## **Titus**

## Chapter 1

- ¶1. Paul, a slave of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ for the faith of God's elect and for the knowledge of truth that is in accord with godliness,
- 2. in hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before time began;
- 3. but in His own appointed time, He revealed His word through the preaching with which I was entrusted by the command of God our Savior.
- 4. To Titus, my true son in the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- ¶5. I left you in Crete for this reason, that you might set the remaining things in order and appoint elders in each city, as I directed you,
- 6. if someone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, having faithful children, not accused of wild living or insubordination.
- 7. For an overseer must be above reproach, as God's steward; not self-willed, not given to anger, not given to wine, not pugnacious, not avaricious,
- 8. but hospitable, loving goodness, reasonable, just, holy, disciplined,
- 9. holding fast the faithful message of the doctrine so that he might be able both to exhort with sound doctrine and to confute those who oppose him.
- ¶10. For there are many rebellious, vain talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision,
- 11. whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things they should not for the sake of disgraceful gain.
- 12. One of them, a prophet of their own, has said, "Cretans are perpetual liars, evil beasts, and idle bellies."
- 13. This testimony is true. So then, sternly rebuke them, that they might be sound in the faith,
- 14. giving heed neither to Jewish myths nor to commandments of men who turn away from the truth.
- 15. To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure. Instead, both their mind and conscience are defiled.
- 16. They profess to know God, but by works, they deny Him, being loathsome and disobedient, and unfit for any good work.

## Chapter 2

 $\P 1$ . But as for you, speak things that are consistent with sound doctrine.

- 2. Elders must be temperate, respectable, sober-minded, sound in faith, in love, and in patience.
- 3. Women who are elders, likewise, must be reverential in their behavior, not slanderers, not enslaved to much wine, teachers of what is good,
- 4. so that they might instruct the young women to be affectionate to husbands, affectionate to children,
- 5. sensible, pure, good homemakers, submissive to their husbands, so that the word of God be not blasphemed.
- 6. The young men, likewise, exhort to be sober-minded,
- 7. in every way presenting yourself a model of good works; in doctrine demonstrating integrity, dignity, and incorruptibility,
- 8. using sound speech that is above reproach so that he who opposes us might be ashamed, having nothing disparaging to say about us.
- 9. Slaves are to be subject to their masters, pleasing them well in everything, not back-talking,
- 10. not purloining, but showing utmost trustworthiness so that they might always adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.
- 11. For the saving grace of God has appeared to all men,
- 12. teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, and righteously, and godly in this present world,
- 13. waiting for the blessed hope, even the manifestation of the glory of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ,
- 14. who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all lawlessness, and purify for himself a chosen people, zealous for good works.
- ¶15. Speak these things, and encourage, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

## Chapter 3

- ¶1. Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be prepared for every good work,
- 2. to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, magnanimous, demonstrating all meekness toward all men.
- 3. For we also were once foolish, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and entertainments, spending our lives in evil and envy; loathsome, and hating one another.
- 4. But when the kindness and affection of God our Savior for man was revealed,
- 5. not by works of righteousness which we have done, but in His mercy, He delivered us by the washing of the holy Spirit that brings about a new birth and restoration,
- 6. which He has poured out upon us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

- 7. so that, being justified by His grace, we became heirs of the hope of eternal life.
- 8. This saying is trustworthy, and I want you to be adamant about these things, so that those who have believed in God might have a mind to occupy themselves with good works. These are things that are good and beneficial to men.
- 9. But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and strifes, and disputes about the law, for they are worthless and vain.
- 10. After the first and second admonition, reject a man who causes division,
- 11. knowing that such a man has been perverted, and is sinning, condemned within himself.
- ¶12. When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicus, hurry to come to me in Nicopolis, for I have decided to winter there.
- 13. Generously supply Zenas the lawyer and Apollos for their trip, so that nothing be lacking to them.
- 14. And again, let our people learn to occupy themselves with good deeds to meet pressing needs, so that they be not unfruitful.
- ¶15. All those who are with me greet you. Greet those who love us in the faith.
- ¶ Grace be with you all. Amen.