

THE BOOK OF

TITUS

Consistent Christians of
Character in Community
Change Culture

Titus 3:8-14

Problem:

Character, Community, and Culture not effected by Christ

Solution:

Hearts, Homes, and Humanity all Healed by the Gospel

(Titus 1:5, 10-16; 2:1-12; 3:8-11)

Outline

I. Ordered Maturity Leads the Way (**ch. 1**)

II. Transformed Hearts and Homes (**ch. 2**)

III. Gospel Effect to Humanity (**ch. 3**)

Titus 3:1-2 ESV

1 Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work,

2 to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.

3 For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.

4 But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared,
5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,

6 whom he poured out on us richly
through Jesus Christ our Savior,

7 so that being justified by his grace we
might become heirs according to the
hope of eternal life.

8 The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people.

9 But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless.

10 As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him,

11 knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

12 When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there.

13 Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing.

14 And let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful.

15 All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all.

v. 9-11 - How not to be unfruitful...

Echos the warning from **1:10**

Spend your time doing good...

Don't waste your time on...

(See **2 Timothy 2:16**)

v. 9-11 - How to be fruitful...

Instead, have good godly discussions,
have spiritual children (like Paul),
be peacemakers and peacekeepers,
call out sin,
and avoid harmful and unrepentant
people. (See **Philippians 4:8-9**)

v. 12-13

**Invest in people for the Kingdom and be
a community project**

Be a Basketball team not Golf team

Be part of the team - no celebrity leaders

(see 1 Cor. 16:6, 11; Rom. 15:24)

v. 8, 14-15

**Consistent Christians of Character in
Community Change Culture**

Live rightly - good deeds? **(5x in Titus)**

Dont be unfruitful/ unproductive

Dont waste your life or your time

Good Deeds? Starts with The Gospel...

Titus 2:11-13 ESV - (11) For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, (12) training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, (13) waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

Good Deeds?

Our good deeds have an evangelistic effect (Mat. 5:14-16)

Whatever you did for the least of these (Mat. 25:40)

Appearing for the judgment seat of Christ (2 Cor. 5:10)

Let's not become weary in doing good, and for the church first (Gal. 6:9-10)

Good Deeds?

It is the Lord you are serving (Col. 3:23-24)

Be rich in good deeds (1 Tim. 6:17-18)

Spur one another on to good deeds (Heb. 10:24)

What good is faith with no deeds? (James 2:14-17)

Created for good works (Eph.2:10)

Resources for Change

How People Change, (Lane and Tripp)

-The Gospel Gap and [Jer. 17:5-10](#)

Do you only see the gospel as past (forgiveness) and future (hope)?

Resources for Change

What are the **practical ways** in which the **gospel** should effect every day in every place? Where is your community?

...Our temptation is to seek **fullness and fulfillment** in something or someone other than **Christ**.

Resources for Change

Spiritual Disciplines:

- **Abstinence (Self-Denial)**
- **Engagement (Christ in Community)**

Disciplines of Abstinence (Self-Denial)

Solitude, Fasting, Sabbath, Frugality,
Chastity, Secrecy/Humility, Sacrifice,
and Submission

Disciplines of Engagement (Christ in Community)

Bible Reading, Worship, Prayer, Celebration, Serve/Give, Soul Friendship/Fellowship, and Confession/Personal Reflection

Conclusion

Consistent Christians of Character in
Community Change Culture

Gospel -> Doctrine -> Character ->
Good Works in Community

Apply it

1. Titus Groups & Life Groups
2. Make your faith community your main community
3. Examine your habits/character to encourage fruitful /productive gospel living, e.g., time with Jesus & spiritual disciplines

From *How People Change* (H. P. C.):

Five gospel perspectives that speak to the solution are:

1. the extent and gravity of our sin,
2. the centrality of the heart,
3. the present benefits of Christ,
4. God's call to growth and change,
5. and a lifestyle of repentance and faith.

The metaphor from Jeremiah 17:5-10,

They parse the metaphor into four main areas: heat (vv. 6, 8), thorns (vv. 5-6), cross (v. 7), and fruit (v. 8).

How does God grow and change us while we live here on earth?
What has Christ given to help me with that tough conversation with my spouse last Tuesday night?

How does his grace impact a person's struggle with depression or fear?

