4:10 For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

- Hints about Titus

- He was not timid – He was bold enough to go with Paul and stand before the Jerusalem council as a witness of a Gentile believer
- Titus was well loved brother in the Lord to Paul – probably led to the Lord by Paul himself

2 Corinthians 2:13 I had no rest in my spirit, because I found not Titus my brother: but taking my leave of them, I went from thence into Macedonia.

Titus 1:4 To Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour.

- Titus and his presence brought comfort
- **2 Corinthians 7:5-6** For, when we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled on every side; without were fightings, within were fears. Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus;
- Titus also was refreshed by the Corinthians

2 Corinthians 7:13 Therefore we were comforted in your comfort: yea, and exceedingly the more joyed we for the joy of Titus, because his spirit was refreshed by you all.

- Titus showed concern and care for the believers in Corinth
2 Corinthians 8:16-17 But thanks be to God, which put the same earnest care into the heart of Titus for you. For indeed he accepted the exhortation; but being more forward, of his own accord he went unto you.
- Titus was a partner and helper to the apostle Paul
2 Corinthians 8:23 Whether any do enquire of Titus, he is my partner and fellowhelper concerning you: or our brethren be enquired of, they are the messengers of the churches, and the glory of Christ.

Chapter 1

I. Paul's Introduction (1:1-4)

A. From Paul

Titus 1:1-3 Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour;

1. His signature

- a) A servant – the word used here is slave as opposed to the word meaning to serve or minister
- b) An apostle – an authorized messenger – Titus would recognize this not just as a friendly letter but as a God sent message

2. The foundation

a) Faith of God's elect

(1) Not just faith, but saving faith in the Lord Jesus

Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.

(2) Election (picked out or chosen)

(a) God's choice or man's free will?

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

(b) Two extremes in thinking – God predestines some to eternal life and some to eternal death; God has given man a free will to choose but then does not allow him to use that choice regarding accepting Christ

(c) Did I choose Him because He chose me or did He choose me because I chose Him? – Those choices take place simultaneously because God has no past or future – He is eternally present

b) Acknowledging of the Truth

(1) The idea here is that there is a full and thorough acknowledgment of the truth

(2) Truth is found in God's Word

(3) Faith is fed and grown by the truth found in God's Word
Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

c) Godliness

(1) Godliness is to show respect and honor for God

(2) Religious activity does not equal godliness

d) Hope

(1) Confidence and expectation in eternal life

(2) God, who cannot lie

(3) The trustworthiness of God is the security of our hope

(4) The promise of God before the world began

e) Preaching

(1) In due time – the New Testament dispensation is different than previous times as we have the completed Word of God – today God's revealed Word is declared by preaching

(2) God makes his Word visible and made known by preaching

(3) Preaching is that which is proclaimed – preaching should always be defined by the message given and not by the style in which it is given

f) Obedience to God's commands

(1) Who do we get our orders from?

(2) Who is our authority?

B. To Titus

Titus 1:4 To Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour.

1. Paul's relationship

a) His own son in the faith – a special bond and relationship because Paul had led him to the Lord

b) A similar relationship with Timothy

1 Timothy 1:2 Unto Timothy, my own son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

c) Common faith – Titus wasn't saved any differently than anyone else – Paul warned the Corinthians about choosing favorite spiritual leaders

1 Corinthians 3:4-5 For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal? Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?

2. Paul's blessing

a) Grace that is rich and free

2 Corinthians 8:9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

Ephesians 4:7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.

b) Mercy, compassion and kindness

Titus 3:4-5 But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

Ephesians 2:4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

c) Peace in your heart

Philippians 4:6-7 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

II. Paul's Instructions Regarding Teaching Elders and False Teachers

A. Ordaining Elders

Titus 1:5 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:

1. It would seem that Paul had been with Titus in Crete and had left him there to complete some tasks regarding appointments and organization
2. To set in order means to straighten things out further
3. The things that are wanting are those things that still needed attention – things left undone
4. To ordain means to appoint someone to a position of authority over – the word ordination means much more today than what was referenced here
5. Paul's model was to select leaders for these churches

