

The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to

TITUS

LESSON ONE

Chapter One

Look for the answers to these questions:

1. Titus 1:1 begins with two parts of Paul's ministry – a servant and an apostle. Which one was by divine appointment? Which one was by personal choice?
2. How do we know Paul met Titus before he met Timothy?
3. According to Titus 1:5, what is the reason for ordaining elders in the church?
4. In Titus 1:11, why do some people teach things they should not teach?
5. In Titus 1:16, how can we tell when someone talks about God but does not really know him?

Books of the Bible

Old Testament

New Testament

Law

Gospels

Church History

History

Letters

Poetry

Major Prophets

Letters

Minor Prophets

Letters

Prophecy



We continue our study of the pastoral epistles with the book of Titus.

Books of the Bible

Old Testament

New Testament

Law

Gospels

Church History

History

Letters

Poetry

Major Prophets

Letters

Minor Prophets

Letters

Prophecy

“This is a short epistle, but it contains such a quintessence* of Christian doctrine, and is composed in such a masterly manner, that it contains all that is needful for Christian knowledge and life.” — Martin Luther

Quintessence: the pure essential part of a thing in a small quantity.

Acts 13 to 28: ... unto the uttermost parts of the earth.

13 14 15 16 18 19 21 22 28



48 AD 49 50 53 57 60 62 67 68

GALATIANS

1 THESSALONIANS

1 CORINTHIANS

EPHESIANS

1 TIMOTHY

2 TIMOTHY

2 THESSALONIANS

2 CORINTHIANS

COLOSSIANS

TITUS

ROMANS

PHILEMON

PHILIPPIANS



Titus was written after Paul's first imprisonment in Rome.

[A] Salutation and Benediction (1:1-4)

[B] Assemblies (1:5-9)

[C] Contentious Cretans (1:10-16)

[D] The Christian walk & works (2:1-10)

[E] The Grace of God (2:11-14)

[F] First Charge (2:15)

[F] Second Charge (3:1,2)

[E] The Kindness of God (3:3-7)

[D] The Christian walk & works (3:8)

[C] Contentious Cretans (3:9)

[B] Assemblies (3:10,11)

[A] Salutation and Benediction (3:12-15)

The three chapters of **Titus** have the same balanced structure we saw in 1 Timothy:

Protection of Sound Doctrine

Chapter 1

Ordain Qualified
Elders

1:1 to 9

Rebuke False
Teachers

1:10 to 16

Practice of Sound Doctrine

Chapter 2 and 3

Speak Sound
Doctrine

2:1-15

Maintain Good
Works

3:1-15

For this class, we will use this simple outline.

1:1-4: Salutation and Blessing

Paul begins his letter with a greeting and blessing.

Titus 1:1-3

- ¹ Paul, a servant of God,
and an apostle of Jesus Christ,
according to the faith of God's elect,
and the acknowledging of the truth
which is after godliness;
- ² In hope of eternal life,
which God, that cannot lie,
promised before the world began;
- ³ But hath in due times manifested his word
through preaching,
which is committed unto me according to
the commandment of God our Saviour;



1:1-4: Salutation and Blessing

Paul was a servant by his personal commitment, and an apostle by divine appointment.

Titus 1:1-3

- 1 Paul, a servant of God,
and an apostle of Jesus Christ,**
according to the faith of God's elect,
and the acknowledging of the truth
which is after godliness;
- 2** In hope of eternal life,
which God, that cannot lie,
promised before the world began;
- 3** But hath in due times manifested his word
through preaching,
which is committed unto me according to
the commandment of God our Saviour;



1:1-4: Salutation and Blessing

By FAITH, the chosen of God come to salvation.

Titus 1:1-3

- ¹ Paul, a servant of God,
and an apostle of Jesus Christ,
according to the faith of God's elect,
and the acknowledging of the truth
which is after godliness;
- ² In hope of eternal life,
which God, that cannot lie,
promised before the world began;
- ³ But hath in due times manifested his word
through preaching,
which is committed unto me according to
the commandment of God our Saviour;



1:1-4: Salutation and Blessing

By THE ACKNOWLEDGING OF THE TRUTH, they live in godliness.

