

TITUS

“In Paul’s thinking, leadership is important because it affects the membership, and membership is important because the quality of the believers determines the effectiveness of their witness to the outside world.”

(Pawson, 2007, p. 659)

Author: Written by Paul to an associate, Titus.
Date: 63 AD after Paul’s release from Roman imprisonment (Acts 28)
Big Point: Written to Titus to encourage and assist Titus in his task of organizing the churches on island of Crete.

Message: The purpose of the letter is to stress sound doctrine and warn against those who distort truth, while also being a conduct manual emphasizing good deeds and instruction various groups in the church on how to act.

Memorable Verses:

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

“One of their very own prophets said, ‘Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.’ This testimony is true. For this reason, rebuke them sharply that they may be sound in the faith...” **Titus 1:12-13**

“...he saved us – not by works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy – through the washing of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit. He poured out his Spirit on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior so that, having been justified by his grace, we may become heirs with the hope of eternal life.” **Titus 3:5-7**

Unique: Men and women, young and old, each have their vital functions to fulfill in the church if they are to be living examples of the doctrine they profess.

Outline of Book:

- 1. *Appoint Elders (1:1-16)***
 - A. *Introduction (1:1-4)***
 - B. *Ordain Qualified Elders (1:5-9)***
 - C. *Rebuke False Teachers (1:10-16)***

- 2. *Set Things in Order (2:1-3:15)***
 - A. *Speak Sound Doctrine (2:1-15)***
 - B. *Maintain Good Works (3:1-11)***
 - C. *Conclusion (3:12-15)***

Adapted, by permission, from Dr. Bryan R. Jones (2016)

Application:

1. *Make Disciple Makers:* Learn sound teaching so that you recognize false teaching and be able to pass it along to others who will be able to do the same.
2. *Adorn the Faith and Church:* By appointing godly elders and deacons, each member of the church can testify that the Christian worldview both provides a sound foundation upon which to live your life and leads logically to the truth of eternal life, justified and redeemed by God through Jesus Christ.