

Titus 1 Summarized

Sentences

1:1-3, Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness, in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began, but has in due time manifested His word through preaching, which was committed to me according to the commandment of God our Savior.

1:4, to Titus, a true son in *our* common faith: Grace, mercy, *and* peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior.

1:5-6, for this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you—if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination.

1:7-9, for a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.

1:10-11, for there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain.

1:12, one of them, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans *are* always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons."

1:13-14, this testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn from the truth.

1:15, to the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled.

1:16, they profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.

Paragraphs

1:1-4, in his greeting, Paul identifies himself as God's slave and Jesus Christ's apostle who's been appointed to preach God's Word, i.e., the hope of eternal life which God (our Savior), who doesn't lie, promised before time began. This is the faith and recognized truth that produces godliness in God's elect. Paul then greets Titus—a true son of that common faith—with grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior.

1:5-9, the reason Paul left Titus in Crete is to take care of some unfinished business, especially to appoint elders in every city. But an elder must be blameless, i.e., since he's God's steward he must be godly. This means he must not be a polygamist or have children who are degenerate or rebellious. Instead, his children must be faithful to God's Word. He must also not be arrogant, quick-tempered, an alcoholic, a bully, or greedy for money. Instead he must be hospitable, love what is good, prudent, just, holy, self-controlled, and live by the sound doctrine he's been taught so that he can both strongly urge and rebuke those who contradict [God's sound Word].

1:10-16, [The reason Titus must appoint elders who are men of godly character because they apply God's Word to their own lives and the lives of those under their care is because] there are many insubordinate deceivers who are overturning God's house. They have reverted to their deceiving and destructive Cretan culture and are now undermining whole families by teaching unsound, man-made truths. Therefore, Titus must rebuke them with God's sound truth so that they will be error-free in the faith: to the pure all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure, even their mind and conscience end up twisted. They profess to know God, but in practice they deny Him. They end up repugnant, disobedient, and unqualified to participate in God's good work.

Whole Chapter

God the Father (who's not a deceiver) and the Lord Jesus Christ appointed the apostle Paul to preach God's Word, i.e., the hope of eternal life which is the faith and truth that produces a life of godliness in God's elect like Titus. The reason Paul left Titus in Crete is to appoint elders in every city, but an elder must be blameless, i.e., since he oversees God's house, he must be a man of godly character in every way: as a husband and father, in temperament, and in his use of alcohol and money. He must also be hospitable and love what is just and holy. In other words, he must live by God's sound truth in order to produce this godly character in himself, his family, and especially in those who contradict God's Word. Why the need for elders? There are many insubordinate deceivers who are destroying God's families with unsound, man-made truths. Therefore, Titus must rebuke them so that they'll be sound in the faith because the mind and conscience of such defiled and unbelieving becomes twisted: they profess to know God but in practice they deny Him, which leaves them repulsive and disqualified for God's good work.