

Titus.
A translation.

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Titus.

I am Paul (1:1-4).

¹I am Paul, a slave of God. I am a representative of Jesus the messiah.

I have faith in God's chosen people. I know the truth about godliness.

²It produces hope in eternal life. God, who will not lie, guaranteed it before time began. ³He revealed it at just the right time: He proclaimed his word. The command of God our savior authorized me.

⁴To Titus. You are my loyal son by our common faith. May God our father and our savior messiah, Jesus, grant you favor and peace.

Appoint elders (1:5-9).

⁵This is why I left you in Crete: Fix the remaining issues. Appoint elders in each city just like I told you.

⁶He must be blameless. He must be the husband of one wife. He must have believing children. He must not be accused of wild living or rebelliousness. ⁷A supervisor must be blameless since he is God's manager. He must not be arrogant. He must not be hot-tempered. He must not be a drunk. He must not be a bully. He must not make dishonest money.

⁸Instead, he must be hospitable, a lover of good, sensible, righteous, holy, and self-controlled. ⁹He must be loyal to the doctrine of the faithful word. He must be able to challenge with sound teaching. He must answer our enemies.

They talk deceptive nonsense (1:10-16).

¹⁰Most of them are rebellious, talk nonsense, and deceptive. This particularly regards the circumcision party. ¹¹They need to be quiet. Some of their teachers have ruined entire households.

They must not do these things for dishonest money. ¹²One of their own prophets said:

¹³Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, and lazy gluttons.

This testimony is the truth.

For this reason, rebuke them sharply. Maybe they can become sound in the faith.

¹⁴Do not pay attention to Jewish myths and human commands. They abandon the truth.

¹⁵Everything is clean to clean people. Nothing is clean to disobedient defiled people. However, they defiled themselves, their minds, and their consciences.

¹⁶They claim to know God. However, their conduct betrays them. They are detestable and disobedient. They are disqualified from doing anything good.

Be an example (2:1-10).

²Speak what is appropriate for sound teaching.

²Old men must be sober, honorable, prudent. They must be strong in faith, love, and patience.

³Similarly, old women must have behave reverently. They must not be gossips nor addicted to wine. They must teach others to do good.

⁴They must urge the young women: Love their husbands. Nurture their children. ⁵Be sensible. Remain pure. Stay busy at home. Do good. Submit to their husbands. Then no one can slander God's word.

⁶Similarly, challenge the young men to be modest.

⁷Present yourself as an example of good conduct in every area. Your instruction must be honest, reverent, ⁸with sound words, and above criticism. That way, outsiders will respect you. They will have nothing evil to say against us.

⁹Slaves must submit to their masters in every way. They must please them. They must not be rebellious. ¹⁰They must not pilfer. Instead, they must do good with complete faith. They must make the teaching of God, our savior, look good in every way.

Deny worldly lusts (2:11-3:11).

¹¹The favor of God brings salvation to all men. ¹²It instructs us. Then we can deny wickedness and worldly lusts. We can live sober, just, and godly lives in the present world.

¹³We are waiting for the blessed hope and the glorious appearance of our great saving God: Jesus the messiah. ¹⁴He gave himself up for us. He redeemed us from all lawlessness. He purified a chosen people for himself. They are zealous for good deeds.

¹⁵Speak about these things. Challenge. Expose with all authority. No one may ignore you.

³Remind them: Submit to rulers and authorities. Obey. Be prepared for every good deed. ²Slander no one. Be peaceful and gentle. Demonstrate complete humility toward all men.

³We used to be ignorant, disobedient, and deceptive. We served a variety of passions and pleasures. We lived with evil and envy. People hated us. We hated other people. ⁴Then God, our savior, revealed his good kindness. ⁵This is not because of the righteous things we did.

Instead, he saved us by his mercy with the washing of rebirth and renewal of the holy spirit. ⁶He poured it richly on us through Jesus the messiah, our savior. ⁷Then he makes us righteous by that mercy. We become heirs by the hope of eternal life.

⁸This saying is certain. I want you to speak confidently about these things: Believers in God must focus on practicing good deeds. They are good and useful for men.

Reject a divisive man.

⁹Avoid foolish investigations about genealogies, quarrels, and legal arguments. They are useless wastes. ¹⁰Reject a divisive man with two separate warnings. ¹¹Understand that people like this are corrupt and sinful. They are self-condemned.

Meet pressing needs (3:12-14).

¹²I will send Artemis or Tychicus to you. Come see me right away in Nicopolis. I decided to spend the winter there. ¹³Send my lawyer Zenas and Apollos right away. Make sure they lack nothing. ¹⁴Our people must learn to meet pressing needs with good deeds. Then they will not be useless.

They greet you (3:15).

¹⁵Everyone here with me greets you. Greet those who love us because of faith. May God grant you all favor.