**TEACHING**

**FROM**

**THE BOOK OF**

**TITUS**

sy01648_

Session 1. Introduction

If you were to have to pick one book of the Bible in which to study, what would it be?

**TITUS….Who in the world is Titus?**

**Why is the Book of Titus important enough to place in the New Testament (one of 27 books)?**

**Did Titus write the Book of Titus?**

**Is it a book that is relevant for today?**

**WHO WAS TITUS?**

* Titus, one of the young men who accompanied the Apostle Paul on many of his missionary journeys, first came to Christ as a Greek in the city of Antioch.
* At the time this letter was written, Titus was on the island of Crete (Crete: located in the Mediterranean Sea, South of Greece).
* Titus was a Greek Christian and young pastor whom Paul entrusted to oversee the churches in Crete.

**The Letter and the Recipient:**

### Letter addressed to Titus, one of Paul's converts (1:4) and a considerable help to Paul in his ministry.

### Paul mentored Titus instructing him on some areas in which Titus needed to address.

### Because these instructions on faith and behavior are particularly relevant in an immoral, worldly society, they still apply to churches and Christians today.

### Paul sent the letter to Titus with Zenas and Apollos, who were on a journey that took them through Crete (3:13), to give Titus personal authorization and guidance in meeting opposition (1:5; 2:1,7-8,15; 3:9), instructions about faith and conduct, and warnings about false teachers. Paul also informed Titus of his future plans for him (3:12).

### Note:

* **When Paul left Antioch to discuss the gospel with the Jerusalem leaders, he took Titus with him (Gal 2:1-3); acceptance of Titus (a Gentile) as a Christian without circumcision vindicated Paul's stand there (Gal 2:3-5).**
* Presumably Titus, who is not referred to in Acts (but is mentioned 13 times in the rest of the NT), worked with Paul at Ephesus during his third missionary journey.
* It is likely that he was the bearer of Paul's severe letter to the Corinthian church. Paul was concerned about the possible negative reaction of the Corinthian church to his severe letter, so he arranged to meet Titus at Troas (2Co 2:12-13). When Titus did not appear, Paul traveled on to Macedonia. There he met Titus and with great relief heard the good news that the worst of the trouble was over at Corinth (2Co 7:6-7, 13-14).
* Titus, accompanied by two Christian brothers, was the bearer of the 2 Corinthians’ letter (2Co 8:23) and was given the responsibility for making final arrangements for the collection of the saints in Jerusalem, begun a year earlier, in Corinth (see 2Co 8:6, 16-17).
* Following Paul's release from his first Roman imprisonment (Ac 28), he and Titus worked briefly in Crete (1:5), after which he commissioned Titus to remain there as his representative and complete some needed work (1:5; 2:15; 3:12-13).
* Paul asked Titus to meet him at Nicopolis when a replacement arrived (3:12). Later, Titus went on a mission to Dalmatia (2Ti 4:10), the last word we hear about him in the NT.

**Considering the assignments given him, he obviously was a capable and resourceful leader.**

**ISLAND OF CRETE:** The fourth largest island in the Mediterranean Sea, Crete lies directly south of the Aegean Sea. Paul's travels had given him some experiences there in Acts 27:7-13). Apparently Paul introduced Christianity in Crete when he and Titus visited the island. Paul left Titus there to organize the converts.

### Themes in the Book of Titus:

• **Faithfully following the gospel leads to godly behavior.**

If a person believes in Christ, their actions will reflect those beliefs. Good works do not save us, but they do reflect our salvation.

• **The church's survival depends on having godly men serve as pastors and elders.** Their lives will serve as shining examples to attract others to the gospel.

**Paul lists several qualities of effective leaders.**

* **Leaders should be good citizens, obeying the laws and treating everyone with kindness.**
* They should devote themselves to good works; avoiding quarrels and division within the church and discipline those who stir up trouble.

**This letter provides an interesting little insight as to what went on in the early church, as the apostle traveled about and sent these young men as apostolic delegates to do special work for him in various places.**

* **In the background of this letter, we can discover the character of the Cretans**. In one of the most unusual passages in the New Testament, the apostle quotes from one of the ancient writers of his day, a secular Greek poet who describes these people among whom young Titus had to labor. He says,

One of themselves, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons." (Titus 1:12 RSV)

* **Paul is obviously writing a private message to his son-in-the-faith, Titus, and wants him to understand the formidable nature of the problem he is to resolve.**
* **He is dealing with people who are characterized in these three (3) ways (liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons).**