Acts 14:23 And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

6. Elders refers to those who presided over the assemblies – bishops, (episkopos) elders (presbuteros) or pastors can be used interchangeably
7. Paul had delegated this task of selecting elders to Titus

B. Comparing the lists in Timothy and Titus

1. The lists are similar but not exactly identical
2. The lists are not meant to be exhaustive but foundational
3. Other than apt to teach, the lists deal with Godly character and not spiritual gifts, talents or abilities
4. The qualities listed are mentioned elsewhere in Scripture that apply to all believers
5. No one can achieve all of these things to perfection

C. Qualifications of Elders

Titus 1:6-8 If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly. For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;

1. Blameless – accusations that do not stick

2. Husband of one wife
 - a) Requirement to be male
 - b) Requirement to be married
 - (1) Does this also require them to have children
 - (2) Does this disqualify them if widowed
 - c) Prohibiting polygamy – one wife at a time
 - d) Prohibiting divorce
3. Faithful children

1 Timothy 3:4-5 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)

 - a) Well trained
 - b) Obedient and in submission
 - c) Believers in Christ
 - d) Not accused of riot
 - (1) Willful and deliberate excess in eating, drinking, actions etc.
Luke 15:13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.
 - (2) Someone who wastes his life
 - e) Not unruly – insubordinate, disobedient
 - (1) Someone who refuses to be controlled
 - (2) Someone who does not submit to authority
4. A steward of God
 - a) Not an owner, a manager that cares for what the master puts into his hands
 - b) One that one day must give account
Hebrews 13:17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.
 - c) Faithfulness, trustworthy
1 Corinthians 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.
5. Not self-willed
 - a) Not arrogant – unwilling to accept suggestions or criticism
 - b) One who must always get his own way

- 6. Not soon angry
 - a) Prone to anger
 - b) Quick tempered
- 7. Not given to wine
 - a) Being near wine
 - b) It was not commended – it was regarded as dangerous
Proverbs 31:4-5 It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink: Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted.
- 8. No striker
 - a) Not contentious or quarrelsome
 - b) Always ready for a fight
- 9. Not given to filthy lucre
 - a) Not a lover of money
 - b) Greedy for money
- 10. Lover of hospitality
 - a) Fond of guests
 - b) Example of friendliness
- 11. Lover of good men
 - a) Philos – love – agathos - good
 - b) Loving that which is good
- 12. Sober
 - a) Safe, of a sound mind
 - b) Self-controlled
- 13. Just
 - a) Righteous
 - b) Upright in his dealings
 - c) Integrity
- 14. Holy
 - a) undefiled by sin
 - b) Clean
- 15. Temperate
 - a) Strong, having power over
 - b) Controlling one's self
 - c) Restraint

D. Caring for the Word of God

Titus 1:9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

1. Foundation

- a) Holding fast to the Word of God as their guide
- b) Using God's Word to keep them on track

2. Training

- a) Having been taught
- b) Knowing sound doctrine

3. Use

- a) Exhort – admonish, encourage
- b) Convince – to bring to conviction and confession

E. Characteristics of False Teachers

1. Who are these false teachers?

Titus 1:10 For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision:

- a) There are many
- b) They are Jewish (of the circumcision)

(1) There were people from Crete present on the Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.

(2) There is still a great divide between Jewish and Gentile believers

(3) The Jews would insist that the Gentiles follow the Jewish laws and customs in order to be true believers

2. The speech of the false teachers

Titus 1:10 For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision:

a) Unruly

(1) This is the same word used in verse 6 regarding the elder's children

(2) The idea is that someone who cannot be controlled

(3) These are people who will not submit to authority

- b) Vain talkers
 - (1) They speak things which are nonsense
 - (2) The boast of knowledge but they are all talk and evidence nothing in their own lives
- c) Deceivers
 - (1) They are deceptive
 - (2) They say things that are almost right
 - (3) They say things that seem like they might be right
 - (4) They put doubts in your mind
- 3. The damage caused by these false teachers

Titus 1:11 Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.

