

Titus Introduction

March 8, 2023

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How We Got NT Epistles/Letters

- God spoke to and through Moses, then to Joshua, Samuel, Kings, & Prophets.
- Their words match the words of Moses.
- Jesus clarifies the OT and taught the Disciples who became Apostles.
- Jesus now speaks (Heb. 1:1-4), as taught by the Apostles.
- Jesus made the 'mystery' known to the Apostles & they had authority others did not have.

2

How We Got NT Epistles/Letters

- Apostles spread the faith & plant and lead churches.
- Confront/correct false doctrine and write under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.
- Their writings take Jesus' teachings and the words of Moses and the Prophets and address issues.
- Some are specific (2 Thessalonians 1 - 3), and some are universal (Colossians 1:15-20).
- Much is used universally; kept in context.

3

Gospel Comes To Crete

- Likely-Jews visited Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover.
- At Pentecost the Gospel was heard, and some believed.
- They went back to Crete and the faith spread.
- With no formal leadership, issues would arise.
- Culture negatively influenced these early churches.
- Judaizers would also harass these early believers.
 - Said Jesus was ok, but you had to follow the Law.
 - Gentiles would have to be circumcised first.

4

Overview Of Titus

- Paul & Titus visited Crete in 61 AD. (Acts 27:8-9)
- Saw the issues firsthand; very pagan & crude culture.
- Polygamy, prevalent laziness, rebel-rousers, & lying.
- Paul departed but left Titus on Crete. (1:5)
- After Paul's departure, he wrote this letter to Titus.
- Titus was to establish Elders in every city (where house churches are located).
- This would provide leadership within the churches.
- Disciple, train, local members to equip and grow Elders.

5

Titus = Pastoral Epistles

- Pastoral Epistles (1 & 2 Timothy & Titus).
 - Letters from a mature man near the close of his ministry.
 - Concerned about/for his successors.
 - Letters concern the things crucial for young pastors to know.
 - Appointing leaders and church discipline.
 - Opposition from rebellious members, dealing with false teachers, maintenance of doctrinal purity.
- Pastoral Epistles are the "how-to" manual for pastors (*all church leaders*) in all places and for all time.

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