***He underscores this by saying, "This testimony is true,"*** (Titus 1:13a RSV). These people are like this.

* **As we look at the message of this letter, we see that these three characteristics of the Cretan people seem to be described and amplified in various passages.**

***For example, Paul says about certain ones,***

To the pure all things are pure, but to the corrupt and unbelieving nothing is pure; their very minds and consciences are corrupted. They profess to know God, but they deny him by their deeds [they're liars]; they are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good deed. (Titus 1:15-16 RSV)

**Now this was the kind of society in which the Christian church was living, and this was the kind of national character that Titus was up against. Here were people whose minds and consciences were corrupted -- they profess to know God, but they deny him by their deeds.**

**Very Important:**

***When the church has a problem, it is because the world is invading the church instead of the church invading the world.***

* **The gospel is intended to be a disturbing element, to change society. Therefore, whenever the church is true to its authentic message, it is always against the status quo.**
* **The church is a revolutionary body -- it always has been -- and we can thus be very much in sympathy with some of the revolutionary movements of our own day.**
* **But, the difference is that the church challenges the status quo with the power of God, something that no other organization or group can do.**

**What can the church do without the power of God?**

**Why do you think the world is trying to get the church to compromise with the world view?**

**The Power of God is found in his servants who seek His power and are willing to stand for Biblical truth!**

# **Session 2: TITUS, CHAPTER 1**

**What do we know so far about the Epistle (Letter) to Titus?**

**The author of the letter was Paul. Recipient was Titus, a true son in the faith.**

**Date of the writing was around A.D. 66.**

**We know that the purpose of the writing was to:**

* **Encourage his brother in the faith, Titus, whom Paul left in Crete to lead the church, which Paul had established on one of his missionary journeys.**
* **Advise Titus regarding what qualifications to look for in leaders for the church.**
* **Warn Titus of the reputations of those living on the island of Crete.**
* **Help Titus to understand that continued disciplining is a must for him and all who are in training to carry out God’s message of faith in Christ Jesus.**

**Titus 1:1- 4, *“Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ to further the faith of God’s elect and their knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness— 2in the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time, 3and which now at his appointed season he has brought to light through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Savior, 4To Titus, my true son in our common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.”***

**We don’t know a lot about Titus…but, we do know the following:**

* **Was one of Paul’s most trusted and most valuable helpers.**
* **Was a man whom had a tough assignment amidst lazy, undependable, and evil-minded people.**

**Paul had certain titles for Titus:**

* **Loyal child (Paul’s convert and child in the faith (1:4)**
* **My brother (2 Corinthians 2:13)**
* **Sharer in work and toil (2 Corinthians 8:13)**
* **Brother who “walked in the same spirit” (2 Corinthians 12:18)**
* **A model for Christianity to the brothers in Crete (2:7).**

**A truth we don’t want to miss from this Scripture…**

**God does not lie! Salvation is real; promised before the beginning of time!**

**Titus 1:5-9, “*The reason I left you in Crete was that you might put in order what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you. 6An elder must be blameless, faithful to his wife, a man whose children believeand are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. 7Since an overseer manages God’s household, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. 8Rather, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. 9He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.”***

****Just as parenting our own children requires much prayer, mentoring, guidance, encouragement and correction, the church must also have the same kind of order and special “parenting” as we go through life.****

***Encouragement builds self-esteem and propels the child forward to meet life's challenges. Correction instills and increases an understanding of right and wrong, as it teaches that human behavior has moral consequences.***

Parents must provide the child's life with structure and organization. In this way the young person learns about expected roles and responsibilities within the home and society, as well as lines of authority and the importance of interdependence among fellow human beings. Meeting these needs prepares the child for life as an adult. If all of this is taken seriously, parenting is not easy.

**So goes the church:**

* ***As the church grows in numbers and maturity, its needs change much as those of the growing child do.***
* ***When Titus received Paul's letter, the churches of Crete were still quite young, but quickly growing out of infancy. They had reached the stage where more structure was required, where church members needed to ascend to roles of leadership and where they could begin to carry on ministry independent of their spiritual parents.***
* ***Preparing them for this was a task that fell to Titus.***
* ***An element within the churches was introducing false doctrine that threatened the development of these Christians.***

***Thus Titus's instructions include correction.***

**The Elders of the Church**

**It was always Paul’s custom to ordain elders as soon as the church had been founded (Acts 14:23).**

**Titus 1:5-9, List of Qualifications of Elders**

**(General consensus throughout Scripture)**

* **One thing was especially stressed…He must be someone who has taught his own family in the faith.**
* **One who cannot be accused of wasteful living (**lacking legal or moral restraints, disregarding sexual restraints, and/or marked by disregard for strict rules of correctness)… **profligacy= one who is undisciplined.**