What has Christ given to help me deal with pressures of parenting or the workplace?

What provision has he made for my struggles with lust, fear, or materialism?

What do repentance and change actually look like?

Why do we struggle with one area of sin more than another; doing the thing we never intended to do? (*H. P. C.* pg15)

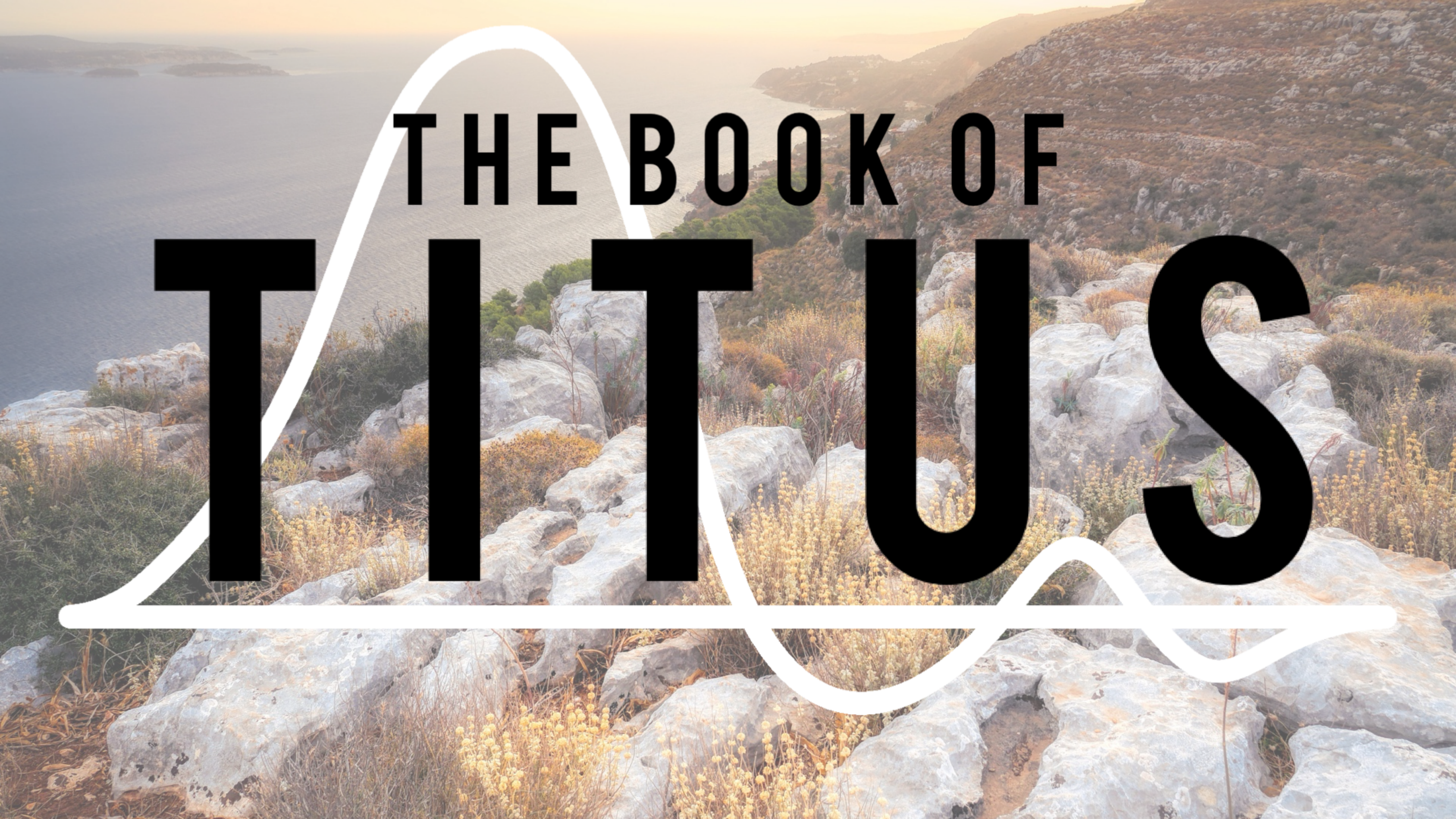
Resources/ bibliography

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