

TITUS

Titus at a Glance

Ch.	Theme	Sec.	Theme	Overview
1	Sound Doctrine	1:1-4	For the Faith of God's Elect	Book Theme: Sound Doctrine and Good Works Author: Paul
		1:5-9	Appoint Qualified Elders	
		1:10-16	Silence the Insubordinate	
2	Good Works	2:1-10	Teach what Accords with Sound Doctrine	Key Words: Sound doctrine, good works Purpose: For Titus to set in order local churches in Crete that teach sound doctrine and practice good works.
		2:11-15	God's Grace Trains Us for Good Works	
3	Justified for Good Works	3:1-2	Submission to Rulers and Courtesy to People	Historical Setting: Paul has left Titus in Crete to set churches in order and appoint elders. Paul will soon send Artemas or Tychicus to Crete. Then Titus is to meet Paul in Nicopolis. All this happens after the book of Acts.
		3:3-8	Justified by Grace for Good Works	
		3:9-11	Avoid Foolish Controversies	
		3:12-15	Final Instructions and Farewell	

1. Author: Paul.

- a. Paul knows others besides Titus will read this letter. He writes in support of the task he has given Titus. Titus will be able to show this letter to the Cretan churches in case he gets any pushback. It buttresses his authority.

2. Recipient: Titus.

- a. Titus is Paul's true child in a common faith (1:4). Paul is the disciple maker, and Titus is his disciple. When Titus arrives in Crete, he will be the disciple maker, and the Cretan elders at each various churches will be his disciples.
- b. Paul left Titus in Crete to put the churches in order, including appointing elders in every town (1:5).
- c. Paul previously directed Titus to do this (1:5).
- d. Titus is to teach what accords with sound doctrine (2:1). This is a broad mandate.
- e. Titus must let no one disregard him (2:15). Titus is to speak with authority.
- f. Titus must insist on sound doctrine (2:15). Titus is to hold the line and not compromise on theology.
- g. Paul will send Artemas or Tychicus to Titus (3:12). Titus will soon receive some supporting personnel.
- h. Titus is to do his best to come to Paul at Nicopolis (3:12). Titus will report to Paul how it went. Paul will be eager to know. He cares deeply about the Cretan churches.
- i. Titus is to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way, seeing that they lack nothing (3:13). Paul must have sent funds along with Titus.

3. Historical Setting.

- a. Titus is in Crete (1:5). Zenas and Apollos are with him (3:13). Is this the same Apollos as the one mentioned in Ac 18:24-28?
- b. Paul recently left Crete (1:5). We don't know where he is at the time of writing, but he plans to winter in Nicopolis (the capital of Epirus, northwest Greece, in present-day Albania) (3:12). Paul wants Titus to meet him there (3:12). So Titus has less than year to accomplish his task, probably a few months.
- c. This set of circumstances is not mentioned in Acts, so this must take place after Paul's release from prison in Rome.
- d. Paul recently toured Crete, but he saw there were many insubordinate people within the churches. He left Titus in Crete to put the churches in order and to appoint elders who would faithfully lead those churches.
- e. Paul can't at this point leave the churches in Crete on their own. They aren't ready for that. That's why Titus must not leave until Artemas or Tychicus arrive (3:12).
- f. Paul is very concerned about the health of the churches in Crete. He fears a rebellious faction led by the circumcision party (1:10) will take them over.

4. The Insubordinate.

- a. Many in Crete are insubordinate (1:10).
- b. They are empty talkers and deceivers (1:10).
- c. Some of them are of the circumcision party (1:10).
- d. They must be silenced (1:11).
- e. They are upsetting whole families (1:11).
- f. They are teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach (1:11). They are motivated by greed.
- g. They are typical Cretans—liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons (1:12).
- h. They must be rebuked sharply (1:13).
- i. Paul's desire is for them to become sound in the faith (1:13).
- j. They must not become devoted to Jewish myths (1:14).
- k. They must not become devoted to the commands of people who turn away from the truth (1:14).
- l. They are defiled and unbelieving (1:15).
- m. Their minds and their consciences are defiled (1:15).
- n. They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works (1:16).
- o. They are detestable, disobedient, and unfit for any good work (1:16).
- p. They stir up division (3:10).
- q. They are to be warned twice, and then Titus is to have nothing to do with them (3:10).
- r. They are warped and sinful (3:10).
- s. They are self-condemned (3:10).

