

TITUS

Titus 1

Greeting

1 Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness, **2** in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began, 3 but has in due time manifested His word through preaching, which was committed to me according to the commandment of God our Savior:

4 To Titus, a true son in *our* common faith:

Grace, mercy, *and* peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior.

Qualified Elders

5 For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you— 6 if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination. 7 For a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, 8 but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, 9 holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.

The Elders' Task

10 For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, 11 whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain. 12 One of them, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans *are* always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons." 13 This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, **14** not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn from the truth. **15** To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. **16** They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.

Titus 2

Qualities of a Sound Church

1 But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine: 2 that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience; 3 the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things— 4 that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.

1:2 hope of eternal life— it is man's only hope which is only through Jesus Christ.
1:14-16 False teachers can do nothing that pleases God.

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6 Likewise, exhort **the young men** to be sober-minded, 7 in all things showing yourself *to be a pattern of good works*; in doctrine *showing* integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, 8 sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you.

9 *Exhort* bondservants to be obedient to their own masters, to be well pleasing in all *things*, not answering back, 10 not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of **God our Savior** in all things.

Trained by Saving Grace

- ★ **11** For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, **12** teaching us that, I denying **ungodliness and worldly lusts**, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the D★★★ present age, **13** looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of **our great God and** ★ **Savior Jesus Christ. 14** who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works.
- 15 Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

Titus 3

Graces of the Heirs of Grace

- 1 Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, ★ 2 to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men. **3** For we I ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various **lusts and pleasures**, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. **4** But when the kindness and the love ★★ of God our Savior toward man appeared, **5** not by works of righteousness which we have done, M but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of T the Holy Spirit. **6** whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ★ **7** that having been **justified by His grace** we should become heirs according to **the hope of eternal life.**
- 8 This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to **maintain good works**. These things are good and profitable to men.

Avoid Dissension

9 But avoid foolish disputes, genealogies, contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and useless. 10 Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition, 11 knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being self-condemned.

- 2:11-12 God is commanding His elders and His people to live righteously. This holy and righteous lifestyle provides the witness that brings God's salvation for people to fulfillment. The nonbeliever and the believer both learn from the example of holy elders and holy Christians.
- 2:13-14 Jesus is God— God is Jesus. Jesus is God, Lord and Savior.
- 3:3 Before salvation, the believer had particular sins that characterized him. However with true Genuine Saving Faith, there is a change in the believer, where these particular sins no longer characterize him. Notice: reference to nonbelievers who hate—"hateful and hating one another"
- 3:5 God the Holy Spirit regenerates and renews the believer throughout his lifetime.

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Final Messages

12 When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicus, be diligent to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. 13 Send Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey with haste, that they may lack nothing. 14 And let our *people* also learn to maintain good works, to meet urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful.

Farewell

15 All who *are* with me greet you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace *be* with you all. Amen.