



THE STRUCTURE OF THE CHURCH (PART 1)

Titus 1

Sunday, August 29, 2021

Pastor Trevor Cooper

Good morning Church. This morning I would like for you to turn with me to the book of Titus. The Apostle Paul is the author of this epistle. Titus is a Greek, Gentile-born, born-again believer who was with Paul during the Jerusalem Council in Acts 15 according to Galatians. Titus is a mission church-planter who was won to Jesus by Paul himself. Titus was discipled by Paul, and Titus was the one who delivered the 2nd Corinthian letter to the church. Timothy is one who gives similar instruction to the church but is tender about it. Titus was one who took direction from Paul with similar instruction to the church but is tough about it. So Titus is tough and receives a letter from Paul while he is at Crete to finish the work and get the church established by finding Pastors for the Church. Let's read Titus 1:1-4 looking at the Incarnation of Jesus, which is found in all 3 chapters, seeing a the theme of Titus: God at work in establishing a healthy Church.

Titus 1:1-16

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, 2 in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began 3 and at the proper time manifested in his word through the preaching with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Savior; 4 To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior. 5 This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— 6 if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. 7 For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, 8 but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. 9 He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it. 10 For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party. 11 They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach. 12 One of the Cretans, 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 devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth. 15 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. 16 They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

“Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.” 2 Timothy 2:10

Paul proclaimed ...

- **SALVATION**: God's purpose to save the elect by the gospel
- **SANCTIFICATION**: God's purpose to build up the saved by the Word of God
- **GLORIFICATION**: God's purpose to bring believers to eternal glory.

Instructions for Healthy Leaders:

1. CHOOSE WISELY (v. 1:5-9)

- Everything RISES and FALLS on Leadership.

2. PROTECT THEM (v. 1:10-16)

- Protect the PEOPLE of God by staying in the Parameters of the WORD of God.

We are called to come face to face with these and defend the gospel against false teaching that creates havoc & trouble. Let us present the right gospel, the true gospel.