

TITUS 3

1. How do we know if someone is a true teacher of the Word of God?

-First, their teaching is according to the Word of God.

-Second, they live their lives according to the Word of God.

2. If the teaching of the Word of God is not strong, then what will happen to the church and the faith of the people?

-They will suffer.

3. Should we teach only on Sunday and only in a church building?

-No.

-We should teach at all times and at all places.

4. How do we know that God has work for the older men in the church?

-If God did not have work for them, then He would take them to be with Him in heaven.

5. Why is it important for the older men in the church to be a good example?

-Because many people watch them.

-Because they can encourage many people by their example.

6. Whom do the younger women and the children watch for an example?

-The older women of the church.

7. What is one of the main works of the older women in the church?

-To teach the younger women.

8. When should the older women teach the younger women?

-Throughout the day when they are working or visiting or on their way to market.

9. What is the best way for a mother to love her children?

-To teach them about God.

10. What does it mean that younger women and all Christians should be taught so that no one will malign the Word of God?

-When Christians are not taught and disobey God by sinning, the rest of the world will see our sins and think that God and His Word have no power in our lives.

11. Why does the Word of God talk about self control when no one except for God is more powerful than sin?

-This is because self-control is one of the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

-It is God the Holy Spirit who gives us self control so that we can choose not to sin.

Let's read Titus 2:7a

7-In everything set them an example by doing what is good.

-As we learned in the last lesson, a good teacher is one who teaches and lives his life according to the Word of God.

-To live one's life according to the Word of God is the best example of doing what is good.

-Older men need to be good examples for younger men, and older women need to be good examples for younger women.

-If someone teaches, but does not live according to the Word of God, he is a hypocrite.

-A hypocrite is someone who teaches or says something with his mouth, but lives his life much differently.

-When Jesus lived on the earth, He never became angry except at the money changers in the temple and the hypocrites, the Jewish leaders.

-In Matthew 15:7-8, Jesus said this to the Pharisees:

-“You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you: ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.’”

-In Matthew 23:15, Jesus said this to the scribes and

Pharisees:

-“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You travel over land and sea to win a single convert, and when you have succeeded, you make them twice as much a child of hell as you are.”

-If you are a teacher of the Word of God, you cannot be a hypocrite.

-You must live your life according to the Word of God that you are teaching.

-This is because a good teacher of the Word of God must set a good example.

-Paul spoke to the Christians at Philippi about his example:

-“Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do” (Pp 3:17)

-Paul told the Christians at Thessalonica that he worked hard to offer himself as an example:

-“We worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you to imitate” (2 Thes 3:8-9).

-Paul not only taught the Word of God, but also worked hard to offer an example for everyone to imitate or follow.

-While some non-Christians may not listen to the teaching of the Word of God, they will see the good example of a good life that a good teacher will live.

-It was also important for Titus to be a good example as he was in Crete to teach the new Christians so that some could become elders.

Let's read Titus 2:7b-8

7-In your teaching show integrity, seriousness,
8-and soundness of speech that cannot be
condemned, so that those who oppose you may be
ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

-In the first part of verse 7, we learn that we are to be a good example.

-Now, in the second part of verse 7 and verse 8, we learn that our teaching should show integrity, seriousness, and soundness of speech.

-The Word of God is more powerful than anything else in all of eternity.

-There is nothing that can save us from eternal death except for the Word of God.

-Therefore, we must be careful how we teach God's Word.

-God wants us to teach His Word in integrity.

-This means that God wants us to keep His Word pure without changing His Word.

-When Satan tempted Eve in the garden, he changed the Word of God

-In Genesis 3:1, we read this:

-"[Satan] said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

-God did not say that Adam and Even could not eat from any tree in the garden.

-Rather, God said that there was only one tree in the garden from which they could not eat.

-By this little change in the Word of God, sin and death came to all people.

-Even a little change in the Word of God is wrong and will hurt us.

-This is why God wants us to teach His Word in integrity.

-God also wants us to teach His Word in seriousness.

-This means that we should teach the Word of God with great respect.

-When we meet God in heaven, we will all kneel down before Him (Is 45:23).

-For Christians, we will kneel down before Him in great respect because He has saved us from eternal death.

-For non-Christians, they will also kneel down before Him in great respect, yet also in great shame and great regret.

-Because God and His Word are one, we should always teach His Word with great respect.

-If the Word of God is not taught with respect, it will be difficult for people to respect God.

-God also wants us to teach His Word with soundness of speech that cannot be condemned.

-This means that our teaching of the Word of God should be completely from God Himself so that people will not be able to answer.

-While the Pharisees were together, Jesus asked them this: “What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?”

-After the Pharisees answered and Christ asked a second question, the Pharisees could not say a word in reply (Mt 22:46).

-When Jesus healed a man on the Sabbath which was against the law of the Pharisees, He asked them this question:

-“If one of you has a child or an ox that falls into a well on the Sabbath day, will you not immediately pull it out?” (Lk 14:5).

-The Pharisees and the teachers of the law could not answer and had nothing to say.

-When the Pharisees wanted to stone a woman who had been caught in adultery, Jesus said this to them:

-“Let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!” (Jn 8:7).

-Because the Pharisees had no answer, they walked away one by one until they were gone.

-If our teaching of the Word of God is with soundness of speech and completely from God Himself, no one should be able to answer or condemn that which we have taught.

