

Sunday, September 12, 2010—Titus: The Practice of Grace—Titus 2:6-8: Paul’s Instructions to Young Men

### Introduction/Review

- As you know over the past couple of weeks we have been looking at Paul’s instructions to four different groups within the local church.
  - Aged Men
  - Aged Women
  - Young Women
  - Young Men
- Paul’s instructions have been in the context of verse 1 and the things which become sound doctrine.
- This week we will turn our attention to Paul’s instructions to the young men.

### Titus 2:6

- ***“Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded.”***
- In this context “sober minded” means 1) to be of sound mind, 2) to be in one’s right mind, 3) to exercise self control
  - Matthew 5:15
  - Romans 12:3
- All four of these groups are instructed to be sober minded.
  - Aged Men—Titus 2:2
  - Aged Women—Titus 2:3
  - Young Women—Titus 2:4
- I Corinthians 2:16—once again sober thinking is rooted in sound doctrine. When we make decision and operate our life on the basis of sound doctrine we function with the mind of Christ.
- Whereas Paul instructed Titus to have the “aged women” teach the “younger women” in verses 4 and 5. In verse 6, Titus himself is supposed to teach the younger men.

### Titus 2:7

- ***“In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,”***
- *All Things*—how many things is this? All, every area in the life of a young man is to showing or demonstrating a pattern of good works.
- Titus himself is supposed to be a pattern for the young men to follow in these matters.

- *Pattern*— “An original or model proposed for imitation; the archetype; an exemplar; that which is to be copied or imitated, either in things or in actions; as the pattern of a machine; a pattern of patience. Christ was the most perfect pattern of rectitude, patience and submission ever exhibited on earth.” (*Webster’s 1828*)
  - I Corinthians 10:6-11—ensamples— “An example; a pattern or model for imitation.” (*Webster’s 1828*)
  - Philippians 3:17
  - I Thessalonians 1:7
  - I Timothy 4:2
- I Timothy 1:16—God established a pattern in Paul for who is was going to save mankind today. Likewise, “young men” are instructed to be a pattern of good works. The life and conduct of a “young man” ought to be something others seek to emulate.
- Ephesians 5:3
- *In Doctrine Shewing Uncorruptness*—“young men” are specifically instructed to maintain their doctrinal integrity. Just as women “aged” or “young” are supposed to be in behavior as becometh holiness that the word of God be not blasphemed, so are admonished to maintain and uncorrupted standing in the doctrine.
  - II Corinthians 2:17
  - II Corinthians 4:2
- II Timothy 2:2—it is important to remember how the doctrine is supposed to be passed on.
- *Gravity*-- the characteristic of a thing or person which entitles to reverence and respect, dignity, majesty, sanctity, 2) honour, purity (*Strong’s Concordance*)
- Titus 2:2—the “aged men” were also instructed to be grave— august, venerable, reverend, i.e. to be venerated for character, honourable (*Strong’s Concordance*).
- I Timothy 3:4—please recall the gravity was also one of the requirements for office of bishop/elder.
- I Timothy 2:2—once again connects the idea of gravity with that being honourable and honest.
- *Sincerity*— Honesty of mind or intention; freedom from simulation or hypocrisy. We may question a man's prudence, when we cannot question his sincerity. 2) Freedom from hypocrisy, disguise or false pretense (*Webster’s 1828*)
- The Greek word translated “sincerity” is found 8 times in 8 verses and is also translated:
  - incorruptible 4 times (I Corinthians 15:42-54)
  - immorality 2 times (Romans 2:7, II Timothy 1:10)

- sincerity 2 times (Ephesians 6:24)
- In the context, I believe that uncorruptness, gravity, and sincerity are all referring to the attitude and actions of “young men” in relation to the doctrines of Grace. Therefore, “young men” ought to conduct their lives in a sincere fashion or in corruptible fashion so as not to sully or tarnish the testimony of the doctrine.

### **Titus 2:8**

- ***“Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.”***
- *Sound Speech*—is pretty self explanatory.
- Ephesians 5:4
- Ephesians 4:29
- Matthew 12:34—what we say reveals the condition of our hearts.
- Ephesians 4:15
- II Timothy 2:25
- A young man’s speak ought to be such that it cannot be condemned.
- *That*—gives you the purpose and intent. The speech, doctrine, and conduct of young men should be such that it puts to shame those who oppose it.
- The issue here not that they won’t say evil things about you just that they won’t be doing so justly.
- Our lives should be lived according to Paul, so that no evil thing can be said about us.