

# LESSON TWO
# TITUS 1:5-9 / ELDERS

1) Blameless
2) Husband of one wife
3) Faithful Children
4) Not Selfwilled
5) Not Soon Angry
6) Not Given to Wine
7) No Striker
8) Not Given to Filthy Lucre
9) Lover of Hospitality
10) Lover of Good Men
11-14) Sober, Just, holy, Temperate
15) Holding Fast the Faithful Word

# Lesson One Review Titus 1:1-4 (KJV)

v1 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;

v2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

v3 But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour;

v4 To Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour.

# LESSON ONE REVIEW

- Paul identifies as "a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ"
- Paul's mission is for the faith of God's elect & their knowledge of the truth which leads to godliness
- God's word revealed through preaching the truth (the gospel)
- God keeps his promises. Eternal life. God cannot lie!
- The "common faith" of Paul and Titus
- God is the source of grace, mercy, & peace

## *My Salutation*

_____ a servant of God, with the gift(s) of _____ for Jesus Christ according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness. Serve in The Body of Christ by;

_____

_____

-- In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.

Spiritual Gift(s) (1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12:6–8, Ephesians 4:11–16, and 1 Peter 4:10–11)

# THE EPISTLE TO TITUS

- **Introduction**: Titus 1:1-4:
  - Salutation, Promise, & Paul's Mission
- **Body**: Titus 1:5 – Titus 3:11
  - Appoint Elders
  - Provide Sound (Healthy) Doctrine
  - Encourage Holy Living
- **Conclusion**: Titus 3:12-15
  - Personal greetings & further instructions

# Holiness in the Body of Christ

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ✓ Introduction | | |
| ✓ Lesson One | Titus 1:1-4 | Salutation, God's Promise, & Mission |
| Lesson Two | Titus 1: 5-9 | Godly Leaders: Elder Characteristics |
| Lesson Three | Titus 1: 10-16 | Defending the Gospel |
| Lesson Four | Titus 2: 1-6 | Sound Doctrine for every Generation |
| Lesson Five | Titus 2: 7-10 | Adorning the Gospel |
| Lesson Six | Titus 2:11-15 | The Power of God's Grace |
| Lesson Seven | Titus 3: 1-7 | Christlike Kindness and Mercy |
| Lesson Eight | Titus 3: 8-15 | Zealous for Good Works |
| Conclusion | | |

# Lesson Two; Titus 1:5-9

## *Elders: Godly Leaders*

## *(characteristics)*

# Titus 1:5-9 (KJV)

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

**TITUS 1:5 (KJV)**

***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.

- Roman-ruled Island off the coast of Greece - It was the largest Greek island,
- located in the Mediterranean Sea, and a hub for maritime trade and cultural exchange
- Mountainous island about 170 X 35 miles
- Culture (pagan, cults, lazy, immoral, violent, untrustworthy, liars)
- Crete had a long-standing reputation in the ancient world for moral unreliability.
- Their culture was prone to deceit, violence, and indulgence
- The island had a Jewish population - Cretan Jews were present at Pentecost **(Acts 2:11, Acts 27)**



# CRETE THE HOME OF THE **PHILISTINES**

- **THE PHILISTINES MIGRATED FROM CAPHTOR (CRETE) TO CANAAN**
- **CAPHTOR IS WIDELY IDENTIFIED WITH CRETE OR THE BROADER AEGEAN**
- **AMOS 9:7 (KJV):** "ARE YE NOT AS CHILDREN OF THE ETHIOPIANS UNTO ME, O CHILDREN OF ISRAEL? SAITH THE LORD. HAVE NOT I BROUGHT UP ISRAEL OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT? AND THE PHILISTINES FROM CAPHTOR, AND THE SYRIANS FROM KIR?
- JEREMIAH 47:4 (KJV): BECAUSE OF THE DAY THAT COMETH TO SPOIL ALL THE PHILISTINES, AND TO CUT OFF FROM TYRUS AND ZIDON EVERY HELPER THAT REMAINETH: FOR THE LORD WILL SPOIL THE PHILISTINES, THE REMNANT OF THE COUNTRY OF CAPHTOR


The Table of Nations (Genesis 10)
Tarshish ?
Tiras
Javan
Lud
Rhodanim
Tubal
Riphath
Meshech
Magog
Gomar
Ashkena
Togarmah
Mash
Madai
Black Sea
Caspian Sea
Aral Sea
Mediterranean Sea
Caphtorim
Kittim
Elishah
Heth
Aram
Eber
Peleg
Asshur
JAPHETH
Sidonians
Hittites
Jebusites
Amorites
Girgashites
Hivites
Arakites
Sinites
Arvadites
Zemarites
Hamathites
Canaan
Ludium
Lehabim
Put
Casluhim
Naphthuhim
Nimrod
Elam
Joktan
Persian Gulf
Mizraim (Egypt)
Uz
Hul
Dedan
Red Sea
HAM
SHEM
Pathrusim
Lobab
Cush
Raamah
Havilah
Uzal
Sabtah
Sheleph
Hazarmaveth
Sheba
Sabteka
Seba
Havilah
Obal
Arabian Sea
Ophir
0 100 200 300 400 mi
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## Church in the first century