 - a) They must be stopped
 - (1) Their mouth should be muzzled
 - (2) They must be silenced
 - b) They subvert whole houses
 - (1) Their influence was upon entire households
 - (2) The churches were meeting in homes and these teachers could influence entire families
 - (3) How much influence does a parent have on their children regarding how they think and act?
- 4. The motivation of these false teachers

Titus 1:11 Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.

 - a) They teach things they ought not
 - b) Their motivation was – monetary and personal gain (filthy lucre)
 - (1) They would say things that would stir up a crowd
 - (2) They would say things to gain popularity
 - (3) Their teaching was based upon financial gain
- 5. The reputation of these false teachers

Titus 1:12-13 One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies. This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;

- a) The Cretians are known to be liars
 - b) The Cretians are known as evil beasts
 - (1) They behaved like wild animals
 - (2) They were unrestrained in wicked behavior
 - c) The Cretians are known as slow bellies
 - (1) Slow – lazy, idle, inactive
 - (2) Bellies – belly, stomach, gluttony
6. Protecting the church from these false teachers
- Titus 1:13-14** This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith; Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.
- a) Rebuke them sharply
 - (1) Not a suggestion
 - (2) Specifically point out their faults
 - (3) Sharply – abruptly, severely
 - b) Remain sound in the faith
 - (1) The purpose for the rebuke was not to merely win an argument
 - (2) He wanted them to be grounded firmly in their doctrine and in their faith
 - c) Reject Jewish fables
 - (1) Desire the factual truth and not fables
 - (2) Paul also spoke to Timothy regarding fables

1 Timothy 1:4 Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do.
 - d) Reject the commandments of men
 - (1) The Jews held their traditions as God’s commands
 - (2) The Jews forced many rules upon men because of how they interpreted God’s laws
 - e) Reject that which is not true

7. The thinking of these false teachers

Titus 1:15 Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.

a) This verse does not give liberty to do as we wish – if I think it is pure and good then I can participate

b) The idea seems to be in what someone would deem as pure for themselves – keeping the Jewish traditions and laws would not make someone pure (abstaining from meats, keeping the Sabbath)

c) The idea was that keeping external practices would make one clean – but Jesus had taught that we are made unclean by what comes out of a man

Mark 7:20-23 And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

d) The sin nature changes our thinking – our mind and our conscience are defiled

Hebrews 9:14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

e) We are made pure by the blood of Christ and not by our outward acts

f) To someone who is pure in their thinking – things seem as pure; to someone who has impure thinking – many things take on a connotation as being impure

8. They hypocrisy of these false teachers

Titus 1:16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

a) What they profess – to know God

b) What their works demonstrate

(1) Denial – contradiction

(2) Abomination – disgust

(3) Disobedience – unwilling to be persuaded

(4) Reprobate – that which does not pass the test as genuine

Chapter 2

III. Instructions to the Church Members

A. To Titus

Titus 2:1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:

1. In contrast to the false teachers Paul had warned Titus about, he now urges him to speak those things which are sound and solid teaching
2. The basis for all teaching in the church should be the Word of God
Titus 1:9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.
2 Timothy 4:2-3 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;
3. Paul wanted Titus to remove the false teachers but replace that teaching with good doctrine

B. To the Older Men

Titus 2:2 That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.

1. Sober
 - a) Literally means to abstain from wine
 - b) It also means to be watchful or careful translated as vigilant
1 Peter 5:8 Be **sober**, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: (vigilant hear means watchful)
1 Timothy 3:2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, **vigilant**, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; (sober hear means self-controlled thinking)
2 Timothy 4:5 But **watch** thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.
2. Grave
 - a) Deserving of honor and respect, respectable
 - b) Also used as honest

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are **honest**, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

3. Temperate

- a) Self-controlled thinking, of a sound mind
- b) Translated as sober

1 Timothy 3:2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

4. Sound in faith

- a) Men who know are strong in their faith in God
- b) Men who know the Word of God
- c) Men who are mature Christians

