

## FELLOWSHIP NOTES ~ MARCH 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022



### Part 3: “Dealing with the Danger of the Deceptive”

Titus 1:10-16

**This passage gives us the answers to the key questions in dealing with those who are deceptive in the church:**

1. What Are They Like? 1:10-12 (2 Peter 2:1-3; Rom. 16:17-18; Acts 20:29-30)

They are...

- 1.) Rebellious - vs. 10
- 2.) Empty talkers - vs. 10
- 3.) Deceivers - vs. 10
- 4.) Dishonest and greedy - vs. 11
- 5.) Disgraceful - vs. 12

2. What Should Be Done? 1:11, 13-14

They should be...

- 1.) Silenced - vs. 13
- 2.) Rebuked - vs. 14

3. What is the Final Word about the Deceptive False Teachers? 1:15-16

False teachers are...

- 1.) Spiritually Corrupt - so do not listen to them – vs. 15
- 2.) Completely Deceived - so do not follow them – vs. 16



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## Growth Group Study Guide for March 20<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>

### Announcements

1. On Sunday morning we kicked off our monthlong preparation for our Easter weekend outreach services coming up April 15<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>. Please continue praying for people God wants you to invite and pray for our services that many will come to faith in Christ. Please also include these in your group prayer time each week in the next month.
  
2. Our first prayer summit of the year is Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 – 1:00 at Wesley Woods near Lake Ahquabi. Don't miss the many spiritual blessings that are sure to be experienced as we come together to seek the Lord. This will a unique summit so sign up on your C. Card, the APP, or our website. By the way, it's FREE!

### Getting Started

Group Discussion #1: Have you ever been deceived by someone or something that was presented one way but turned out to be another? What happened?

Group Discussion #2. It was noted on Sunday morning that danger to the church often comes from within the church, from false teachers. What might be the reasons for this?

### Digging Deeper

1. Introduction: Paul left Titus in Crete to complete unfinished business which included appointing elders. Titus 1:6-9 listed the qualifications for elders. The elders needed to be people of strong moral character, not easily provoked, not greedy for money, but above reproach, just and holy. They needed to manage their own households well before they could become overseers of God's household. Elders needed to be able teachers who could instruct the faithful with sound doctrine. They also needed to be capable defenders of the faith against the enemies of God. Sound doctrine is important for dealing with deceptive leaders who seek to lead with and teach false doctrines in the church.

Read Titus 1:10-16. The reason for verse nine's qualification for sound teaching is seen in verse 10 as well as the rest of the chapter. How did Paul describe the people who were opposing sound doctrine in verses 10-12 (the false teachers)? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. What needed to happen to the false teachers? How do you silence someone? What impact were the false teachers having on some of the people of Crete? What were the false teachers teaching? What was their motivation? (1:11) \_\_\_\_\_

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3. A Cretan prophet, Epimenides (6th to 5th century B. C.), said that “Cretans are always liars, evil beasts and lazy gluttons.” Paul gave his “Amen” to this statement. What insight does this give us into the general culture of the Cretans? In response to this truth, what was Titus told to do? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. The false teachers professed to know God with their words. How can false teachers be identified, based on verse 16? What else was true of these false teachers? What did Paul mean when he called them “detestable”? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Who should confront false teachers? Based on Titus 1:10-16, why is sound doctrine important? \_\_\_\_\_

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### Conclusion:

History has proven that the church of Jesus Christ will always have to deal with the danger of the deceptive in our local churches. Christ has made it clear that the church’s leaders (pastors, elders), are to be on point of taking care of this task. However, it doesn’t seem that this is a task *only* for church leadership. What do you think you can do as a member of Fellowship to guard against the danger of deceptive leaders and false teaching/doctrine from rising up in our fellowship?

### Wrapping Up

Close in prayer asking God to guard our church against the deceptive and from false doctrine. Pray also for our Easter Services.