- Early believers met in **household gatherings**
- The first-century church in Crete was **Jewish-rooted** (Acts 2:11)
- The Corinthian church gatherings were not passive; **members brought hymns, teachings, revelations, and interpretations** (1 Corinthians 14)
- The early churches at Phillipi met in houses (Lydia's, its first convert) **for prayer and fellowship** (Acts 16:15)

## Church in the first century (Meetings)

- The Law of Moses, which included the sabbath commandment, was to the nation of Israel only. It lasted as a binding law until Christ died on the cross. The Law of Christ, which began at Pentecost, is God's law for all mankind today. The Law of Christ teaches that we are to meet on Sunday, the first day of the week. This is the day our Lord arose from the dead (Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:2-6; Luke 24:1; John 20:1). The day the church began was at Pentecost, also held on the first day of the week (Leviticus 23:9-16).

- **Acts 20:7 (KJV):** "and upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight."

- 1 Corinthians 16:2, "upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come."

Titus 1:5 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.***

- To correct what was left undone/unfinished/incomplete
  - Build a healthy church
- Titus' mission was to appoint Elders/Overseers/Bishops
- Elders is plural – more than one **(Acts 14:23)**
- Per Paul's instructions

## OT Elders functioned primarily as civic, tribal, and national leaders or judges.

- **Exodus 3:16** (NIV) "Go, assemble the **elders** of Israel and say to them, 'The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—appeared to me and said: I have watched over you and have seen what has been done to you in Egypt.'" Moses is instructed to gather the **elders** of Israel to announce God's plan of deliverance.
- **Exodus 24:1** (NIV) "Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the **elders** of Israel. You are to worship at a distance'
- **Deuteronomy 16:18** (NIV) "Appoint judges and officials for each of your tribes in every town the Lord your God is giving you, and they shall judge the people fairly."
- **1 Samuel 8:4** (NIV) "So all the **elders** of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah." The **elders** of Israel gather to request a king from the prophet Samuel

**NT Elders functioned specifically as spiritual shepherds and overseers of local church congregations.**

- **Acts 14:23:** "Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust."
- **Acts 20:28:** "Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood."
- **1 Peter 5:1–2:** "To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve.

| Elder Roles | Key Scriptures | Description |
|---|---|---|
| Shepherding | Acts 20:28; 1 Pet 5:1-4 | Care for and guide the flock with humility. |
| Teaching | 1 Tim 3:2; 1 Tim 5:17 | Teach sound doctrine; some preach. |
| Oversight | Titus 1:5-9; Acts 14:23 | Govern the church and maintain spiritual order. |
| Pastoral Care | James 5:14; Heb 13:17 | Pray for the sick; watch over souls. |
| Doctrinal Protection | Acts 20:29-30; Titus 1:9 | Guard against false teachers and maintain purity. |
| Conflict Resolution | Acts 15:1-2 | Help settle disputes within the church. |

## Why different Terms

- **Elder** emphasizes maturity and wisdom.
- **Pastor/Shepherd** emphasizes caring for and feeding the flock.
- **Overseer/Bishop** emphasizes governing and supervising the church.

These are different descriptions of one office, not separate roles in Scripture

# Godly leaders

Titus 1:6 **If any be blameless**, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.

**Domestic Life**

- *Blameless* – Above Reproach
  - Foundational trait
  - No reasonable accusation can be made against him
- *Husband of One Wife*
  - Marital faithfulness, commitment, one-woman-man, and morally upright
- *Faithful Children*
  - Children believe in the Lord and not known for wildness, rebellion, or moral disorder

**Leadership proven first in the home**

## Characteristics of Ungodly leaders

**Titus 1:7** 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***;

**A Godly Steward is not: (The Negatives)**

- ***Not Self-willed*** – arrogant, overbearing, self-centered
- ***Not Prone to anger*** – quick tempered
- ***Not Given to wine*** – drunkenness, addicted to wine
- ***No Striker*** – violent, pugnacious, bully, brawler
- ***Not Given to filthy lucre*** – greedy for dishonest gain, money-hungry

**TITUS 1:8** BUT ***A LOVER OF HOSPITALITY, A LOVER OF GOOD MEN, SOBER***, JUST, HOLY, TEMPERATE;

**A GODLY STEWARD IS: (THE POSITIVES)**

- ***LOVER OF HOSPITALITY*** – FRIEND TO *BELIEVERS* & *STRANGERS*, WELCOMING
- ***LOVER OF GOOD MEN*** – GOOD PEOPLE, DOING GOOD THINGS
- ***SOBER*** – SELF-CONTROLLED, SENSIBLE, CAREFUL IN SPEECH & ACTIONS, WISE

*TITUS 1:8 BUT A LOVER OF HOSPITALITY, A LOVER OF GOOD MEN, SOBER,* ***JUST, HOLY, TEMPERATE;***

**A GODLY STEWARD IS: (THE POSITIVES)**

- ***JUST*** - UPRIGHT IN DEALING WITH OTHERS, FAIR, NO FAVORITISM
- ***HOLY*** – DEVOUT, DEVOTED & COMMITTED TO GOD, PLEASES GOD
- ***TEMPERATE*** – SELF-DISCIPLINE/CONTROL

