

A Truthful Word from the God  
who Never Lies  
Titus 1

Pastor Brandon D. Myers

# Titus 1:

**Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness, <sup>2</sup> in the hope of eternal life that God, who cannot lie, promised before time began...**

**...<sup>3</sup> In his own time he has revealed his word in the preaching with which I was entrusted by the command of God our Savior: <sup>4</sup>To Titus, my true son in our common faith.**

**Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior...**

**...<sup>5</sup> The reason I left you in Crete was to set right what was left undone and, as I directed you, to appoint elders in every town.<sup>6</sup> An elder must be blameless, the husband of one wife, with faithful children who are not accused of wildness or rebellion...**

**...<sup>7</sup> As an overseer of God's household, he must be blameless, not arrogant, not hot-tempered, not an excessive drinker, not a bully, not greedy for money,<sup>8</sup> but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, righteous, holy, self-controlled,<sup>9</sup> holding to the faithful message as taught, so that he will be able both to encourage with sound teaching and to refute those who contradict it...**

**...<sup>10</sup> For there are many rebellious people, full of empty talk and deception, especially those from the circumcision party. <sup>11</sup> It is necessary to silence them; they are ruining entire households by teaching what they shouldn't in order to get money dishonestly...**

**... <sup>12</sup> One of their very own prophets said, “Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.” <sup>13</sup> This testimony is true. For this reason, rebuke them sharply, so that they may be sound in the faith <sup>14</sup> and may not pay attention to Jewish myths and the commands of people who reject the truth...**

**<sup>15</sup> To the pure, everything is pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; in fact, both their mind and conscience are defiled. <sup>16</sup> They claim to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, and unfit for any good work.**

**Titus 1**

...let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us ***run with endurance the race*** that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus the founder and perfecter of our faith who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

(Hebrews 12:1-2)

***Fight the good fight*** of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

(1 Timothy 6:12)

For ***our struggle*** is not against flesh and blood,  
but against the rulers, against the powers,  
against the world forces of this darkness, against  
the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly  
places.

(Ephesians 6:12)

But refuse godless myths fit only for old women.  
On the other hand, ***train yourself*** for the purpose  
of godliness, for bodily training is only of little  
profit, but godliness is profitable for all things,  
since it holds promise for the present life  
and *also* for the *life* to come.

(1 Timothy 4:7-8)

*“People do not drift toward holiness. Apart from grace-driven effort, people do not gravitate toward godliness, prayer, obedience to Scripture, faith, and delight in the Lord. We drift toward compromise and call it tolerance; we drift toward disobedience and call it freedom; we drift toward superstition and call it faith. We cherish the indiscipline of lost self-control and call it relaxation; we slouch toward prayerlessness and delude ourselves into thinking we have escaped legalism; we slide toward godlessness and convince ourselves we have been liberated.” —Dr. D.A. Carson, Church Elder & NT Scholar*

*“You may have sought and tried to obtain instant godliness. There is no such thing...we want somebody to give us three easy steps to godliness, and we’ll take them next Friday and be godly. The trouble is, godliness doesn’t come that way.” -Jay Adams*

*“True Gospel preaching does not decry holy living; nay, it sets up the highest possible standard and declares the way to reach it.”*

–Charles Haddon Spurgeon

1. Titus powerfully shows us we do not work *for* God's grace but *from, in, and under* God's grace in Christ.

2. Titus concisely calls us to rightly and diligently pursue godly order through truth to God's glory.

3. Titus accurately details what those who oppose God's truth are like and why they must be rebuked.

# 1. A God-centered Greeting

a. From God who promised eternal life and ***never lies***.

**Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness,<sup>2</sup> in *the hope of eternal life* that *God, who cannot lie, promised before time began...***

**(Titus 1:1-2)**

**“*God is not a man, that He should lie*, Nor  
a son of man, that He should repent; Has  
He said, and will He not do it? Or has He  
spoken, and will He not make it good?**

(Numbers 23:19)

Also ***the Eternal One of Israel will not lie***  
or have regret; for He is not a man that He  
should have regret.”

(1 Samuel 15:29)

# 1. A God-centered Greeting

b. Through Paul who was Christ's apostle and **God's slave.**

**Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ,** for the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness,  
(Titus 1:1)

# 1. A God-centered Greeting

c. For God's elect who become more godly by **the truth**

**Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, *for the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness,***

**Titus**

Sanctify them in the truth; ***Your Word is truth.***  
(John 17:17)

You therefore, beloved, ***knowing this***  
beforehand, be on your guard so that you are  
not carried away by the error of unprincipled  
men and fall from your own steadfastness, 18  
but ***grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord  
and Savior Jesus Christ.*** To Him be the glory,  
both now and to the day of eternity. Amen (2  
Peter 3:17-18)

# 1. A God-centered Greeting

d. To Titus who was Paul's true son in the **same faith**

## 2. An Elders High Calling

a. A qualified man who is **faithful in his family life**

...<sup>5</sup> The reason I left you in Crete was to set right what was left undone and, as I directed you, to appoint elders in every town.<sup>6</sup> *An elder must be blameless, the husband of one wife, with faithful children who are not accused of wildness or rebellion...* (Titus 1:5-6)

## 2. An Elders High Calling

b. God's steward with ***consistently honorable self-control***

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*“A steward is a “household manager,” someone with official responsibility over the master’s servants, property, and even finances. Elders are stewards of God’s household, the local church. Elders are also called “overseers,” which signifies that they supervise and manage the church.” –Alexander Strauch*

## 2. An Elder's High Calling

c. A man who clings to and is **courageous with God's Word**

He must ***hold firm to the trustworthy word*** as taught, so that he may be able to ***give instruction in sound doctrine*** and also to ***rebuke those who contradict it.***

(Titus 1:9 ESV)

*“According to Paul's required qualifications for eldership, a prospective elder must have enough knowledge of the Bible to be able to refute false teachers.” - Alexander Strauch*

*“The pastor ought to have two voices: one, for gathering the sheep; and another, for warding off and driving away wolves and thieves. The Scripture supplies him with the means of doing both.” -John Calvin*

### 3. A Difficult Ministry Context

- a. Many were **works-based rebels promoting Jewish myths.**
- b. Many needed **biblical rebuke for specific popular sins.**
- c. Many declared **God but denied Him by their deeds.**

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... <sup>12</sup> One of their very own prophets said, “Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.” <sup>13</sup> This testimony is true.

*For this reason, rebuke them sharply, so that they may be sound in the faith* <sup>14</sup> and may not pay attention to Jewish myths and the commands of *people who reject the truth...*

**15** To the pure, everything is pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; in fact, both their mind and conscience are defiled. **16** ***They claim to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, and unfit for any good work.***

**(Titus 1:15-16)**

*“Keep the Word of God and the Word of God will keep you.”* -Charles Haddon Spurgeon

*“Apart from God’s truth, all change is paper thin, a sham that will not stand the pressures of life.” -Jay Adams*

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