

The Epistle of Paul to Titus – Chapter 1

- I. Greeting – vss.1-4
 - a. Paul – bondservant & apostle of Jesus Christ
 - i. According to
 1. The faith of God’s elect, and
 2. The acknowledgement of the truth which is in accordance with godliness
 - b. Eternal life promised before time began, but now manifested through preaching
 - c. To Titus, Paul’s true son in the common faith
 - d. Paul’s desire for grace, mercy and peace from God for Titus

- II. Purpose for which Paul left Titus in Crete – vs. 5
 - a. Set in order the things that are lacking
 - b. Appoint elders in every city

- III. Qualifications of elders (bishops) – vss.6-9
 - a. Blameless
 - b. Husband of one wife
 - c. Having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination
 - d. Not self-willed
 - e. Not quick-tempered
 - f. Not given to wine
 - g. Not greedy for money
 - h. Hospitable
 - i. Lover of what is good
 - j. Sober-minded
 - k. Just
 - l. Holy
 - m. Self-controlled
 - n. Holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught

- IV. The elders’ work as presented here – vss.6-11
 - a. Bishop = overseer
 - b. As a steward of God – v.7
 - c. By sound doctrine, exhort and convict those who contradict
 - i. Those who contradict described as ...
 1. insubordinate, idle talkers and deceivers, especially of the circumcision (who they are)
 2. ones who subvert whole households (their effect)
 3. ones who teach things they ought not for dishonest gain (their motivation)

V. Warnings about the false teachers – vss.12-16

- a. How Titus should deal with them
 - i. They should be rebuked sharply so that they may be sound in the faith
 - ii. They must not give heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men; these come from men who turn from the truth
- b. A description of them
 - i. Mind and conscience defiled
 - ii. Profess to know God but in works they deny Him
 - iii. Abominable, disobedient, disqualified for every good work

VI. Some take-aways

- a. Preaching & teaching should be according to
 - i. The faith
 - ii. The acknowledgement of the truth which is according to godliness
- b. The Lord wants Christians and local churches to be set in order
- c. The character of elders describes the character that every Christian should be transforming into
 - i. Transformation requires desire and effort, rooting out and building up, study and prayer, and repulsion of all that is against our transformation
- d. Error must be combatted with truth, the word of God
- e. Error in teaching is not just a theoretical thing; it overthrows faith. We practice what we believe. So it is very important that our belief be based upon the word of God alone.
- f. Culture has great influence. As Christians, we need to be resolved to stand apart, not conformed to the world but transformed by the renewing of our minds (Romans 12:2; Colossians 3:10; Philippians 2:5ff; 1 Peter 2:21-25)