

Titus

Titus accompanied the apostle and Barnabas to Jerusalem (Gal. 2:1), probably on the famine relief visit (Acts 11:28-30).

Though Acts does not mention Titus, he was quite involved in Paul's missionary activities as shown in the Pauline letters. He was evidently known to the Galatians (Gal. 2:1,3), possibly from the first missionary journey to that region. Titus also seems to have been a very capable person, called by Paul "my partner and fellow worker" (2 Cor. 8:23 NIV). He was entrusted with the delicate task of delivering Paul's severe letter (2 Cor. 2:1-4) to Corinth and correcting problems within the church there (2 Cor. 7:13-15). Titus' genuine concern for and evenhanded dealing with the Corinthians (2 Cor. 8:16-17; 12:18) no doubt contributed to his success which he reported in person to Paul, anxiously awaiting word in Macedonia (2 Cor. 2:13; 7:5-6,13-15). Paul responded by writing 2 Corinthians which Titus probably delivered (2 Cor. 8:6,16-18,23).

Crete- Island in the Mediterranean 156 miles long and 30 miles wide was notorious during the first century for untruthfulness and immorality. To act the Cretan became an idiom for being a liar.

v.1-3 Bondservant- one who has chosen to be in servitude

- *See Phil. 2: 4-8*

- *Matt. 20: 25-28*

- *Jer. 18: 2-6*

- A servant must first allow himself to be molded into what God wants him to be

- must stay in the Master's hand to be used by the Master, not go out and try to accomplish things independent of the Master

- find out where the Lord is and be there

- realize that God wants to and does work through His servants

- *Amos 2:7 Surely the Lord God does nothing, unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.*

- those that God chooses to use in Scripture had some things in common

- When God spoke they knew it was God speaking

- They knew what God was saying

- they knew what they were to do

- apostle- one who is sent, also an office, testified of gospel, with signs and wonders when needed

- according to the faith

(body of belief ie. Jude, contend for the faith)

Not if they have enough faith but what that faith is

- God's elect- Jesus said you did not choose Me, I chose you- God's sovereignty vs. man's free will

- acknowledgement of the truth which bring godly behavior

- knowledge that comes by experiencing it

v.2- hope or assurance of eternal life which God promised before time

Matt. 13:35 ³⁵ *that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying:*

"I will open My mouth in parables;

I will utter things kept secret from the foundation of the world."^ε

Matt. 25:34 ³⁴ *Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:*

John 17:24 ²⁴ *"Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.*

Eph. 1:3 through Eph. 1:5 ³ *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, ⁴just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, ⁵having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,*

Heb. 4:3 ³ *For we who have believed do enter that rest, as He has said:*

"So I swore in My wrath,

'They shall not enter My rest,'"^ε

although the works were finished from the foundation of the world.

1 Pet. 1:18 through 1 Pet. 1:21 ¹⁸ *knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. ²⁰He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you ²¹who through*

Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

Rev. 13:8 ⁸*All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.*

and now is manifested (made real)- through preaching, this is what makes it come alive

Committed to me- remember this from Timothy

- God our Savior- v4. Jesus our Savior (*Isa 43:11 NKJV*) *I, even I, am the LORD, And besides Me there is no savior.*

v.4 Son in the faith

v.5 set in order- used by medical writers to talk about setting broken bones

- elder- presbuteros, older; a senior; spec. an Isr. Sanhedrist (also fig. member of the celestial council) or Chr. "presbyter":--elder (-est), old.- mature believer

bishop-episkopos, ep-is'-kop-os; a superintendent, i.e. Chr. officer in gen. charge of a (or the) church (lit. or fig.):--bishop, overseer.

Appoint them, leaders are to be appointed by leaders not the church, those who have been proven faithful and mature in the faith are the ones to make the decision on who is to lead, otherwise it becomes a popularity contest

v.6 blameless- gives no grounds for accusation- example of Daniel, who all they could find against him was that he prayed consistently. Dan Quayle, potato and family values

- husband of one wife- no polygamy, sanctify of marriage, it is a picture of Christ and the church according to Ephesians 5

- faithful children in Timothy it says rules his household well- everyone is responsible for their own decisions but what are you as a leader doing about it, what standard are you setting ?

- not self willed- Phil. 2- mind of Christ

- not quick tempered- there will be things that will be easy to get angry about

- not given to wine

- (Prov 20:1 NKJV) *Wine is a mocker, Strong drink is a brawler, And whoever is led astray by it is not wise.*

- (Prov 23:29-33 NKJV) *Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions? Who has complaints? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? {30} Those who linger long at the wine, Those who go in search of mixed wine. {31} Do not look on the wine when it is red, When it sparkles in the cup, When it swirls around smoothly; {32} At the last it bites like a serpent, And stings like a viper. {33} Your eyes will see strange things, And your heart will utter perverse things.*

- (Lev 10:8-11 NKJV) *Then the LORD spoke to Aaron, saying: {9} "Do not drink wine or intoxicating drink, you, nor your sons with you, when you go into the tabernacle of meeting, lest you die. It shall be a statute forever throughout your generations, {10} "that you may distinguish between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean, {11} "and that you may teach the children of Israel all the statutes which the LORD has spoken to them by the hand of Moses."*

- not violent
- not greedy for money
- hospitable- open to relationships, willing to share what you have
- lover of what is good
- soberminded- serious about the work that you have been called to, that doesn't mean you can't have a sense of humor, example Gayle Erwin
- just- relationships with men, what is our reputation in the community
- holy-set apart for God
- self controlled- has self under control
- holding fast and teaching by precept and example
 - sound doctrine

v.10 insubordinate- idle talkers, deceivers- of the circumcision, religious

v.11 subvert- we have had people who went behind our back and said things simply to cause problems as they left

- dishonest gain- money and power

v.13 rebuke them sharply- I have sometimes been accused of being harsh

v.15 pure all is pure- doesn't mean you can do whatever you want and it's okay for you, it means that your life will be pure, you will seek pure things only- example of someone who watches what they eat

v.16 profess to know God but works deny it

- disqualified vs the qualified ones