**What the Elders Must Not Be, Titus 1:7b..**

1. **Obstinately Self-willed (self pleasing)**
2. **Quick-tempered (anger in the raw)**
3. **Given to Drunken and Outrageous Conduct (someone in sober moments, acts with the outrageousness of a drunk).**
4. **Violent**
5. **Seeker of gain in a Disgraceful ways**

**What the Elder Must Be, Titus 1:8-9**

* **Elders must display to other people these qualities:**

**Hospitable**

**Loves goodness (seeks and displays good thoughts and actions)**

* **Elders must possess these virtues:**

**Prudent, sensible,**

**Upright…Just**

* **Devout (reverences the fundamental decencies of life)**
* **Self-controlled (complete control of self; not depending on others to control him (other than the Lord)**

**Description of the qualities of the Christian elders within the church:**

* + **Able to encourage the members of the church (The function of true Christian preachers and teachers is not to drive people to despair but to lift them up with hope and trust);**
  + **Able to convict (refute) the opponents of the faith.**

**Rebuke people in such a way that they are compelled to admit the error of their ways…and accept the truth.**

**Note: One other element of qualification for the elder:**

**Listen to the various translations and versions…**

* ***Husband of one wife (American SB), KJV, English Version***
* ***Faithful to his wife - New Living Translation***
* ***The husband of but one wife (NIV, Amplified Bible)***
* ***Husband to one wife (Complete Jewish Bible)***
* ***Have only one wife (Good News Translation)***
* ***Committed to his wife (The Message)***
* ***Married only once (New Revised Standard Version)***
* ***One-woman man (Orthodox Jewish Version)***
* ***If he is married, he should be the husband of one wife (The Voice)***
* ***Faithful in marriage (Contemporary English Bible)***
* ***No comment on husband of one wife (Worldwide English Bible)***
* ***\*Husband of first wife…. (????)***

**Although there are some very different interpretations to this requirement for an elder, we must let the Holy Spirit lead us to what is meant as to this particular qualification.**

**Remember, if there is not a specific meaning/interpretation of a Scripture (in this case, a qualification of an elder), you always lean toward the most conservative meaning over the liberal, casual, or that which is accepted by the secular culture, meaning.**

**\*For instance, the last bullet as an interpretation (husband of first wife), sounds like it is specifically dressing the issue of “no divorcee being an elder.” However, the interpretation could be so off-base that it would be interpreted as one Mormon puts it, “Well, I am the husband of my first wife…so I am eligible.” What he does not say is that he is also the husband of his 2nd wife, 3rd wife, and so on. Therefore, one can see how “off-base” and casually interpreted this verse can be.**

**Again, let the Holy Spirit be the teacher of the Word. He will reveal the truth to the person yielded to the Spirit where he will know the truth…and he will be set free.**

**Jokingly…the Liberal philosopher would say, “The truth sets me free; therefore, I’m freeing myself from my wife.” How ridiculous and ungodly can we get in today’s society! The Holy Spirit would never reveal that to any Christian as the interpretation of that particular Scripture.**

**We must be diligent in making sure we “hide His Word in our hearts where we choose not to sin against God.”**

**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. 11They 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. 12One of Crete’s own prophets has said it: “Cretans are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons.” 13This saying is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, so that they will be sound in the faith 14and will pay no attention to Jewish myths or to the merely human commands of those who reject the truth. 15To 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. 16They 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. 2Teach 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 conquers 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. 4Then they can urge the younger women to love their husbands and children, 5to 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. 7In 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, *“9Teach slaves to be subject to their masters in everything, to try to please them, not to talk back to them, 10and 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, 14who 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.”

1. **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.**
2. **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.”**

**Session 4: Leaving Life and Headed Home: Saved in Order to Do Good!**

**Name some public duties/responsibilities for all Christian citizens!**

# ***Titus 3:1-2, “Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, 2to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and always to be gentle toward everyone.”***

**Six qualifications (biblically) for good citizens:**

1. **Law-abiding** – Unless laws are kept, life becomes chaos.

*They give proper respect for those who are in authority.*

1. **Active in service** – Good citizens are ready for every work…as long as it is good.
   * *A modern characteristic disease is “boredom. Boredom is a direct result of selfishness.*

*As long as people live on the principle of “why should I do it? Let someone else do it”, they are bound to be bored.*

* *The interest of life lies in service*

1. **Careful in speech**
   * *Must slander no one. “We should never say about other people what we would not like them to say about us.”*
   * *(Careful) of words they speak as they are about actions.*

Two things you can’t take back without lingering repercussions…words said and actions done.