**GALATIANS 5:22-23 "THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT" COMPARISON**

**LOVE, JOY, PEACE (HOLY)**

**PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS (JUST)**

**FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS, SELF-CONTROLLED (TEMPERATE)**

# Qualifications of Elders -

## 1 Timothy 3:1-7

1. Blameless - vs. 2
2. Husband of one wife - vs. 2
3. Vigilant - vs. 2
4. Sober - vs. 2
5. Of good behavior - vs. 2
6. Given to hospitality - vs. 2
7. Apt to teach - vs. 2
8. Not given to wine - 2
9. No striker - vs. 3
10. Not greedy of filthy lucre - vs. 3
11. Patient - vs. 3
12. Not a brawler - 3
13. Not covetous - vs. 3
14. Ruleth well his own house - vs. 4
15. His children in subjection - vs. 4
16. Not a novice - vs. 6
17. Good report from them which are without - vs. 7

## Titus 1:5-9

1. Blameless - vs. 6 & 7
2. Husband of one wife - vs. 6
3. Having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly - vs. 6
4. Not self-wlled - vs. 7
5. Not soon angry - vs. 7
6. Not given to wine - vs. 7
7. No striker - vs. 7
8. Not greedy of filthy lucre - vs. 7
9. A lover of hospitality - vs. 8
10. A lover of good men - 8
11. Sober - vs. 8
12. Just - vs. 8
13. Holy - vs. 8
14. Temperate - vs. 8
15. Holding fast the faithful word - vs. 9

**TITUS 1:9 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.

- HOLD FAST TO THE WORD…
  - ***EXHORT*** THROUGH SOUND DOCTRINE - TEACHING
  - ***REFUTE***, CONFRONT, & CONVICT THOSE WHO OPPOSE
  - THIS IS A **QUALIFICATION**

# TITUS 1:5-9 SUMMARY

- **ORDER** MUST BE ESTABLISHED.
- **ELDERS** MUST BE APPOINTED.
- **CHARACTER & INTEGRITY** WHEN APPOINTING CHURCH LEADERS.
- **SOUND DOCTRINE** PROMOTES THE GOSPEL.

## TITUS 1:5-9; MATCH THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTIONS WITH THE CHARACTER TRAIT

1. _____ Encouraging in truth
2. _____ Welcoming, and generous toward others, especially those in need
3. _____ Physical aggression, harshness, or abusive behavior toward others
4. _____ Devoted to what is right, beneficial, and morally good
5. _____ Habitual, excessive drinking that clouds judgment and leads to moral compromise
6. _____ Master of one's desires, emotions, and actions; disciplined, resists excess
7. _____ This term means free from moral fault or scandal
8. _____ Fair, impartial, and righteous in judgment and decision-making
9. _____ Set apart for God's purposes; morally pure and consecrated
10. _____ Quick-tempered, losing self-control in response to being provoked
11. _____ This is an insatiable desire for money or material advantage
12. _____ Of sound mind, prudent, self-controlled, or sensible, thinks clearly, acts with wisdom
13. _____ Correcting error with authority
14. _____ Self-exalted, domineering attitude

*A. Anger*
*B. Arrogant*
*C. Blameless*
*D. Drunkenness*
*E. Exhorts*
*F. Greed*
*G. Holy*
*H. Hospitable*
*I. Just*
*J. Lover of Good*
*K. Rebukes*
*L. Sober*
*M. Temperate*
*N. Violent*

# Questions & Comments

- Before (Lesson Three) the next study session:
  - Match the 14 Elder characteristics
  - Read Titus 1:1-16 (Chapter One)

# Next Week: Lesson Three

# Titus 1:10-16

# Defending the Gospel

# LESSON TWO – HANDOUT

**MATCH THE ELDER CHARACTERISTIC TO ITS CORRECT TERM**

_____ Encouraging in truth

_____ Welcoming, and generous toward others, especially those in need

_____ Physical aggression, harshness, or abusive behavior toward others

_____ Devoted to what is right, beneficial, and morally good

_____ Habitual, excessive drinking that clouds judgment and leads to moral compromise

_____ Master of one's desires, emotions, and actions; disciplined, resists excess

_____ This term means free from moral fault or scandal

_____ Fair, impartial, and righteous in judgment and decision-making

_____ Set apart for God's purposes; morally pure and consecrated

_____ Quick-tempered, losing self-control in response to being provoked

_____ This is an insatiable desire for money or material advantage

_____ Of sound mind, prudent, self-controlled, or sensible, thinks clearly, acts with wisdom

_____ Correcting error with authority

_____ Self-exalted, domineering attitude

A. ***Anger***
B. ***Arrogant***
C. ***Blameless***
D. ***Drunkenness***
E. ***Exhort***
F. ***Greed***
G. ***Holy***
H. ***Hospitable***
I. ***Just***
J. ***Lover of Good***
K. ***Rebuke***
L. ***Sober***
M. ***Temperate***
N. ***Violent***