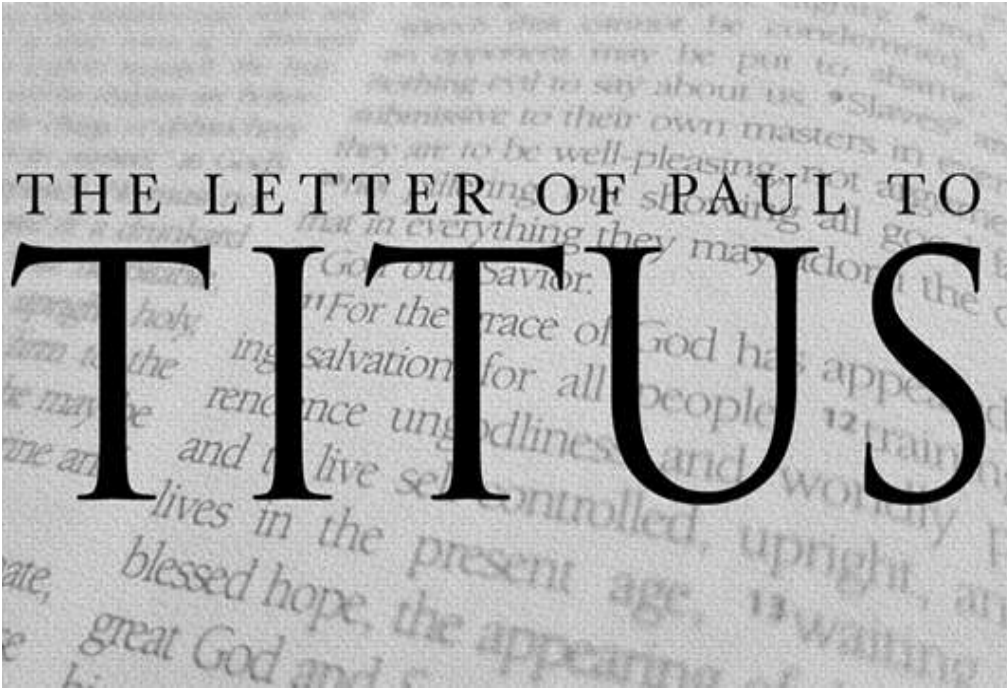


# Let's Worship God

2nd-7th March 2020  
Titus



# TITUS

## Monday - Titus 1:1-4 - Introduction

We are going to be looking at Titus, using notes by Rev. Craig Scott. This is the letter that Paul sent to a man named Titus around 60-63 A.D. Paul introduces the letter by giving his name and status in v1. Here we see the humility of Paul. Rather than starting with his authority, he confesses himself to be a 'servant of God.' Paul understands that he is a weak sinner saved by grace, and his entire life and ministry's foundation is built upon a dependence on God as his Master. It is through serving God that Paul gives his ministry status as an Apostle of Christ. An apostle is a messenger of Christ who was chosen directly and therefore has the spiritual authority to write to Titus and instruct him in the faith.

Verse 4 introduces us to Titus as the young man who is Paul's 'child in common faith.' It is very likely that Titus was converted to Christ as he heard Paul preach the free offer of the gospel. As Titus was a Gentile he was used by Paul as his companion in the Gentile churches (see 2 Cor. 7; Gal. 2:1-3), but now Paul has left Titus as the pastor of the church on the Greek Island of Crete. He now writes to him concerning several important issues that have caused some concern.

The church in Crete is not yet organised, and there are both theological errors and ungodly living taking place. In ch. 1 Paul commands Titus to ordain elders and ministers and states their required qualifications. This is important due to the heresy that is rampant within the church. In ch. 2 Titus is exhorted to teach sound doctrine and encourage Christians to live a holy and godly life. Finally, in ch. 3 Paul directs Christians to 'be ready for every good work' (3:1). All three chapters are filled with the glorious truth of Christ and practical instruction for true Christian living. The entire book can be summarised as an explanation of saving faith; sound doctrine goes hand in hand with daily sanctification and holy living.

## Questions

1. Why is Paul writing to Titus?

## Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for the Word of God.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## Memory Verse

To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. Titus 1:15

**Praise: Psalm 3 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# TITUS

## Tuesday - Titus 1:1-4 - Paul's Purpose

Paul is an apostle with a heart for the glory of God and Gospel truth. He knows if people say they are Christians yet live an ungodly life, it dishonours Christ as both Saviour and sanctifier. His purpose here is to declare the true nature of salvation; it is a work of grace that covers the past, present, and future for all true believers.

