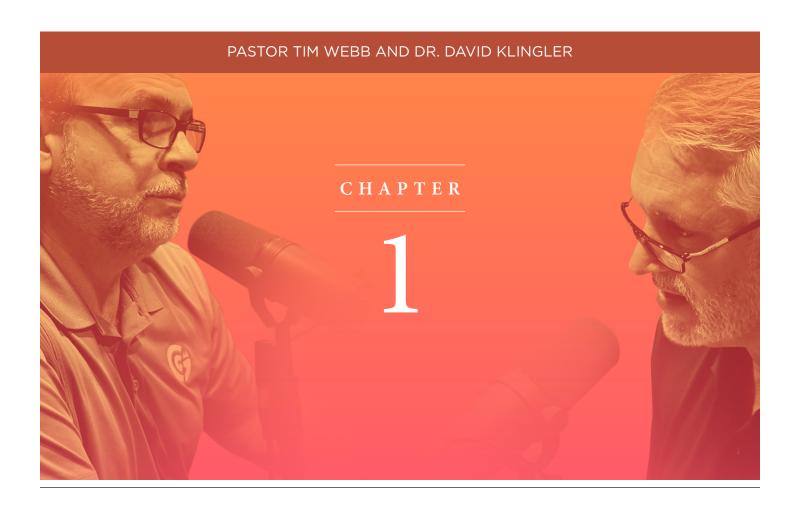


STUDY GUIDE



THE BOOK OF

TITUS

Instruction About Godly Living



If you are new to the Story of the Bible or would like to review the Story: Listen to the following TMTB Podcasts:

The Story: Understanding the "Big Story" (30 min)

Old Testament: Walk Through the Broad Story (27 min)

Timeline: New Testament Beginnings (35 min)

Letters: Paul's Writing to the Churches-Part 1 (30 min)

REVIEW

In order to address the problem of false teachers on the island of Crete who are upsetting whole families by teaching things for sordid gain that ought not to be taught, Paul leaves Titus in Crete.

Titus is to do the following:

- 1) appoint qualified elders in every city who are to exhort in sound doctrine and refute those who contradict (Titus 1:5-16) and
- 2) teach sound doctrine himself to all in the church (2:1-15) and remind them of why they are to hold fast to these things (3:1-11).

Once Titus's work on Crete is done, he is to return to Paul (3:12-15).



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Listen to the Titus 1 podcast.

TUESDAY

The first of several "hina" clauses (Gr. ἴνα) that are found throughout Paul's letter to Titus is found in 1:5. The word is translated "so that" or "in order that." Look at the following verses: 1:5, 9, 13; 2:4, 5, 8, 10, 12, 14; 3:7, 8, 13, 14. Notice what precedes the clause as well as what follows it. In 1:5, the reason that Paul left Titus in Crete was "so that" he would set in order what remained (i.e., appoint elders in every city, teach, and finish Paul's instruction).

In 1:9, why must the overseer be above reproach...holding fast to the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching?

What are the implications of an overseer not being above reproach and not knowing the faithful word which is accordance with the teaching?

The ability to exhort in sound doctrine and refute those who contradict is core to the responsibility of and overseer.



WEDNESDAY

In Titus 1:13, Paul instructs Titus to "reprove them severely so that they may be sound in the faith." In 2:15, Paul again instructs Titus to "speak these things and exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one disregard you." In our culture today, fear of offending leads to not speaking the truth. For Paul, love is sound doctrine. Not speaking sound doctrine is not love.

Take another look at Ephesians 4:14. Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers were given to the church by Christ for the equipping of the saints.

Read 4:11-14 and then read Ephesians 4:15.

Do you see how "reprove them severely" and "speaking the truth in love" go hand in hand?



THURSDAY

In Titus 1:10-11, Paul explains to Titus that the false teachers (i.e., "rebellious men, empty talkers and deceivers, especially of the circumcision") mut be "silenced." The first word of verse 10 is "for."

| especially of the circumcision") mut be "silenced." The first word of verse 10 is "for." |
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| How does Paul intend for what he says in 1:5-9 to address the situation? |
| "Silenced" seems harsh. Is it? |
| Who is being affected by these false teachers? |
| Who is Paul protecting? |
| Who are the elders to be protecting? |
| From whom are the elders protecting? |
| How are the elders protecting? |
| Why are they able to protect? |



FRIDAY

In Titus 1:11, Paul explains the motivation of the false teachers. Greed seems to be a consistent theme for the false teachers.

Read 2 Peter 2:1-3, 12-16 and Jude 16-20.

Read Ezekiel 13.

According to these passages, what are some common characteristics of false teachers?