1. **Peaceable (not a fighter)** – Not aggressive or prone to react before reaching out for compromise.
   * *This does not mean that we are to not stand up for principles which we believe to be right.*
   * *We should never be so opinionated that we will not listen to others.*
   * *We should always listen to the Holy Spirit’s prompting. If others’ opinions contradict Scriptural authority, then we should walk away in a peaceful manner.*
   * We are not to be anxious for conflict.
2. **Kind** – Goes back to the previous characteristic of a good citizen (walks away in a peaceful manner…not yielding to conflict).

*Respectful and uplifting even in the face of conflict of opinion.*

1. **Gentle** – a person whose temper is always under complete control.
   * *Such people know when to be angry and when not to be angry.*
   * *They patiently bear wrongs done to them…but are always ready to spring into action in helping others who are wronged.*

NOTE: THE QUALITIES ABOVE ARE POSSIBLE ONLY FOR THOSE IN WHOSE HEARTS CHRIST REIGNS SUPREME.

**Titus 3:3-7, “*At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. 4But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 5he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, 6whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.”***

The Dynamic of the Christian Life is Twofold:

1. **Comes from the realization that converts to Christianity were once no better than their non-Christian neighbors.** 
   * *Christian goodness (a changed life) does not make people proud; it makes them supremely grateful.*
   * *The realization that it if wasn’t for the grace of God, we would be no better than the worst of infidels and the lowest of sinners.*

2. **Comes from the realization of what God has done for us in Jesus Christ.**

* + ***Jesus Christ puts us into a new relationship with God.***

*Instead of awe and fear of a Judge and Ruler who demanded loyalty…Jesus showed a God whose hands were stretched out in love; still requiring obedience, but understanding enough to never give up on bringing them home.*

* + ***The love and grace of God are gifts which no one could ever earn; they can only be accepted in perfect trust and in awakened love.***

*Two words: Rebirth…Renewal*

*Both are performed by the work of the Holy Spirit*.

* + ***We are heirs of mercy and grace…for eternity.***
  + ***The hope of even greater things…***

**The changed life in Jesus Christ will yield a “knowing” that…no matter how wonderful life on earth with Christ may be, the life to come will be greater still.**

**Titus 3:8-11, *“This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone. 9But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless. 10Warn a divisive person once, and then warn them a second time. After that, have nothing to do with them. 11You may be sure that such people are warped and sinful; they are self-condemned.”***

**The Necessity of Action and the Danger of Useless Discussions**

1. ***The Christian is to quicken his mind in order to make a plan of action to exhort and appeal to others the better and more perfect way through Jesus Christ.***

* *We must practice doing good*
* *We must practice shunning evil.*
* *We must produce good deeds in order to win others.*

1. ***The Christian should have nothing to do with those who talk foolish and plan foolish things.***

* *It is our job to walk away and to avoid those who do not follow Christian principles…and who will not listen to godly advice.*
* *We are to warn such perpetrators of God’s word and give them over to their wickedness (they are self-condemned sinners when they don’t repent).*

***Titus 3:12-15, “As soon as I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, because I have decided to winter there. 13Do everything you can to help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way and see that they have everything they need. 14Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order to provide for urgent needs and not live unproductive lives. 15Everyone with me sends you greetings. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all.***

**Personal Messages from Paul and his special greetings.**

* ***Paul tells Titus to help those who are helping to spread the Word of God.***
* ***Paul’s last piece of advice is that the Christian people should practice doing good deeds.***
* ***God’s people must learn to provide for themselves, not asking for handouts and living on the gifts of others.***
* ***They are to live productive and honorable lives in front of others.***

# **Grace is to be with you all…**

* ***Remember it is by grace are we all saved; not of works or good deeds that we are doing.***
* ***We do the works to prove to ourselves that we are genuinely His and desire bringing others in to the kingdom of God.***

**If you don’t get anything out of the lessons in Titus, remember this:**

***When the church has a problem, it is because the world is invading the church instead of the church invading the world.***

* ***The gospel is intended to be a disturbing element, to change society. Therefore, whenever the church is true to its authentic message, it is always against the status quo.***
* ***The church is a revolutionary body -- it always has been -- and we can thus be very much in sympathy with some of the revolutionary movements of our own day.***
* ***But, the difference is that the church challenges the status quo with the power of God, something that no other organization or group can do.***

**What can the church do without the power of God?**

**The Power of God is found in his servants who seek His power and are willing to stand for Biblical truth!**