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Titus

Chapter 1

¹Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of the chosen people of God and the knowledge of the truth that agrees with godliness, ²with the certain hope of everlasting life that God, who does not lie, promised before all the ages of time. ³But at the right time, he revealed his word by the proclamation that I was entrusted with by the command of God our Savior. ⁴To Titus, a true son in a common faith. Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

⁵For this purpose I left you in Crete, that you might set in order things not yet complete and ordain elders in every city as I directed you— ⁶if anyone is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of reckless behavior or rebellion. ⁷For the overseer must be blameless, as the household manager of God, not arrogant, not easily angered, not addicted to wine, not a brawler, {and} not a greedy man. ⁸Instead, he must be hospitable, a friend of what is good, sensible, righteous, holy, {and} self-controlled. ⁹He must hold tightly to the trustworthy message that is in accordance with the teaching, so that he may be able both to encourage others with sound teaching and rebuke those who oppose him.

¹⁰For there are many people, both rebellious, empty talkers, and deceivers, especially those from the circumcision. ¹¹It is necessary to stop them. They are upsetting whole households, teaching what they should not for the sake of shameful profit. ¹²One of them, of their own prophets, has said, “Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy bellies.” ¹³This testimony is true. For this reason, rebuke them severely, so that they may be sound in the faith, ¹⁴not paying any attention to Jewish myths or to the commands of people who turn away from the truth. ¹⁵All things {are} pure to those who {are} pure. But to those who are corrupt and unbelieving, nothing {is} pure, but both their minds and consciences have been corrupted. ¹⁶They profess to know God, but they deny him by {their} actions, being detestable and disobedient and unfit for any good work.

Chapter 2

¹But you, speak what fits with sound teaching. ²Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, {and} in perseverance. ³Older women likewise {are to be} reverent in behavior, not slanderers or enslaved to much wine, {but to be} teachers of what is good. ⁴In this way they may train the younger women to be lovers of their husbands {and} lovers of their children, ⁵to be sensible, pure, good housekeepers, {and} subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God may not be insulted. ⁶In the same way, exhort the younger men to be sensible. ⁷In all ways present yourself {as} an example of good works. In the teaching, be uncorrupted, with dignity, ⁸{and} a sound message {that is} above criticism, so that the opponent may be ashamed, having nothing bad to say about us. ⁹Slaves are to be subject to their own masters in everything, to be pleasing, {and} not to argue, ¹⁰not to steal, but instead to demonstrate all good faith, so that in every way they may bring credit to the teaching that {is} about God our Savior. ¹¹For the grace of God has appeared for salvation to all men, ¹²training us, so that, rejecting godlessness and worldly passions, we might live in a sensible and righteous, and godly way in the present age, ¹³while we look forward to receiving the blessed hope and appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He gave himself for us in order to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a special people, zealous for good works.

¹⁵Speak of these things, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

Chapter 3

¹Remind them to submit to rulers {and} authorities, to obey them, to be ready for every good work, ²to revile no one, to be uncontentious, gentle, showing all humility toward all men. ³For once we also were foolish {and} disobedient. We were led astray {and} enslaved by various passions and pleasures. We lived in evil and envy, detestable, {and} hating one another. ⁴But when the kindness and love for mankind of God our Savior appeared, ⁵{it was} not by works of righteousness that we did, but by his mercy that he saved us, through the washing of new birth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he richly poured on us through our Savior Jesus Christ, ⁷so that having been justified by the grace of that one, we might become heirs according to the certain hope of everlasting life.

⁸This message {is} trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed God may be careful to engage themselves in good works. These things are good and useful for men. ⁹But avoid foolish debates, and genealogies, and strife, and conflict about the law because they are unprofitable and worthless.

¹⁰Reject a divisive person after one or two warnings, ¹¹knowing that such a person has turned from the right way and is sinning, being self-condemned.

¹²When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, hurry to come to me at Nicopolis, because I have decided to spend the winter there. ¹³Diligently send on their way Zenas the lawyer and Apollos, so that they lack nothing. ¹⁴And also, our own must learn to engage themselves in good works toward essential needs, in order not to be unfruitful.

¹⁵All those who {are} with me greet you. Greet those who love us in faith. Grace {be} with all of you.

Contributors

unfoldingWord® Literal Text Contributors

Nicholas Alsop
Scott Bayer
Larry T Brooks, M.Div., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
Matt Carlton
George "Drew" Curley, M.Div., PhD, Professor of Biblical Languages
Dan Dennison
Jamie Duguid
Paul M Fahnestock, M.Div. Reformed Theological Seminary, D.Min. Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
Michael Francis
Laura Glassel, MA in Bible Translation
Jesse Griffin, BA Biblical Studies, MA Biblical Languages
Jesse Harris
C. Harry Harriss, M.Div.
Alrick G. Headley, M.Div., Th.M.
Bram van den Heuvel, M.A.
John Huffman
D. Allen Hutchison, MA in Old Testament, MA in New Testament
Jack Messarra
Gene Mullen
Adam W. Nagelvoort, M.Div. Academic Ministries, Columbia International University
Timothy Neu, Ph.D. Biblical Studies
Kristy Nickell
Tom Nickell
Elizabeth Oakes, BA in Religious Studies, Linguistics
Perry Oakes, PhD in Old Testament, MA in Linguistics
James N. Pohlig, M.Div., MA in Linguistics, D. Litt. in Biblical Languages
Ward Pyles, M.Div., Western Baptist Theological Seminary
Susan Quigley, MA in Linguistics
Dean Ropp
Joel D. Ruark, M.A.Th., Th.M., Ph.D. in Old Testament, University of Stellenbosch
Larry Sallee, Th.M Dallas Theological Seminary, D.Min. Columbia Biblical Seminary
Peter Smircich, BA Philosophy
Doug Smith, M.T.S., M.Div., Th.M., Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
Leonard Smith
Suzanna Smith
Tim Span
Dave Statezni, BA Orig langs., M.Div. Fuller Theological Seminary
Maria Tijerina
David Trombold, M. Div.
Aaron Valdizan, M.Div., Th.M. in Old Testament, The Masters Seminary
James Vigen
Hendrik "Henry" de Vries
Thomas Warren, M.Div., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, D.Min, Reformed Theological Seminary
Angela Westmoreland, M.A. in Theological Studies (Biblical Language track)
Henry Whitney, BA Linguistics
Benjamin Wright, MA Applied Linguistics, Dallas International University
Grant Ailie, BA Biblical Studies, M.Div.