Titus 1:1-3

- ¹ Paul, a servant of God,
and an apostle of Jesus Christ,
according to the faith of God's elect,
and the acknowledging of the truth
which is after godliness;
- ² In hope of eternal life,
which God, that cannot lie,
promised before the world began;
- ³ But hath in due times manifested his word
through preaching,
which is committed unto me according to
the commandment of God our Saviour;



1:1-4: Salutation and Blessing

Through HOPE, they anticipate their eternity with Jesus.

Titus 1:1-3

- ¹ Paul, a servant of God,
and an apostle of Jesus Christ,
according to the faith of God's elect,
and the acknowledging of the truth
which is after godliness;
- ² **In hope of eternal life,**
which God, that cannot lie,
promised before the world began;
- ³ But hath in due times manifested his word
through preaching,
which is committed unto me according to
the commandment of God our Saviour;



1:1-4: Salutation and Blessing

God committed his word to Paul,
and Paul committed it to faithful
men like Titus to teach also.

Titus 1:1-3

- ¹ Paul, a servant of God,
and an apostle of Jesus Christ,
according to the faith of God's elect,
and the acknowledging of the truth
which is after godliness;
- ² In hope of eternal life,
which God, that cannot lie,
promised before the world began;
- ³ But hath in due times manifested his word
through preaching,
which is committed unto me according to
the commandment of God our Saviour;



1:1-4: Salutation and Blessing



Titus 1:4

- 4 **To Titus,**
mine own son after the common faith:
Grace, mercy, *and* peace,
from God the Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour.



1:1-4: Salutation and Blessing

Titus is not mentioned in Acts, but his name appears nine times in 2 Corinthians, and twice in Galatians.

Titus 1:4

4 **To Titus,**
mine own son after the common faith:
Grace, mercy, *and* peace,
from God the Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour.



Galatians 2:1-3

- 1 Then fourteen years after I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and took Titus with me also.
- 2 And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them which were of reputation, lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain.
- 3 But neither Titus, who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised:

The fact that his name is mentioned along with **Barnabas** tells us that Paul met Titus *before* he met Timothy.

We also know that Titus was not a Jew.



1:1-4: Salutation and Blessing

Once again, the word “mercy” is in Paul’s blessing.

Titus 1:4

4 To Titus,
mine own son after the common faith:
Grace, mercy, and peace,
from God the Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour.



Protection of Sound Doctrine

Chapter 1

Ordain Qualified
Elders

1:1 to 9



Rebuke False
Teachers

1:10 to 16

Practice of Sound Doctrine

Chapter 2 and 3

Speak Sound
Doctrine

2:1-15

Maintain Good
Works

3:1-15

Paul now instructs Titus on the ordination of elders in the church.

1:1-9: Ordain Qualified Elders

“The apostle spread the gospel in the cities of Crete after his release from Roman imprisonment and he left Titus there to finish organizing the churches.”

Nelson Complete Book of Bible Map and Charts

Titus 1:5

- 5 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:



“Crete is the largest island in Greece and the fifth largest island in the Mediterranean Sea. It is located in the southern part of the Aegean Sea separating the Aegean from the Libyan Sea.”

[Wikipedia.org/wiki/Crete](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crete)



1:1-9: Ordain Qualified Elders

It is the duty of the elders of the church to set things in order so the church operates as it should.

1 Corinthians 14:40

⁴⁰ Let all things be done decently and in order.

Titus 1:5

⁵ For this cause left I thee in Crete, **that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting,** and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:



1:1-9: Ordain Qualified Elders

Paul begins with the qualifications needed in any man who serves in the church.

Titus 1:6

- ⁶ If any be blameless,
the husband of one wife,
having faithful children not accused of
riot or unruly.



1:1-9: Ordain Qualified Elders

- 1) He does nothing that dishonors God or the gospel.

1 Peter 3:16

- ¹⁶ Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ.

Titus 1:6

- ⁶ If any be **blameless**, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.



1:1-9: Ordain Qualified Elders

- 2) If he is married, his marriage is governed by the laws of Christ. He loves his wife as himself, and she submits to his authority.

Titus 1:6

- ⁶ If any be blameless, **the husband of one wife,** having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.



1:1-9: Ordain Qualified Elders

- 3) His children are not wild and disobedient.

