

Series: Sound Doctrine

SET IN ORDER THE THINGS THAT ARE WANTING TITUS 1:1-5

Text: Titus 1:5

Titus 1:5

⁵ For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:

Introduction:

This letter that Paul writes to Titus his son in the ministry gives him instructions concerning the needs in the church at Crete. Paul lets Titus know that there were things that needed to be set in order.

He deals first with the qualifications of elders, bishops, or pastors.

He then deals with error in the church.

One way to prevent error in the church is to have a pastor who is able by sound doctrine to exhort and convince as Paul stated in verse 9:

Titus 1:9

⁹ Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

In dealing with this error in the church Paul states:

Sermon Content:

1. THE MANIFESTATION OF FALSE TEACHERS (vs.10-13)

Titus 1:10-13

¹⁰ For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision: ¹¹ Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake. ¹² One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are alway liars, evil beasts, slow bellies. ¹³ This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;

Note Paul said this isn't a rumor being spread from an enemy but a prophet of their own stated these problems.

Note these problems:

A. Unruly (vs. 10)

Titus 1:10

¹⁰ For there are many **unruly** and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision:

B. Vain talkers (vs. 10)

Titus 1:10

¹⁰ For there are many unruly and **vain talkers** and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision:

C. Deceivers (vs. 10)

Titus 1:10

¹⁰ For there are many unruly and vain talkers and **deceivers**, specially they of the circumcision:

D. Liars (vs. 12)

Titus 1:12

¹² One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are always **liars**, evil beasts, slow bellies.

E. Lawless (Evil beasts) (vs. 12)

Titus 1:12

¹² One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are always liars, **evil beasts**, slow bellies.

F. Lazy (Slow bellies) (vs. 12)

Titus 1:12

¹² *One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, **slow bellies**.*

Instead of living in a Christ like manner they lived in a carnal manner.

These people were not only beast but evil beast.

They were living as celebrities instead of servants.

Paul summed up their character in verse 16.

Titus 1:16

¹⁶ *They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.*

In other words talk is cheap.

Our walk should match our talk.

We note not only Manifestation of these False Teachers, but note secondly:

2. THE MOTIVES OF FALSE TEACHERS (VS. 10-11)

Titus 1:10-11

¹⁰ For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision: ¹¹ Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.

What motivates their actions?

A. They are greedy (vs. 11)

Titus 1:11

¹¹ Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.

They subvert entire houses or families utilizing false teaching.

They were not ministering, but using religion to fill their pocket.

We see a lot of this behavior being broadcast over the airways today.

Not only is greed one of their motives behind their actions but also note:

B. Their mind and conscience had been defiled

Titus 1:15

¹⁵ Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.

These teachers love of money caused them to teach false doctrine and live false lives, and the result was a defiled conscience that did not convict them.

Again, we see a lot of this type of behavior happening today.

We have considered the Manifestation of these False Teachers, and the Motives of False Teachers note lastly:

3. THE MESSAGE TO THE FALSE TEACHERS

Titus was not to stand quietly by and let them take over.

Too often today we stand silent not wanting to be labeled as disagreeable or not getting along with people.

Note the instructions Paul gives to Titus.

A. He was to exhort and convince by means of sound doctrine (vs. 9)

Titus 1:9

⁹ Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

The words “holding fast” means to hold onto firmly to cleave to.

The Word of God is worthy of trust.

These gainsayers speak against the truth.

Paul says they are too dealt with two ways:

- Exhort – to give aid, help or comfort, encouragement
- Convince – to prove they are wrong

Though sound doctrine might be flashy it is still needed today.

B. Paul states that their mouths must be stopped. (vs. 11)

Titus 1:11

¹¹ Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole

houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.

1. He was to rebuke them

Titus 1:13

¹³ This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;

Paul gave the same counsel to Timothy.

2 Timothy 4:2

² Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

There are many today who been distracted, discouraged, and even destroyed by these type of people.

Sadly whole houses had been subverted

Close:

We must be growing and maturing as a Christian and as a Church.

False doctrine is like yeast: it enters secretly; it grows quickly, and permeates completely.

Remember what we read in Galatians 5:

Galatians 5:9

⁹A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.

Sadly the attitude of some is that “It makes no difference what you believe, just as long as you believe something.

Paul would not agree with that foolish philosophy.

The truth is that you can believe what you want to believe, but you cannot change the consequences.