5. Paul's Instructions to Titus.

- a. Put what remains in order (1:5).
- b. Appoint elders in every town (1:5).
- c. Silence those who are insubordinate, especially those of the circumcision party (1:10).
- d. Sharply rebuke the insubordinate (1:13).
- e. Teach what accords with sound doctrine (2:1).

- f. Urge younger men to be self-controlled (2:6).
- g. Show himself in all respects a model of good works (2:7).
- h. Show integrity, dignity, and sound speech in his teaching (2:7).
- i. Declare about the grace of God, salvation, ungodliness, godliness, the appearing of Messiah Jesus, redemption, and good works (2:11-15).
- j. Exhort and rebuke with all authority (2:15).
- k. Let no one disregard him (2:15).
- l. Remind believers how to live (3:1).
- m. Insist on the goodness of God, justification by grace, and the hope of eternal life (3:4-8).
- n. Warn people who stir up division twice, then have nothing more to do with them (3:10).
- o. Once Artemas or Tychicus arrive, come to Paul at Nicopolis (3:12).
- p. Speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way. See that they lack nothing (3:13).
- q. Greet those who love Paul and his companions in the faith (3:15).

6. Key Words.

- a. Sound doctrine (the faith, the truth, the word of God).
 - (1) Paul is a servant and apostle for the sake of sound doctrine (1:1). Sound doctrine rules over Paul, just as it rules over every believer.
 - (2) Sound doctrine belongs to God's elect (1:1).
 - (3) God's elect are to know sound doctrine (1:1).
 - (4) Sound doctrine accords with godliness (1:1).
 - (5) Sound doctrine manifests eternal life (1:2-3).
 - (6) Paul has been entrusted with the preaching of sound doctrine (1:3).
 - (7) Paul and Titus share an adherence to sound doctrine (1:4).
 - (8) Overseers must hold firm to sound doctrine as taught (1:9).
 - (9) Sound doctrine is trustworthy (1:9).
 - (10) Overseers must be able to give instruction in sound doctrine (1:9).
 - (11) Overseers must be able to rebut those who contradict sound doctrine (1:9).
 - (12) The insubordinate are to be rebuked in order that they may adhere to sound doctrine (1:13).
 - (13) The insubordinate must reject the commands of people who turn away from sound doctrine (1:14).
 - (14) Titus must teach what accords with sound doctrine (2:1).
 - (15) Older men are to be sound in doctrine (2:2).
 - (16) Older women are to teach what accords with sound doctrine (2:3).
 - (17) Young women are to live so that sound doctrine will not be reviled (2:5).
 - (18) Titus is to show integrity in his teaching of sound doctrine (2:7).
 - (19) Titus is to show dignity in his teaching of sound doctrine (2:7).
 - (20) In his teaching of sound doctrine, Titus is to show sound speech that cannot be condemned (2:7-8).
 - (21) Titus is to teach sound doctrine in such a way that opponents will be put to shame (2:8).
 - (22) Titus is to teach sound doctrine in such a way that opponents will have nothing evil to say about Paul, Titus, and their associates (2:8).

- (23) In everything slaves must adorn sound doctrine (2:10).
- (24) Sound doctrine is from God and belongs to God (2:10).
- (25) Titus is to greet those who love Paul and his companions in sound doctrine (3:15).

b. Good Works.

