

Titus 3:1–2

Title: Seven Practices for Godly Living

Big Idea: Paul recognizes that the Cretans were (in a lot of ways) products of their culture, so he commands Titus to keep the Cretan believers accountable to living godly lives that will contrast the sin-dominated culture in which they lived.

Introduction: Rebuking Sin-Dominated Cultures

- I. Godly Living in the Civic Realm (vs. 1a)
 1. Submit to Civil Authorities
 2. Be Obedient
- II. Godly Living in the Social Realm (vs. 1b–2)
 1. Be Ready for Any Good Work
 2. Speak Evil of (blaspheme/slander) No One
 3. Be gentle (gracious/kind)
 4. Show courtesy to all people.

Conclusion: The Power of the Grace of God for Broken People.

“[Titus] is to function in a community of which one of their own people said, “Cretans are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons” (1:12), a testimony with which Paul evidently agrees. In that situation it would seem that neither Paul nor Titus had a moment’s hesitation about establishing the church. The letter is clear evidence that the Christian church is not intended to function only in cozy, respectable, middle-class environments. The gospel is for the most unpromising of people.” (An Introduction to the New Testament, 583–584).