

Titus: the Practice of Grace

Titus 1:1: Paul's Unique Apostleship

Review

- These three “Pastoral” epistles are really a trinity in unity, exhorting us to “guard” the precious “deposit” of the body of truth committed to the Apostle Paul.
- I Timothy—The local “Church” and its “Minister”
 - Charge: we are to protect it
- II Timothy—The True Minister and His Reactions
 - Challenge: we are to proclaim
- Titus—The Local Church—Its Leaders and Members
 - Caution: we are to practice it—a strong and urgent reminder that sound faith must be accompanied by good works

Review

- We presented the following outline for Titus:
- Chapter One: the church is to be an orderly organization (Titus 1:5)
 - Saved by Grace
- Chapter Two: the church is to teach and preach the word of God (Titus 2:1)
 - Live by Grace
- Chapter Three: the church is supposed to produce good works (Titus 3:1)
 - Grace motivates believers to produce good works

An Apostle of Christ

- According to *Strong's Concordance* the Greek word translated "servant" means:
 - a slave, bondman, man of servile condition
 - metaph., one who gives himself up to another's will those whose service is used by Christ in extending and advancing his cause among men
 - devoted to another to the disregard of one's own interests
- Revelation 6:15—Paul is the Lord's bondman or servant because he given an apostleship by revelation of Christ himself.
- Galatians 1:1—Paul was given his apostleship by the resurrected and ascended Christ from heaven's glory.

An Apostle of Christ

- Here is where the majority of professing Christendom makes a tremendous blunder in Bible study. They fail to recognize Christ has spoken again from heaven's glory to and through the Apostle Paul.
- Matthew 10:5-6—during in his earthly ministry Jesus Christ commissioned his 12 apostles and told them there were not to go to the gentiles.
- Matthew 15:24—Jesus himself was to Israel
 - John 1:11—“he came unto his own”
 - Matthew 1:21—“shall save his people from their sins”

An Apostle of Christ

- Luke 24:27—in carrying out the so-called Great Commission Peter and boys were told to start in Jerusalem.
 - Acts 1:8—there is a progression they were supposed to be following
- Acts 5:31
- Romans 11:13—Paul was given the office of the Apostle of the gentiles. Paul is commissioned and sent to very people whom the 12 were not sent to.
- Galatians 1:11-17

Faith of God's Elect

- Notice that Paul's servant relationship to God and his apostleship were given to him by Christ were "according to" or in line with "the faith of God's elect."
- Election in the Bible is not talking about chosen in advance for salvation against your will. Rather it is discussing be chosen to a position of service.
- Isaiah 42:1—who is God's elect in this verse?
- Ephesians 1:4—we are not elect or chosen for anything until we are in Christ. There is no election apart from being Christ.
- Romans 9:12—one is chosen to serve the other. This verse is not even speaking about salvation.
- Galatians 1:15—Paul was chosen to be the servant of God just like Titus 1:1 plainly states.

Acknowledging of the Truth Which is After Godliness

- The word “acknowledge” means recognition. In this case it is the recognition of the truth, which is after godliness.
- When Paul uses the word “truth” he is referring to the body of truth revealed through the revelation of the mystery for the current dispensation of grace.
 - I Timothy 2:4, 7, 3:15, 4:3, 6:5
 - II Timothy 2:15, 18, 25, 3:7-8, 4:4
 - Titus 1:14
- The Greek word translated godliness in this verse does not occur in Paul’s writings until we come to the Pastoral Epistles, and there it occurs 11 times.
 - I Timothy 2:2, 3:16, 4:7-8, 6:3, 5-6, 11
 - II Timothy 3:5

Acknowledging of the Truth Which is After Godliness

- This should not be a surprise since one of the main jobs of Timothy and Titus as leaders of a local church is going to be to stem the tide of Apostasy.
- Titus 2:11-12— it is Paul's message alone for the dispensation of Grace that can produce godliness in the lives of believers.