- (1) The insubordinate deny God by their works (1:16).
- (2) The insubordinate are unfit for any good work (1:16).
- (3) Titus is in all respects to be a model of good works (2:7).
- (4) Jesus Messiah gave himself to redeem and purify for himself a people who are zealous for good works (2:14).
- (5) Jesus Messiah possessed a people zealous for good works (2:14).
- (6) Titus is to declare things about good works (2:15).
- (7) Titus is to remind churches and believers to be ready for every good work (3:1).
- (8) Churches and believers are to be ready for every good work (3:1).
- (9) God did not save us because of works done by us in righteousness (3:5).
- (10) Believers must be careful to devote themselves to good works (3:8).
- (11) Good works are excellent and profitable for people (3:8).
- (12) Believers must learn to devote themselves to good works (3:14).
- (13) Doing good works means helping cases of urgent need (3:14).
- (14) Doing good works results in fruitfulness (3:14).
- (15) Believers who devote themselves to good works will not be unfruitful (3:14).

7. Not Mentioned in Titus.

- a. Satan.
- b. Spiritual warfare.
- c. Living by the Spirit.
- d. Spiritual gifts, including prophecy, speaking in tongues, and healing.

Discussion Questions | PUP Titus, Lesson One

1. At a Glance.

- a. From the text, what did we learn about the historical context of Titus? Give verse numbers.

2. Titus 1.

- a. What is the chapter theme?
- b. What is the theme of Tt 1:1-4?
- c. What is the theme of Tt 1:5-9?
- d. What is sound doctrine? Do you see any words that could be synonymous with sound doctrine?
- e. What is the the theme of Tt 1:10-16? Who are these verses about?
- f. What is the goal of the rebuking in v. 13?
- g. What contrasts are there in Tt 1?

3. Titus 2.

- a. What is the chapter theme?
- b. How does Tt 2 related to Tt 1?
- c. What is the theme of vv. 1-10?
- d. How many categories of persons are mentioned? What category or categories do you fit in?
- e. What repeated words do you see in vv. 1-10? Any common characteristics?
- f. How many purpose clauses (that, in order that, so that) do you find in vv. 1-10?
- g. What is the theme of vv. 11-15?
- h. How do vv. 11-15 relate to vv. 1-10?
- i. To what does “these things” in v. 15 refer?
- j. How does v. 15 relate to v. 1?

4. Titus 3.

- a. What is the chapter theme?
- b. How do vv. 1-2 relate to Tt 2?
- c. What is the theme of vv. 3-7?
- d. How do vv. 3-7 related to what comes before and after?
- e. What do you notice about Paul’s title for Jesus in v. 6?
- f. What is the theme of vv. 8-11?
- g. To what does “these things” in v. 8 refer?
- h. What is the theme of vv. 9-11?
- i. What is the theme of vv. 12-15?

5. At a Glance Chart.

- a. What are the key words of Titus?
- b. What verses could serve as an overall summary of Titus?
- c. Why was Titus written? What did you learn by listing Paul’s instructions to Timothy?
- d. How important is sound doctrine to you? Good works?
- e. What is a specific application you want to apply this week?

Discussion Questions | PUP Titus, Lesson Two

1. At a Glance Chart (p. 9).

2. Godliness and Ungodliness in Titus 1.

- a. According to Tt 1:1-3:
 - a. What is Paul's mission?
 - b. What does knowledge of the truth accord with?
 - c. How does this fit with the book theme?
- b. Is everyone in the churches on Crete living according to godliness?
- c. What is your paragraph theme for Tt 1:5-9?
- d. What are two synonyms for an elder?
- e. Why must Titus appoint elders in every town?
- f. What are the qualifications of eldership? Let's make a list.
- g. Can these qualifications be grouped together in any way (see vv. 6-9)?
- h. How are the churches of New Zealand doing with respect to the appointment of qualified elders?
- i. Do you endeavor to one day be an elder? What do you need to work on?
- j. What is the relationship between vv. 5-9 and 10-16?
- k. Let's list what we learn about the ungodly in vv. 9-16?
- l. What are Cretans known for? Is Paul being discriminatory?
- m. What are Kiwis known for? What trends in Kiwi culture are elders in New Zealand going to have to routinely address?
- n. What stood out to you from the cross references (p. 23)?