5. Sound in charity

- a) Charity speaks of the love that Christ has for us – unconditional love
- b) Men who understand a love for others and practice it in their lives

6. Sound in patience

- a) Patience refers to steadfastness and endurance
- b) Patient endurance through tests and trials

Romans 5:3 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

C. To the Older Women

Titus 2:3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;

1. Their behavior

- a) Behavior speaks of their demeanor – the way she carries herself, her appearance, the things that she says or leaves unsaid, her attitude and spirit
- b) Their behavior should be a reflection of holiness
- c) Suitable and Godly behavior for a Christian lady
- d) Demonstrating respect for God and holiness in one's behavior

2. Their speech
 - a) Not false accusers – not slanderers (accusers)
1 Timothy 3:11 Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things.
 - b) Diablos – the devil
 - c) Making false and damaging statements about someone
3. Their self-control
 - a) Not given to much wine
 - b) Not under the influence or control of alcohol
4. Their teaching
 - a) Teachers of good things
 - b) Teaching by example as well as by word
 - c) This principle of teaching others does not contradict other passages that pertain to women teaching in the public worship service
1 Timothy 2:12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. (usurp – to take by force – a woman should not take the position of authority that has been given to the man)
1 Corinthians 14:34 Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. (the context at Corinth was speaking in tongues, confusion and a lack of order)

D. To the Young Women

Titus 2:4-5 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

1. Sober
 - a) Teach to be sober is one word
 - b) It means to be of a sound mind
 - c) It is basically the same word translated as temperate used in verse 2
Titus 2:2 That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.
 - d) It speaks of self-control and controlling one's desires

2. Love their husbands
 - a) To be fond of
 - b) Phileo – brotherly, friendly, affectionate love
 - c) Also translated as to kiss – a symbol of loving affection
Luke 22:47 And while he yet spake, behold a multitude, and he that was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them, and drew near unto Jesus to kiss him.
2 Corinthians 13:12 Greet one another with an holy kiss.
 - d) Love is accompanied by action, service and caring
 - e) Wife are to love their husbands – it would seem that there are many other things in life that might compete for or become a distraction to caring and loving your husband
3. Love their children
 - a) To be fond of
 - b) Phileo – brotherly, friendly, affectionate love
 - c) Love is not just emotion, it is commanded and must be deliberately demonstrated
 - d) You wouldn't think that a mother could not love her children – but that is not the case
Romans 1:31 Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:
 - e) Mothers who hurt their children willfully – born or unborn; mothers who favor one child over another; mothers who neglect their children etc.
4. Discreet
 - a) Similar word as used in verse 4 (sober)
 - b) To be of a sound mind, self-controlled
 - c) Sensible
 - d) Considering the effect that your attitude and actions will have on others
5. Chaste
 - a) Pure and clean
 - b) Purity in heart, mind and in life, actions
 - c) Purity entails that nothing is contained which does not belong
6. Keepers at home
 - a) To guard the home
 - b) Caring for the house and home
 - c) Similar words to Timothy

1 Timothy 5:13-14 And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not. I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.

- d) This doesn't mean that a wife cannot leave her home, but it does emphasize that the home should be her priority
- e) Many younger women have been convinced that their talents are too valuable to be kept at home
- f) Staying at home doesn't mean that you don't do anything - you work at making your house a home

7. Good

- a) Pleasant, happy
- b) Useful, valuable
- c) Kind hearted

Proverbs 31:26 She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness.

8. Obedient to their own husbands

- a) Same word as submit to

Ephesians 5:22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

- b) To willingly place yourself under
- c) Obeying someone doesn't make you second class - wives are equal in worth but not equal in authority
- d) The basic distinction between obedience and submission is the willingness and desire of your heart
- e) While obedience is simple compliance to a list of rules or commands, submission is an attitude of respect and a willingness to obey God either by complying with the wishes of an authority or by respectfully disobeying that authority if the need arises
- f) Obedience is a response to rules while submissions is a response to a person

- 9. Lives that are consistent with Biblical teaching
 - a) Blasphemed – to be evil spoken of
 - b) A lifestyle that matches the teaching of Scripture

E. To the Young Men

Titus 2:6-8 Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded. In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.