Titus 1:6

- 6 If any be blameless,
the husband of one wife,
**having faithful children not accused of
riot or unruly.**



1:1-9: Ordain Qualified Elders

In verses 7 to 9, he speaks specifically about the qualifications of a bishop, the chief overseer in a church.

Titus 1:7-8

- ⁷ For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;
- ⁸ But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;



1:1-9: Ordain Qualified Elders

- 1) He conducts himself as a servant in God's household.

1 Corinthians 4:1-2

- ¹ Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.
- ² Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

Titus 1:7-8

- ⁷ For a bishop must be blameless, **as the steward of God;** not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;
- ⁸ But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;



1:1-9: Ordain Qualified Elders

- 2) He seeks to do God's will and not his own.

Titus 1:7-8

- 7 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; **not selfwilled**, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;
- 8 But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;



3) He is not easily provoked.

Titus 1:7-8

- ⁷ For a bishop must be blameless,
as the steward of God;
not selfwilled, **not soon angry**,
not given to wine, no striker,
not given to filthy lucre;
- ⁸ But a lover of hospitality,
a lover of good men,
sober, just, holy, temperate;



4) He is not a drunkard.

Titus 1:7-8

- ⁷ For a bishop must be blameless,
as the steward of God;
not selfwilled, not soon angry,
not given to wine, no striker,
not given to filthy lucre;
- ⁸ But a lover of hospitality,
a lover of good men,
sober, just, holy, temperate;



5) He is not a brawler or a bully.

Titus 1:7-8

- ⁷ For a bishop must be blameless,
as the steward of God;
not selfwilled, not soon angry,
not given to wine, **no striker**,
not given to filthy lucre;
- ⁸ But a lover of hospitality,
a lover of good men,
sober, just, holy, temperate;



- 6) He is not greedy of financial gain.
Lucre is money.
Filthy lucre is money that is gained
in a dishonorable way.

Titus 1:7-8

- 7 For a bishop must be blameless,
as the steward of God;
not selfwilled, not soon angry,
not given to wine, no striker,
not given to filthy lucre;
- 8 But a lover of hospitality,
a lover of good men,
sober, just, holy, temperate;



7) He is friendly and welcoming.

Titus 1:7-8

- 7 For a bishop must be blameless,
as the steward of God;
not selfwilled, not soon angry,
not given to wine, no striker,
not given to filthy lucre;
- 8 **But a lover of hospitality,**
a lover of good men,
sober, just, holy, temperate;



8) He loves what is good.

Titus 1:7-8

- ⁷ For a bishop must be blameless,
as the steward of God;
not selfwilled, not soon angry,
not given to wine, no striker,
not given to filthy lucre;
- ⁸ But a lover of hospitality,
a lover of good men,
sober, just, holy, temperate;



9) He is rational and reasonable.

Titus 1:7-8

- ⁷ For a bishop must be blameless,
as the steward of God;
not selfwilled, not soon angry,
not given to wine, no striker,
not given to filthy lucre;
- ⁸ But a lover of hospitality,
a lover of good men,
sober, just, holy, temperate;



10) He is ethical and virtuous.

Titus 1:7-8

- ⁷ For a bishop must be blameless,
as the steward of God;
not selfwilled, not soon angry,
not given to wine, no striker,
not given to filthy lucre;
- ⁸ But a lover of hospitality,
a lover of good men,
sober, **just**, holy, temperate;



1:1-9: Ordain Qualified Elders

11) He lives a sanctified life, undefiled by sin and wickedness.

Titus 1:7-8

- ⁷ For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;
- ⁸ But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, **holy**, temperate;



12) He is self-controlled.

Titus 1:7-8

- ⁷ For a bishop must be blameless,
as the steward of God;
not selfwilled, not soon angry,
not given to wine, no striker,
not given to filthy lucre;
- ⁸ But a lover of hospitality,
a lover of good men,
sober, just, holy, **temperate;**



1:1-9: Ordain Qualified Elders

13) He is a faithful student and teacher of the Scriptures, skilled in the handling of the Sword of the Spirit.

Titus 1:9

9 **Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught,**

that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.



1:1-9: Ordain Qualified Elders

13) He is a faithful student and teacher of the Scriptures, skilled in the handling of the Sword of the Spirit.

Titus 1:9

9 **Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught,**

that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

He can “encourage people with healthy instruction and refute those who speak against it” (CEB).