-If our teaching is with soundness of speech, “those who oppose us will be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.”

-Whenever we teach the Word of God, there will be people who oppose us or argue with us.

-When Christ taught, He had many people who opposed Him and who argued with Him.

-Most of the people who opposed Christ and argued with Him were the Pharisees who were the religious leaders.

-Christ is the Word of God, and He only taught the Word of God which is truth.

-Even though Jesus only taught truth, there were people who opposed Him and argued with Him.

-Even though the Pharisees crucified Christ, they could never prove that the truths that He taught were wrong.

-No one can ever prove that the truths of Christ are wrong.

-There are only two responses to teaching the truths of the Word of God.

-One response is to accept the truth and to believe.

-The other response is to reject the truth, after which people may try to hurt you for your teaching.

-As teachers of the Word of God, it is not our work to cause people to believe.

-It is only God's work to cause people to believe.

-It is, however, our work as teachers to teach in soundness of speech, that is, completely the Word of God.

-How can we teach in soundness of speech?
-By asking God to teach through us.

-This is the example of our Jesus.

-In John 7:16, Jesus talks about His teaching:

-“My teaching is not my own. It comes from the one who sent me.”

-In John 8:28, our Jesus said this:

-“When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he and that I do nothing on my own but speak just what the Father has taught me.”

-In John 14:24, here is what Christ said:

-“These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.”

-In John 12:49-50, Jesus said this:

-“For I did not speak on my own, but the Father who sent me commanded me to say all that I have spoken. I know

that his command leads to eternal life. So whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say.”

-Just as the Father taught through Christ, Christ desires to teach through us.

-If we allow Christ to teach through us, then when people oppose our teaching, they are not opposing us, but rather God Himself and His Word.

Let's read Titus 3:8

8-This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.

-Coming to the end of the book Titus, we are reminded that God has saved us in order that He might use us to help others.

-When we become a Christian, we should not simply thank Christ for saving us, and then walk on our own separate path.

-Christ has saved us so that we might walk His path alongside of Him.

-When we become a Christian, we should not simply thank Christ for saving us, and then do our own work.

-Christ has saved us so that we might do His work.

-Christ has saved us so that we might live according to God's purposes and not our own purposes.

-As God tells us in Isaiah 55:9:

“As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

-This is the meaning of being careful to devote ourselves to doing what is good, what is excellent, and what is profitable for everyone.

-That we would allow God to save others through our teaching as well as through our lives.

Let's read Titus 3:9

9-But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless.

-There were many people in the churches in Crete who were causing problems.

-We know this from Titus 1:10:

“For there are many rebellious people, full of meaningless talk and deception, especially those of the

circumcision group.”

-These people, including Jews, brought into the churches foolish controversies and genealogies.

-This was a problem in the churches in Ephesus and in Crete.

-In 1 Timothy 1:3-4, God through Paul wrote this:

-“As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain people not to teach false doctrines any longer or to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies.”

-While genealogy was necessary to show that Christ was the Messiah of the line of David, the Jews were using genealogy to prove that God must accept them because they were of the line of Abraham.

-When the Pharisees told Jesus that Abraham was their father, here is what Jesus replied:

-“If you were Abraham’s children,” said Jesus, “then you would do what Abraham did” (Jn 8:39).

-It is not the line of physical birth in which we are born that saves us.

-It is the line of spiritual birth in which we are born that saves us, that is, the line of Christ.

-These people, including Jews, also brought into the churches arguments and quarrels about the law of Moses.

-They were teaching that Christians must be circumcised in order to be saved.

-These people were also teaching that Christians must follow the laws of Moses and other laws in order to be saved.

-No one can be saved by an act of the flesh.

-No one can be saved by keeping the laws of Moses or any other law.

-It is only the death of the Lord Jesus Christ which can save us.

-This was the reason that Paul went to Jerusalem after his first missionary journey.

-In Jerusalem and also in Crete, Christians who were also Jews said that the Gentiles must be circumcised and required to obey the law of Moses.

-In Jerusalem, it was Peter who stood up and said this:

-“Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear? No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved,

just as they are” (Ac 15:10-11).

-Even though the issues of circumcision and following the law of Moses were solved in Jerusalem, people in the church continued to cause problems in Crete and in other places.

-What should we do with foolish controversies, genealogies, arguments, and quarrels about the law?

-Avoid them because they are unprofitable and useless.

-Does everyone who asks questions about the Word of God want to believe in Christ?

-No.

-Some people ask foolish questions only to argue and cause problems.

-These are the people we should avoid.

Let's read Titus 3:10-11

10-Warn a divisive person once, and then warn them a second time. After that, have nothing to do with them.

11-You may be sure that such people are warped and sinful; they are self-condemned.

-The church is the family of God, and the family of God is one.

-This is why Satan and his demons try to destroy the church by dividing the family of God.

-If Satan can divide the family of God, this hurts the church very much.

-This is also why the Word of God teaches us that we are to warn the people who are trying to divide the church.

-If they refuse to stop after two warnings, they are to be put out of the church.

-However, if they repent after a time, then they should be accepted back into the church.

-We now come to the last words of the book of Titus:

Let's read Titus 3:15

15-Everyone with me sends you greetings. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all.

-Christians who were with Paul sent greetings to the Christians in Crete.

-Even though they had never met, they knew that they were brothers and sisters in Christ.

-All who believe in Christ are one family in the Lord Jesus.