

Teaching Through Titus

Studies in Spiritual Growth

Lesson: Topic and Chapter:

1. Qualified Pastors Must Promote Growth (Titus 1)
2. Church Members Must Grow Spiritually (Titus 2)
3. Public Life Must Exhibit Spirituality (Titus 3)

Lesson 1: Qualified Pastors Must Promote Spiritual Growth (Titus 1)

Key Verse: "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 1:9)

Introduction: The key to spiritual growth in the church is its leadership. Paul instructed Titus to organize the churches in Crete and ordain spiritually qualified leaders. False teachers destroy spiritual growth and must not be put into positions of leadership.

Salutation: Paul greeted Titus his true son in the faith (1:1-4)

I. Qualified Church Leadership Promotes Spiritual Growth (1:5-9)

A. Titus was to ordain qualified church leadership in Crete (5)

1. Titus was to organize the churches
2. Titus was to ordain elders

B. The elders were to be qualified (6)

C. Qualified pastors were to promote spiritual growth (7-9)

1. A pastor must have blameless personal characteristics (7)
2. A pastor must have excellent interpersonal characteristics (8)
3. A pastor must be an able steward of sound doctrine (9)
 - a. Being loyal to the doctrine taught to him
 - b. Being able to promote spiritual growth by sound doctrine

II. False Teachers Destroy Spiritual Growth (1:10-16)

A. False teachers must be silenced (10-11)

1. They are insubordinate deceivers (10)
2. They teach error for money (11)

B. False teachers must be sharply rebuked (12-14)

C. False teachers are unfit in mind and deed (15-16)

1. They are defiled in mind and conscience (15)
2. They are disqualified by evil deeds (16)

Conclusion: The leadership of the church must be spiritually mature. The pastor must be a man who by example and sound doctrine can promote spiritual growth and refute heresy.

Lesson 2: Church Members Must Grow Spiritually (Titus 2)

Key Verses: "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world." (Titus 2:11-12)

Introduction: God expects His people to grow spiritually. Paul commanded Titus to teach this truth to the people of Crete of every age and social status. God's grace teaches Christians how to grow to spiritual maturity.

I. The Man of God Teaches Spiritual Maturity (2:1-10)

- A. Paul commanded Titus to teach sound doctrine (1)
- B. Sound doctrine leads to spiritual maturity (2-6)
 - 1. Older men should exhibit spiritual maturity (2)
 - 2. Older women should exhibit spiritual maturity (3)
 - 3. Younger women should learn it from older women (4-5)
 - 4. Younger men should be exhorted to be mature (6-8)
 - a. Titus was to be their example (7-8)
 - b. Titus' example would shame opponents (8)
 - 5. Servants should exhibit spiritual maturity (9-10)
 - a. Through honoring and obeying their master (9)
 - b. Thus adorning sound doctrine (10)

II. The Grace of God Teaches Spiritual Growth (2:11-15)

- A. God's saving grace has appeared to all (11)
- B. God's saving grace teaches us to deny ungodliness (12)
- C. God's saving grace teaches us to live godly lives (12)
- D. God's saving grace teaches us to hope for Christ's coming (13-14)
 - 1. Jesus Christ is our great God and Savior (13)
 - 2. Jesus Christ gave Himself for us (14)
 - a. To redeem us from sinful deeds
 - b. To purify us as a special people
- E. These truths should be taught authoritatively (15)

Conclusion: God's grace teaches Christians to willfully turn from sin to righteousness so that they may fulfill God's purposes in their lives. This enables them to grow to spiritual maturity.

Lesson 3: Public Life Must Exhibit Spirituality (Titus 3)

Key Verse: "This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men." (Titus 3:8)

Introduction: Church members must grow to spiritual maturity and exhibit this spiritual quality in their public life. This was demonstrated through good citizenship, good works as heirs of God, church discipline, and a diligent personal ministry.

I. Exhibit Spirituality in Public Life (3:1-2)

- A. Be a good citizen (1)
- B. Be a good public testimony (2)

II. Exhibit Spirituality as Heirs of God (3:3-8)

- A. We used to be like the ungodly world (3)
- B. But God saved us by His grace (4-5)
- C. God also poured His Spirit on us (6)
- D. God did this so that we should become His heirs (7)
- E. Therefore we should be careful to do good works (8)

III. Exhibit Spirituality in Church Discipline (3:9-11)

- A. Avoid foolish and unprofitable disputes (9)
- B. Reject those who cause division (10-11)

IV. Exhibit Spirituality in a Diligent Ministry (3:12-14)

- A. Titus was to diligently keep his appointment (12)
- B. Titus was to diligently help his colleagues (13)
- C. Titus was to diligently teach good works (14)

Farewell Greetings (3:15)

Conclusion: Because Christians have been saved by grace and have become heirs of God, their public life should exhibit evidence of their spiritual growth and maturity.