

Session 3: TITUS, CHAPTER 1 (CONTINUED) AND CHAPTER 2

FALSE TEACHERS OF THE WORD WERE AND STILL ARE IN THE PULPITS ACROSS AMERICA TODAY!

Today we answer the question, “Are there false teachers in the church today?”

Titus 1:10-16, “For there are many rebellious people, full of meaningless talk and deception, especially those of the circumcision group. ¹¹ They must be silenced, because they are disrupting whole households by teaching things they ought not to teach—and that for the sake of dishonest gain. ¹² One of Crete’s own prophets has said it: “Cretans are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons.” ¹³ This saying is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, so that they will be sound in the faith ¹⁴ and will pay no attention to Jewish myths or to the merely human commands of those who reject the truth. ¹⁵ To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted. ¹⁶ They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.”

The False Teachers of Crete

- **Undisciplined** (refusing the control of the church and to understand that Jesus Christ is the head of the church); insubordinate
- **Empty talkers** (vain, empty, profitless, nonsense talk and trying to make others believe it)
- **Deceivers** (instead of leading people to the truth, they led them away from it).
- **Their teaching upset whole households**—had a bad effect on family life. (Good teaching leads to certainty or total trust in God’s will...not man’s will).
- **Teaching designed for gain** (concerned with what they could get out of it).

Paul: “Cretans in themselves have a bad reputation...nothing can turn them around except the teaching of Jesus, the Christ...and his atoning blood (conversion)...and you (Titus) should do it.”

Who are the pure in heart?

Those who are not defiled by ungodly character (whose minds and conscience are not set on doing ungodly and self-destructing deeds).

It is the heart that makes all the difference.

If we allow impurity to infect the mind, we will see all things through a mist of uncleanness (The infected mind soils every thought that enters into it).

To escape the uncleanness, we must walk in the cleansing presence of Jesus Christ.

Realize that the Holy Spirit lives in you...Keep your house clean!

Titus 2:1-2, “You, however, must teach what is appropriate to sound doctrine. ² Teach the older men to be temperate, worthy of respect, self-controlled, and sound in faith, in love and in endurance.

Paul elaborates: “Titus, you must preach sound doctrine and healthy doctrine...presenting sound teaching to all who are willing to listen.”

Whole chapter deals with Christian Character in Action (Faith in Action):

SENIOR MEN (OLDER MEN) should be charged to:

- **Be sober**... you, of all people, ought to know what are and are not true pleasures.
- **Be Serious**...in the right way; someone living in the light of eternity and expecting before very long to leave human fellowship for fellowship with God.
- **Be Prudent**...a mind that has the serious things of life under control.
- **Be Healthy in his spiritual life:**
 - **Healthy in faith**...trusting God with an undaunting spirit.
 - **Healthy in love**...not just fault-finding and criticism of the younger generation, but sympathy and understanding that new ideas can be healthy.
 - **Healthy in perseverance** (emerging more and more as conquerors of life's troubles).

Titus 2:3-8, “Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. ⁴ Then they can urge the younger women to love their husbands and children, ⁵ to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.” ⁶ Similarly, encourage the young men to be self-controlled. ⁷ In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness ⁸ and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.”

SENIOR (OLDER WOMEN) ...better word (the more mature women) should be charged/taught to have:

“Be grandmothers who are natural advisers of the young of both sexes.”

- **Befitting behavior**...who are known to act with sacred and honorable intentions.
- **An honest report** (no slanderous stories or discouraging word concerning others).
- **A teachable spirit who are teaching the younger to dream and act according to the best of practices...**

This includes the duty of using their experience to guide and encourage, and not to discourage (pouring water on the plans and dreams of others).

YOUNGER WOMEN should be charged/taught to:

- **Be devoted and obedient to their husbands**...such an attitude of complete trust in letting the husband manage his household with reverence to God and respect to mankind (God’s creation).
- **Support in managing the household of faith by loving her children**
- **Be Sensible in choices made** (how to act, how to give and not take, how to love and not disregard charitable acts of kindness and hospitality).
- **Be an honest and true lady of faith**...not dishonoring Godly principles.

YOUNGER MEN (Titus 2:6) should be charged/taught to:

- **Be Prudent** (having the serious things of life under control)....Self-Control.
- **Live the quality of life as a vigorous young man with the virtue of godly thinking and discipline.**
Seeing influences for what they are...and choosing to accept the influences that build-up and not tear down (self and others).

The Christian Character as a Teacher (Titus 2:7, 8)

Titus, you are to:

- **Set the example...a pattern of fine conduct**
- **Display absolute purity of motive as you present the message of Christ... with dignity and care of God's teaching (showing the seriousness of living the life that is pleasing to a Holy God)...The Ambassador of Christ.**
- **Preach and teach a message that no one could condemn or find that you are not "walking the talk."**
Not the task of talking to people about Christ, but showing Christ to them.

Titus 2:9-10, “*Teach slaves to be subject to their masters in everything, to try to please them, not to talk back to them, ¹⁰ and not to steal from them, but to show that they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive.*”

Note: At this time, I will not comment on the slavery statement. It is a fact of life as to the culture of the time. How we deal with this verse would be to only cause contention within various structures of society.

One common attitude for the Christian...We are to be servants/slaves to the One who holds the future in His hands.

Titus 2:11-12, “*¹¹For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. ¹²It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age,..”*

The Christian Worker as an Employee

Workers should be:

- **Obedient**...efficient, determined to give satisfaction and serve with diligence.
- **Respectful**...for the work is to be done with a “spirit of excellence.”

- **Honest and trustworthy**...depicting the spirit of Christ at all times.

The Description of the Miracle of Moral Change Which Only Jesus Christ Can Work:

Titus 2:13-14, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

The giving up (putting off) of ungodliness

The acquisition of the virtues which mark the Christian life.

Negative to Positive...

Contrast a life heading for hell and the privilege of knowing Christ and his atoning power to give us life eternally in His kingdom.

We who know Christ are indeed a blessed people. We are chosen by God to do a work for him. However, it is by choice that we accept His offer!

Titus 2:15, “¹⁵These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you.”

The Threefold task of every Christian Preacher, Teacher, and Leader The Task of:

1. Proclamation = a message to proclaim.

No discussion or argument...It is a “Thus says the Lord.”

2. Encouragement = People must be charged with their sin, not so that they may feel that their case is hopeless, but that they may be led to the grace which is greater than all their sin.

3. Conviction =

- **Eyes of sinners must be opened to their sin;**
- **The misguided must be led to realize their mistakes;**
- **The hearts of the inconsiderate must be pricked into awareness;**

“The Christian message is no drug to send us to sleep; it is rather the blinding light which shows us our true selves as we really are and God as He is.”