

## *Titus*

<sup>1</sup> Paul, God's slave, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's chosen ones, and the knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness, <sup>2</sup>in hope of eternal life, which God who cannot lie promised before eternal times; <sup>3</sup>and at the proper time he revealed his message in the preaching which has been entrusted to me, according to the commandment of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>to Titus, my true child according to the common faith: grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

<sup>5</sup>Because of this, I left you in Crete that you might set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city, as I had charged you: <sup>6</sup>if any is blameless, the husband of one wife, having believing children, not accused of debauchery or disobedience. <sup>7</sup>An overseer, God's trustee, must be blameless, not self-willed, not prone to anger, not given to wine, not quick-tempered, not given to shameful gain, <sup>8</sup>but hospitable, a lover of goodness, sensible, upright, holy, self-controlled, <sup>9</sup>firmly holding the reliable message, according to the teaching, that he may be able both to encourage by wholesome teaching, and to correct the ones who contradict.

<sup>10</sup>There are many unruly deceivers who talk idly, especially of the circumcision, <sup>11</sup>whom it is necessary to silence. They overturn whole houses, teaching for shameful gain things which are not allowed. <sup>12</sup>A certain one of their own prophets said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, idle gluttons." <sup>13</sup>This testimony is true, so rebuke them sharply, that they may be healthy in the faith, <sup>14</sup>not clinging to Jewish myths and commandments of men who are turning away from the truth.

<sup>15</sup>All things are pure to those who are pure, but nothing is pure to the unbelieving and defiled. Both their mind and conscience are defiled. <sup>16</sup>They profess that they know God, but in works they deny him, being detestable and disobedient and unfit for any good work.

**2** But you speak the things which befit healthful teaching: <sup>2</sup>that the elderly men be clear-headed, reverent, sensible, healthy in the faith, in love, and in patient endurance; <sup>3</sup>that the elderly women likewise be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not enslaved to much wine, teachers of things honorable; <sup>4</sup>that they train the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, <sup>5</sup>to be sensible, pure, keepers of the home, good, obedient to their own husbands, so that God's message be not slandered. <sup>6</sup>Encourage the younger men to be sensible.

<sup>7</sup>Make yourself a model of noble deeds in everything. In teaching display soundness, reverence, <sup>8</sup>wholesome speech that is above criticism, in order that the opponent will be ashamed, having nothing bad to say about us.

<sup>9</sup>Encourage slaves to be in subjection to their own masters in everything, to be well-pleasing, not talking back, <sup>10</sup>not stealing; but displaying all good faithfulness, that they may adorn the teaching of God our Savior in all things.

<sup>11</sup>The saving grace of God has been revealed to all men, <sup>12</sup>instructing us that we should deny irreverence and worldly lusts, and live sensibly, uprightly, and reverently in this present world, <sup>13</sup>looking for the blessed hope and the glorious appearance of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup>who gave himself in our behalf, that he might set us free from all lawlessness, and purify for himself a special people, zealous of noble deeds.

<sup>15</sup>Speak these things, and encourage, and correct with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

**3** Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities; to obey; to be ready for every good work; <sup>2</sup>to speak hurtfully of no one; to be peaceable and considerate, showing all gentleness to all men. <sup>3</sup>We ourselves formerly were foolish, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to lusts and various pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. <sup>4</sup>But when God our Savior revealed his kindness and love for

man, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not by works of righteousness which we had done, but according to his mercy, through the bath of the new birth and the renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup>whom he has richly poured out on us through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>in order that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

<sup>8</sup>This saying is reliable, and I want you to speak confidently on these things, that those who have believed in God might busy themselves in good works. These are honorable and profitable to men; but shun foolish questions and genealogies and strife and contentions about the law, for they are harmful and futile. <sup>10</sup>After a first and second warning, keep away from a factious man, <sup>11</sup>knowing that such a one is perverted and sins, being self-condemned.

<sup>12</sup>When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicus, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. <sup>13</sup>Do your best to help Zenas the attorney and Apollos on their way, so that they lack nothing. <sup>14</sup>Let our people learn to busy themselves in good works for pressing needs, that they be not unfruitful.

<sup>15</sup>All those with me greet you. Greet the ones who love us in faith. Grace be with all of you.