In the past God chose the elect to have saving faith in Christ Jesus. Before the foundation of the world God knew and ordained whatsoever comes to pass. He knew that Adam would fall, and in Adam, you and I would rebel and sin against God. In His love, rather than see us all perish for our sins, He freely chose us to salvation in Christ.

In the present we, by God's grace, come to a saving knowledge in the Gospel by faith alone in Christ alone. The evidence we are elect, is that fact that we believe in Christ, and produce the fruit of godliness. Godliness is living our lives for Christ; hating our sin, desiring holiness, and seeking to share this glorious news with others. This teaches us that head knowledge alone, is false Christianity. True Christianity is both a head and heart religion; we are chosen by grace yes, but the evidence is the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23).

In the future we have the 'hope of eternal life.' When the Bible says hope, it is not some possibility, but a confident expectation that those in Christ will receive eternal life in heaven for ever. The ground of our hope is based upon the character of God. His promise of heaven is certain, those in Christ will enter glory and happiness for eternity.

This wonderful salvation comes to us by the means of God's choosing; 'through the preaching' of the word. When we need saving, it is by preaching, when we need comforted, it is by preaching, when we need re-assured of that hope, it is by preaching. Let us therefore, strive by mind and heart, to listen and obey the preaching of the word and come to an even greater love and appreciation of the glorious gospel of our souls.

## Questions

1. What are the marks of true saving faith compared with false faith?

## Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching of the Word.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## Memory Verse

To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. Titus 1:15

**Praise: Psalm 4 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# TITUS

## Wednesday - Titus 1:1-6 - Ordaining Elders

Paul explains the reasons why he left Titus on Crete. The first reason was to set 'into order' what remained as Paul left. Here we have a pioneering church plant; with the salvation of souls, Titus is left behind to build up these new disciples in the faith. The second reason for being left in Crete is to 'appoint elders in every town'. The Biblical model of church government is to have oversight under elders and deacons. Titus is being asked to organise and moderate the election of elders.

However, not everyone can be an elder. There are qualifications to be met first. It should be noted that the qualifications set out in v.6 should be said of every Christian; therefore they apply to all of us. But in the ordination of men to the eldership, they should be particularly known for these things already. 1) No man is sinless, so 'above reproach' is not speaking about perfectionism. But an elder is one who cannot be accused of any flagrant sin but is known for holiness. 2) If the man is married, he already leads the family home in Gospel truth and worship. If he cannot oversee his own family, how then can he oversee a congregation? 3) The result of overseeing the family home in a godly fashion, is that the wife will be a believer, and the children are known as being literally 'faithful' and not living a life 'of debauchery or insubordination.'

We should all endeavour to be 'above reproach' and godly in our family and public life, for these are Christian virtues. But, men who are particularly known for these spiritual graces are alone qualified for the election of elders. When elections come in our churches we should look for these qualifications in men, and having elders we should pray for them that they continue to live and lead in a godly and holy fashion.

## Questions

1. What are the qualifications of elders?

## Prayer Points

1. Pray for our elders.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## Memory Verse

To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. Titus 1:15

**Praise: Psalm 5 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# TITUS

## Thursday - Titus 1:5-9 - Qualifications for Pastors

Within the eldership there are two functions or callings. The first function is that of the ruling elder, who spiritually rules over the congregation. Now Paul turns to the second function; the teaching elder or minister. Like the elder he is to be 'above reproach', but as he is the steward of God's church there are additional qualifications.

The minister should not be arrogant. When our knowledge of something increases, the sin of pride is often just around the corner. It is the same for ministers as they study God's Word, their knowledge can puff up with pride and arrogance. An arrogant minister will disregard the opinions of others and, though not admit it, think he is better than his flock. We can easily see the strife this would bring to any congregation.

A minister will have a deep care and love for his flock. He himself will be a holy man who is self-controlled in his behaviour and is a 'lover of good'. This will be demonstrated by an attitude of hospitality. Such is the love of a minister that he will often show acts of kindness towards his congregation.

