

Silencing the Wolves

Titus 1:10-16

From Pastor Phillip

Because of the love Jesus and His apostles had for the flock of God, they repeatedly warned believers about spiritual wolves (Matthew 7:15, Acts 20:29-30, 2 Peter 2:1-3, 1 John 4:1-3, Jude 17-19, etc.). In Titus 1:10-16, Paul warns the shepherds and the sheep about the wolves roaming in Crete. This passage helps us today be able to discern a wolf's character and teaching, and to avoid the danger of falling prey to these evil beasts.

I. Discern a Wolf's Character

- A. No submission to authority (v.10)
- B. No substance in their speech (v.10)
- C. No truth in their teaching (v.10)
- D. No self-control of their passions (v.12)
- E. No purity in their minds (v.15)

II. Discern a Wolf's Teaching

- A. They teach with the wrong motive (v.11)
- B. They teach the wrong doctrine (v.14)
 - a. Jewish Myths
 - b. Man-centered works-based righteousness

III. Discern the Danger of Wolves

- A. They are homewreckers (v.11)

IV. Summary of Wolves

- A. They deny God by their works (v.16)
- B. They are detestable (v.16)
- C. They are disobedient (v.16)
- D. They are disqualified (v.16)

V. The Duty of Shepherds

- A. Silence the Wolves (v.11)
- B. Rebuke the Wolves (v.13)

VI. The Duty of the Flock

- A. Don't listen to wolves
- B. Don't be like the wolves
- C. Pray for and trust your God-given shepherds

TO DISCUSS WITH FAMILY OR FRIENDS:

1. Based upon the description of a wolf's character and teaching, who are some false teachers today?
2. What are some things you can do to increase your ability to discern false teaching and false teachers?

FOR NEXT TIME—Read Titus 2:1-6, *A Mature, Multi-Generational Church*