1. Sober minded

- a) Same words used previously

Titus 1:8 But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, **sober**, just, holy, temperate;

Titus 2:2 That the aged men be sober, grave, **temperate**, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.

Titus 2:4 That they may **teach the young women to be sober**, to love their husbands, to love their children,

Titus 2:5 To be **discreet**, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

- b) Exercise self-control in our **thinking**

Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

- c) To be of a sound mind

- d) Emphasis is on the mind and our thinking

2. Pattern of good works

- a) Pattern is the form, example, die or prototype

- b) Visual illustration and example to others

- c) We learn from seeing others in action so we need to be sure that we are presenting a good visual

3. Uncorrupt doctrine

- a) Sound doctrine (teaching)

- b) Another emphasis on pure teaching

Titus 1:9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

Titus 2:1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:

c) Uncorruptness – ruined, corrupt, perverted

4. Gravity

a) Weight, heaviness

b) With dignity, seriousness, with honor or respect

1 Timothy 3:4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;

c) Same word used previously

Titus 2:2 That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.

d) Also used as honesty

1 Timothy 2:2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and **honesty**.

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are **honest**, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

5. Sincerity

a) Genuineness

b) The opposite of that which decays, perishes – incorruptible, purity

1 Corinthians 15:54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

6. Sound speech

a) Sound – healthy, well, true

Luke 15:27 And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him **safe** and **sound**.

1 Timothy 6:3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to **wholesome** words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness;

b) Cannot be condemned – cannot be shown to be weak or with error

- c) Opposition is ashamed at their view
- d) Nothing evil to say about their speech

F. To Servants

Titus 2:9-10 Exhort servants to be obedient unto their own masters, and to please them well in all things; not answering again; Not purloining, but shewing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things.

1. Obedient

- a) Slaves, servants, employees
- b) Submissive – willingly placing yourself under the authority over you
- c) Paul's words to Timothy

1 Timothy 6:1-2 Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed. And they that have believing masters, let them not despise them, because they are brethren; but rather do them service, because they are faithful and beloved, partakers of the benefit. These things teach and exhort.

2. Pleasing

- a) Acceptable behavior
- b) Well pleasing

Colossians 3:20 Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is **well pleasing** unto the Lord.

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, **acceptable** unto God, which is your reasonable service.

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and **acceptable**, and perfect, will of God.

- c) Paul's words to the Ephesians

Ephesians 6:5-8 Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: Knowing that whatsoever good thing

any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free.

3. Without contradiction or opposition
 - a) Not answering again
 - b) No grumbling
 - c) No resistance
4. Not purloining
 - a) To take for one's self
Acts 5:1-2 But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, And **kept back** part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet.
 - b) Embezzle
 - c) Stealing, plagiarism
5. Showing fidelity – pistis
 - a) Good faith
 - b) Faithfulness
 - c) Conscientious devotion to duty
6. Living testimony
 - a) Adorn – to decorate, garnish, ornament
 - b) Proper arrangement
 - c) Good advertisements for the Christian message

IV. Paul's Encouragement Regarding Salvation

A. We have been given the grace of God

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

1. Grace is favor shown to us that is not deserved
2. The source of this grace is from God – a pure source
3. God's grace has been extended to us for salvation – not just God overlooking our sin or forgiving our sin – but substituting His Son, Jesus who paid the price for our sins – we are justified – declared righteous
4. God's grace is sufficient to provide salvation to all
John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

5. All men are exposed to the light but not everyone will respond to the light – simple faith – believing that you need a substitute and accepting Jesus’ payment for sins on the cross as that substitute
Romans 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