But above all, a minister is one who loves the Bible and teaches 'sound doctrine.' As an ambassador of Christ, a minister deals with eternal matters. Therefore what he teaches is of utmost importance. He is to love and proclaim the whole counsel of God to the salvation of souls and discipleship of the saints. As well as proclaiming truth he will refute all error, making sure we grow in a spirit of discernment.

When we look for a minister to pastor our congregation these are the things we should be looking to see in a potential candidate. But we must not think, 'I'm not a minister this doesn't apply to me.' No Christian is to be arrogant or quick-tempered, but all should be holy and hospitable. May God give us all the grace to be known as loving, kind, and holy.

### Questions

1. What does it mean for a minister to be a steward of God's house?
2. Why are these qualifications necessary for a minister?

### Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for our minister.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### Memory Verse

To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. Titus 1:15

**Praise: Psalm 6 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# TITUS

## Friday - Titus 1:10-13 - An Immoral Congregation

Paul now gives the reason why Titus is to rebuke error in v.9. As with every age, Titus' congregation is full of sinners. There are those who refuse to listen and obey the Word of God and therefore live a life contrary to the Bible. Sometimes we can hear preaching that to us seems 'a little harsh'. But we must recognise that if it is done for the glory of Christ and with a desire to see sinners repent, ministers must rebuke sin and unrighteousness.

For Titus, there is an extra difficulty. He has to contend with the 'circumcision party.' These are Jews who claim to be Christians but are refusing to obey the Word of God and holy lives. If they are 'not silenced', then they will disrupt the fellowship of congregation. Moreover, the culture of Crete is affecting the professed believers. Paul quotes a Cretian prophet who states that those from Crete are known for lying and gluttony. Rather than being conformed to Christ, the congregation is attracted by the world. Western society tells us that we should live our lives according to our desires, and no one can tell us how to live. If we have this attitude, then we are acting like the Cretans. True Christianity rejects the world and follows Christ in holiness and righteousness.

If we do not have preaching against worldliness and sin in the church, then we do not have a Biblical church. The Gospel is to repent and believe, therefore 'harsh preaching' is necessary to call us to repentance and faith in Christ. This is why Paul so strongly urges Titus and ministers to 'rebuke them sharply' with the purpose of bringing sinners to 'be sound in the faith.' We must all examine ourselves to see if we are truly rejecting worldliness and seeking after holiness. When we look at the media and its teaching about clothing, life, and attitudes, are we rejecting it for the truth of the Bible and living accordingly?

### Questions

1. What trouble is Titus facing in Crete?
2. What does it mean to be worldly?

### Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would put sin to death.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### Memory Verse

To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. Titus 1:15

**Praise: Psalm 7 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# TITUS

## **Saturday - Titus 1:10-16 - Traditions of Men**

Paul continues to describe the state of the church in Crete and focuses in upon the teaching of the 'circumcision party.' Rather than listening and obeying the sound truth of Scripture, they have devoted 'themselves to Jewish myths.' This includes the rabbinic writings of the Jews that discuss genealogies and fictional accounts of Adam, Enoch, and Moses. When we put our attention and faith into non-Biblical books for spiritual truth the result is always the same, we start to follow the 'commands of people.'

The Jews were known to argue over minute details of the law as they incorporated Jewish myths into their traditions. This is what is called legalism where one says that salvation is Jesus plus good works, Jesus plus keeping the law, in fact Jesus plus anything. The 'anything' of this chapter seems to be Jewish dietary requirements as set out in passages such as Leviticus 11. Christ taught us that salvation is by faith alone in Him, and the OT dietary law is now fulfilled in His death. This means that we are now free to eat all foods (Matt. 15:11), hence Paul's teaching in v.15.

When we have true faith all things that we do in accordance with the Bible are pure for we have new hearts with faith that pleases God. But for the Jews, and all unbelievers, no matter what they do is sinful because 'both their minds and their consciences are defiled.' These people may say they know God, but in reality they deny Him with their legalism and disobedience.

In the Christian life we must guard our own heart against legalism. Do we argue over minute details and miss the big picture? It is a godly man who seeks to be holy, but it is a legalist who sets man-made standards upon what defines holiness. We must guard our hearts against our own man-made traditions and seek the Bible alone as to what is holy and true.

### **Questions**

1. Can unbelievers perform good works?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. Titus 1:15

**Praise: Psalm 8 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that  
Ezra read from  
the book of the Law  
day after day  
and that  
the people of God  
were filled with joy!**

Let's Worship God is produced  
by the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

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