1:1-9: Ordain Qualified Elders

In the next section, Paul shows why this skill is so necessary.

Titus 1:9

9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught,

that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.



Protection of Sound Doctrine

Chapter 1

Ordain Qualified
Elders

1:1 to 9

Rebuke False
Teachers

1:10 to 16



Practice of Sound Doctrine

Chapters 2 and 3

Speak Sound
Doctrine

2:1-15

Maintain Good
Works

3:1-15

1:10-16: Rebuke False Teachers

Paul warned Titus of people who would challenge the truth of the Gospel.

Titus 1:10-11

- ¹⁰ For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, **specially they of the circumcision:**
- ¹¹ Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.



The freedom that we have in Christ is always a problem to legalists.

Titus 1:10-11

- ¹⁰ For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, **specially they of the circumcision:**
- ¹¹ Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.



1:10-16: Rebuke False Teachers

There is no right of free speech in church. People who spread lies need to be silenced.

Titus 1:10-11

- ¹⁰ For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision:
- ¹¹ **Whose mouths must be stopped,** who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.



1:10-16: Rebuke False Teachers

False teachers tell people what they *want* to hear – all for the sake of taking their money.

Titus 1:10-11

- ¹⁰ For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision:
- ¹¹ Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, **teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.**



Paul now writes about the bad reputation of the people of Crete.

Titus 1:12-14

- ¹² One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians *are* always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies.
- ¹³ This witness is true.
Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;
- ¹⁴ Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.



From the word Cretian – a person from Crete – we now have the word “Cretin” – a stupid person.

Titus 1:12-14

- ¹² One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians *are* always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies.
- ¹³ This witness is true.
Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;
- ¹⁴ Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.



1:10-16: Rebuke False Teachers

In 1 Timothy 6:5, Paul told Timothy to “withdraw” from false teachers. Here Paul tells Titus to “rebuke them sharply.”

When someone speaks lies *outside* of church, you can walk away from them. When someone speaks lies *inside* the church, influencing people who don't know better, they must be publicly rebuked.

Titus 1:12-14

- ¹² One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians *are* always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies.
- ¹³ This witness is true.
Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;
- ¹⁴ Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.



A godly person will be grateful for the correction.

Proverbs 9:8b

⁸ ...rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee.

Titus 1:12-14

¹² One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians *are* always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies.

¹³ This witness is true.

Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;

¹⁴ Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.



Evil doctrine breeds evil works.

Titus 1:15

¹⁵ Unto the pure all things *are* pure:
but unto them that are defiled and
unbelieving *is* nothing pure;
but even their mind and conscience is
defiled.



Matthew 7:18

¹⁸ A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

Titus 1:15

¹⁵ Unto the pure all things *are* pure:
but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving *is* nothing pure;
but even their mind and conscience is defiled.



Our *works* always speak more truthfully than our mouths!

Titus 1:16

¹⁶ They profess that they know God; **but in works they deny him,** being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.



Our *works* always speak more truthfully than our mouths!

Titus 1:16

¹⁶ They profess that they know God; **but in works they deny him,** being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

End of Chapter One



Protection of Sound Doctrine

Chapter 1

Ordain Qualified
Elders

1:1 to 9

Rebuke False
Teachers

1:10 to 16

Practice of Sound Doctrine

Chapters 2 and 3

Speak Sound
Doctrine

2:1-15

Maintain Good
Works

3:1-15

This completes the first lesson in Paul's letter to Titus.

Protection of Sound Doctrine

Chapter 1

Ordain Qualified
Elders

1:1 to 9

Rebuke False
Teachers

1:10 to 16

Practice of Sound Doctrine

Chapters 2 and 3

Speak Sound
Doctrine

2:1-15

Maintain Good
Works

3:1-15

The next lesson looks at the *application* of these truths.

Questions to test your understanding of this lesson:

1. Titus 1:1 begins with two parts of Paul's ministry – a servant and an apostle. Which one was by divine appointment? Which one was by personal choice?
2. How do we know Paul met Titus before he met Timothy?
3. According to Titus 1:5, what is the reason for ordaining elders in the church?
4. In Titus 1:11, why do some people teach things they should not teach?
5. In Titus 1:16, how can we tell when someone talks about God but does not really know him?

Each question is worth 20 points. Do NOT share your answers with other students.



WTWH.org