John 1:9 That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

B. We should deny ungodliness and worldly lusts

Titus 2:12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

1. One of the aspects of receiving Christ is denying ungodliness – we must reject it in our lives

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

2. Becoming a Christian is the beginning of a growth process

Colossians 1:10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

3. We should turn away from worldly lusts

1 John 2:15-16 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

4. We should change our thinking – to think righteously is to have a clear mind – sound thinking

C. We should be looking toward the coming of Christ

Titus 2:13-14 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

1. Looking means to expect for certain

2. The blessed hope is not a hope so but a confident expectation

3. We await the appearing of our Savior, Jesus Christ
John 14:2-3 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.
4. He gave Himself for us
Ephesians 5:2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.
5. He redeemed us – He was our ransom – the price for redeeming – He paid the price of our sins
Matthew 20:28 Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.
6. He purified us – cleansed us
7. He possessed us – peculiar has the idea of a personal possession – personal property
1 Peter 2:9-10 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.
8. We should be a people with zeal to do good things

V. Paul Continues His Instruction

Titus 2:15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.

- A. Speak these things – talk about them
- B. Exhort – encourage and strengthen these things
- C. Rebuke – correct that which is in error
- D. With authority – these are not my words but God's Words
Titus 1:3 But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour;
- E. Don't let others disrespect you (despise – turn over in your mind)
1 Timothy 4:12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

Chapter 3

VI. Paul's Instruction to All Christians

A. Be good citizens

Titus 3:1 Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,

1. Put them in mind – remind quietly, bring to remembrance
2. Be subject – be submissive – willingly placing yourself under the authority over you
3. Principalities – the origin or beginning – the person in charge, first place
4. Powers – power that comes from authority and privilege
5. Magistrates – chief or rulers
6. We honor God by honoring the authority over us

Romans 13:1-7 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

7. The only time to disobey government is when you would have to disobey God our higher authority

Acts 4:18-20 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

Acts 5:27-29 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them, Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us. Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

8. Be ready – be prepared, ready to cooperate

B. Treat others with kindness

Titus 3:2 To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men.

1. Speak evil – blaspheme

2. Not a brawler – fighter, contentious

3. Gentle – appropriate, suitable

4. Meekness – humility, strength under control

C. Consider Yourself

Titus 3:3 For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.

1. Foolish – unwise, lack of wisdom

2. Disobedient – unwillingness to be persuaded

3. Deceived – led astray

4. Serving lusts and pleasures – slaves to desires, cravings, pleasures

5. Malice – intention or desire to do evil or harm

6. Envy – discontent and displeasure aroused by someone else's possessions or promotion

7. Hateful – no love

D. Remember your salvation

Titus 3:4-8 But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.

1. The kindness and love of God has been given to all man – God’s grace didn’t just overlook our sins or forgive our sins – Jesus death on the cross paid for our sins – God’s love for us is unconditional – that’s what sets His love apart from our love
Romans 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
2. Our salvation was not given based on any good works on our part – no matter how good we think we are – there is none righteous; if good works could get us in to Heaven – then how would they be measured?
Romans 3:10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:
3. God’s mercy toward us is providing salvation that we cannot earn nor do we deserve
Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.
4. The washing of regeneration is the cleansing that we received at our new birth – sin leaves us impure but being born again makes us justified (declared righteous) in the sight of God
Romans 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:
5. The renewing of the Holy Spirit is a continual process because although sin has been paid for – sin still infects our lives on a daily basis and the Holy Spirit convicts of sin and guides us toward truth
2 Corinthians 4:16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.
John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.
1 Corinthians 3:16 Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?
1 Corinthians 6:19-20 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

6. The Holy Spirit is poured out on us abundantly symbolizing a never ending source given to us whereby we might grow
7. Being born again makes us a new person in Christ
2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
8. We have been justified or declared righteous because our sins have been paid for by Jesus death on the cross
9. We become the sons and daughters of God thereby becoming heirs of eternal life
Romans 8:16-17 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.
10. The hope of eternal life is a confident expectation
Titus 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;
11. We are to take these foundational truths of the gospel and our salvation and affirm them regularly, confidently and strongly – we should know them and speak publicly of them often
12. We are to maintain good works
 - a) It has already been established that salvation is not earned by good works
 - b) We are saved to serve God during our time here on earth
 - c) We should make an effort to do good things - it would seem that effort would be the underlying principle – not doing good things to earn favor with God but doing good things because of what God has done
 - d) Maintain means to give attention to
13. These truths must be practiced and demonstrated to others – many will observe us – our actions can point people to Christ

VII. Paul's Address Regarding Problem People

Titus 3:9-11 But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain. A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject; Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sinneth, being condemned of himself.