3. Godliness in Titus 2.

- a. What are the instructions to each category of people in vv. 2-10?
 - (1) Older men?
 - (2) Older women?
 - (3) Younger women?
 - (4) Titus?
 - (5) Younger men?
 - (6) Bondservants?
- b. What word is repeated the most? Why is it repeated?
- c. How well are you doing in the area of self-control? What is something about which you need to exercise more self-control?
- d. What stood out to you from the cross references (p. 21-22)?

d. Godliness and Ungodliness in Titus 3.

- a. Who is Paul instructing in Tt 3:1-2? What must everyone do?
- b. What are some practical ways we can apply these commands today?
- c. How is our former life as an unbeliever described in Tt 3:3? How does 1 Co 6:9-11 compare?

5. Summary.

- a. What is to be the result of sound doctrine in the life of the believer?

- b. When we see ungodliness in the church, should we address it? How?
- c. What is your biggest takeaway from this week's lesson?

Discussion Questions | PUP Titus, Lesson Three

1. Titus at a Glance (p. 9).

- a. Book theme? Author? Recipient? Key words? Purpose? Historical setting? Chapter themes?

2. Titus 1 | Sound Doctrine.

- a. What do we learn about the Trinity in Tt 1?
- b. Who are God's elect (v. 1)? How does election work? How do the cross-reference relate (p. 26, 3)?
- c. What does "at the proper time" mean? What does that phrase tell us about God? How does Ga 4:4-5 relate (p. 26, 4)?
- d. What was Paul's special role in God's plan? Why does Paul remind Titus of his own special role? How do the cross-references relate (p. 27, 5)?

3. Titus 2 | Sound Doctrine.

- a. What do we learn about the Trinity in Tt 2?
- b. How does Tt 2:11-14 compare with Tt 1:1-3 (p. 28, 3)?
- c. When and how did the grace of God appear? How does Jn 1:1, 14-17 relate (p. 28, 4)?
- d. What does God's grace train believers for? How exactly does this work (p. 29, 5)?
- e. How often is self-control found in Titus? What exactly does it mean? Why does Paul use that term so much? Why is self-control important? In what areas do Christians in New Zealand need to exercise self-control (p. 29, 6a)?
- f. In what respect are we Jesus' own possession? How does one become Jesus' own possession? What difference does it make? What do we learn from the cross-references? How do we remind ourselves that we are Jesus' own possession?

4. Titus 3 | Sound Doctrine.

- a. What do we learn about the Trinity in Tt 3?
- b. Compare Tt 3:3-8 with Tt 1:1-3 and Tt 2:11-14. What is repeated (p. 31, 2)?
- c. Based on these three passages, what is the logical order of God's plan as it relates to us?
- d. What do we learn about works from Tt 3:3-8 (p. 31, 3a)?
- e. How does Tt 3:3-8 compare with Eph 2:1-10 (p. 31, 3b)?
- f. What attributes of God are found in Tt 3:3-8?
- g. What is the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit (p. 32, 3c)? When and how does this washing take place? How does this washing relate to godliness and good works? What do we learn from the cross-references (p. 32, d)?
- h. When and how is the Holy Spirit richly poured out on us? Does it happen one time or over and over again? Is it positional or experiential? What if we don't feel like the Spirit is poured out on us richly? What do we learn from the cross references (p. 33-34, 4)?

5. Review.

- a. Through our study of Titus, what has the Spirit taught us about:
(1) God?

- (2) Our world?
 - (3) Our salvation?
 - (4) Our Christian life?
 - (5) Our churches?
 - (6) The future?
- b. What verses serve as an overall summary of Titus?
 - c. What is the relationship between God's grace, sound doctrine, godliness, and good works?
 - d. What does Titus tell us about phases zero, one, two, and three of the Christian life?
 - e. What is your biggest takeaway from our study of Titus?
 - f. How do you like inductive Bible study? Will you make it part of your life?

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