**The Epistle of Paul to Titus**

**Titus Chapter 1**

1Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ[[1]](#footnote-23508) for *building up* the trust of God’s chosen ones and their knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness, 2in hope of life in the age *to come*, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began, 3but *now* at the proper time he has revealed his word through the preaching that I was entrusted with by the command of God our Savior. 4To Titus, my true child with respect to *our* common faith:[[2]](#footnote-13103) Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

5For this reason I left you in Crete, so that you would set in order the things that were lacking and appoint elders in every city as I directed you— 6if anyone is blameless, the husband of one wife, having children who believe *and* who are not accused of reckless actions or rebelliousness. 7For the overseer, as a manager of God’s household, must be blameless, not arrogant, not quick-tempered, not an excessive drinker, not violent, not eager for dishonorable gain, 8but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, righteous, pure, self-controlled, 9holding firmly to the faithful word as he has been taught, so that he will be able both to encourage *others* by *his* sound doctrine and to refute those who oppose it.

10For there are many who are rebellious, *who are* empty talkers and deceivers, especially those from among the Circumcised, 11whose mouths must be stopped, who are overthrowing whole houses by teaching things that they should not *teach* for the sake of dishonorable gain. 12One of them, one of their own prophets, said, “Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.” 13This testimony is true. For this reason, reprove them sharply so that they come to be sound in the faith 14instead of paying attention to Jewish myths or the commandments of people who turn away from the truth.

15To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure, but both their mind and their conscience are defiled. 16They claim to know God, but by their works they deny him, being detestable and disobedient and unfit for every good work.

**Titus Chapter 2**

1But *as for* you, speak *only* what is consistent with sound doctrine. 2Older men are to be clear-minded, dignified, sensible, sound in the faith, in love, in endurance. 3Likewise, older women are to be reverent in their demeanor, not slanderers, nor slaves to *drinking* much wine, teachers of that which is good, 4so that they can instruct the young women to be lovers of their husbands, lovers of their children, 5sensible, pure, caring for their household, kind, submitting to their own husbands, so that the word of God is not defamed.

6Likewise, encourage the younger men to be sensible 7in all things. Show yourself to be an example of good works, with integrity in your teaching, dignity, 8*and* sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us.

9Slaves are to submit to their own masters in all things, doing what is wanted without being argumentative, 10not pilfering, but showing complete faithfulness *in that which is* good,[[3]](#footnote-14434) so that in all things they make the doctrine of God our Savior attractive.

11For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, 12instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts and to live sensibly and righteously and godly in this present age, 13while we wait for the blessed hope, the appearing of our great God and Savior’s glory—Jesus Christ,[[4]](#footnote-28476) 14who gave himself up for us in order to redeem us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a special people, zealous for good works. 15Continue to speak these things, and continue to exhort and reprove with full authority. Let no one look down on you.

**Titus Chapter 3**

1Remind them to submit to rulers *and* to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, 2to not slander anyone, not to be quarrelsome, to be reasonable, showing all meekness toward all people. 3For we ourselves were also at one time senseless, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful *and* hating one another. 4But when the kindness and benevolence of God our Savior appeared, 5he saved us, not because of righteous works that we ourselves did, but on the basis of his mercy, through the washing of a new beginning and renewal by the holy spirit, 6which he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ[[5]](#footnote-19216) our Savior, 7so that, since we have been declared righteous by his grace, we became heirs with the hope of life in the age *to come*. 8This statement is trustworthy, and I want you to strongly insist on these things, so that those who have believed God will be intent on applying themselves to good works. These things are good and profitable for people.

9But avoid foolish speculations and genealogies and strife and fighting about the law, for they are unprofitable and pointless. 10Have nothing to do with a divisive person after admonishing *him* a first and second *time*, 11knowing that such a person has gone astray and is sinning; he is self-condemned.

12When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicus, make every effort to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. 13Do everything you can to help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey, so that they lack nothing. 14And let our people also learn to apply themselves to good works for pressing needs, so that they are not unfruitful. 15All who are with me greet you. Greet those who are our friends in the faith. Grace be with you all.

1. Lit. “the Anointed One” [↑](#footnote-ref-23508)
2. “Faith” refers to the Christian Faith. [↑](#footnote-ref-13103)
3. Or “all good faithfulness” [↑](#footnote-ref-14434)
4. Lit. “the Anointed One” [↑](#footnote-ref-28476)
5. Lit. “the Anointed One” [↑](#footnote-ref-19216)