- A. Foolish questions
 - 1. There is profit in asking and answering questions
 - 2. There are questions that are just foolish
 - a) Questions that you know do not have clear answers
 - b) Questions that lead to profitless debate and conversation
 - c) Questions that just lead to more confusion
 - 3. Paul wrote similar words to Timothy
 - 1 Timothy 1:4** Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do.
 - 2 Timothy 2:23** But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.
 - 4. A question that you are asked is not a stupid question because you don't know the answer
- B. Genealogies
 - 1. A close study of genealogies will usually result in contradictions or problems
 - 2. Written genealogies may have had different purposes than what we deem as legal records
 - 3. Sometimes people are excluded for various reasons – brevity, premature death etc.
- C. Contentions and strivings about the law
 - 1. There were still many Jews who were debating issues regarding the law such as sacrifices, Sabbath day observance and acceptable meats to eat
 - 2. The Jews have the written Torah (The Old Testament) and they had the Talmud which was the written interpretation of the Torah
 - 3. The Talmud is over 6,000 printed pages
- D. Profitable or unprofitable
 - 1. Paul warned of endless conversations that produced no real profit
 - 2. Jesus death on the cross transitioned us from the Old Testament law to the New covenant of grace
 - 3. Even today there are divisions between believers because of differences of opinion in trivial matters – not doctrinal beliefs but matters of varying interpretations and practical application

E. Hereticks

1. The word heretic is commonly defined as a person who holds to some fundamental error of doctrine – one who holds and teaches opinions contrary to the established faith
2. The idea is one who instead of aiming and promoting unity in the church is one who is causing division
3. Paul's similar words in the book of Romans
Romans 16:17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.
4. An example of those who were hereticks
2 Timothy 2:16-18 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some.
5. The heretick is to be given two admonitions – to call attention to, a rebuke or warning
6. If the heretick does not change then he should be avoided – excused from the church – publicly he is confronted because of his dangerous and divisive teaching
7. The heretick that is subverted – changed for the worse, turned inside out is condemned of himself – they know that they are sinning and doing wrong – he cannot say that he was not warned

VIII. Paul's Conclusion

Titus 3:12-15 When I shall send Artemas unto thee, or Tychicus, be diligent to come unto me to Nicopolis: for I have determined there to winter. Bring Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that nothing be wanting unto them. And let ours also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful. All that are with me salute thee. Greet them that love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

A. Paul speaks of men who may replace Titus

1. Artemas – probably did replace Titus in Crete
2. Tychicus seemed to have replaced Timothy in Ephesus
2 Timothy 4:12 And Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus.

3. Titus – eventually would be sent to Dalmatia
2 Timothy 4:10 For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.
- B.** Titus should plan to meet Paul in Nicopolis after his replacement arrived
1. He was to bring Zenas the lawyer and Apollos with him
 2. It was common practice for the early church believers to help visitors and traveling preachers
3 John 1:5-8 Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren, and to strangers; Which have borne witness of thy charity before the church: whom if thou bring forward on their journey after a godly sort, thou shalt do well: Because that for his name's sake they went forth, taking nothing of the Gentiles. We therefore ought to receive such, that we might be fellowhelpers to the truth.
 3. The Cretians could learn from other believers to do good works and help those with necessary needs – helping someone along their way is fruitful
- C.** Final remarks
1. Greetings to Titus from all who were with Paul
 2. Send greeting from Paul to all who are with you, Titus
 3. Grace be with you all
Titus 1:4 To Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour.