

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

RICHARD COEKIN

'Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.' (1 Timothy 4:7-8 ESV)

- Welcome

- 'training'
 - a) 'godliness'

 - b) 'for the present life'

 - c) 'for the life to come'

 - 'training yourself for godliness'

TITUS 1: BEING BLAMELESS

HUGH PALMER

1 Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ for the faith of God's elect and the knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness—²a faith and knowledge resting on the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time, ³and at his appointed season he brought his word to light through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Saviour,

⁴To Titus, my true son in our common faith:

Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Saviour.

Titus' Task on Crete

⁵The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you. ⁶An elder must be blameless, the husband of but one wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. ⁷Since an overseer is entrusted with God's work, he must be blameless— not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not

pursuing dishonest gain. ⁸Rather he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self- controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. ⁹He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.

¹⁰For there are many rebellious people, mere talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision group. ¹¹They must be silenced, because they are ruining whole households by teaching things they ought not to teach— and that for the sake of dishonest gain. ¹²Even one of their own prophets has said, Cretans are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons. ¹³This testimony is true. Therefore, rebuke them sharply, so that they will be sound in the faith ¹⁴and will pay no attention to Jewish myths or to the commands of those who reject the truth. ¹⁵To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted. ¹⁶They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.

1. Look at your culture 1:10-16

2. Listen to your Apostle 1:1-4

3. Learn from your Leaders 1:5-9

TITUS 2: SAYING NO

RUPERT BENTLEY-TAYLOR

What Must Be Taught to Various Groups

2 You must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine. ²Teach the older men to be temperate, worthy of respect, self-controlled, and sound in faith, in love and in endurance.

³Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. ⁴Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children, ⁵to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no-one will malign the word of God.

⁶Similarly, encourage the young men to be self-controlled. ⁷In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness ⁸and 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.

⁹Teach slaves to be subject to their masters in everything, to try to please them, not to talk back to them, ¹⁰and not to steal from them, but to show that they can be fully trusted, so that in every way they will make the teaching about God our Saviour attractive.

¹¹For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. ¹²It teaches us to say No to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

¹⁵These, then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you.

I. The Imperative v.1,15

Teaching

- 1) What is in accord with sound doctrine
- 2) What is at stake: the credibility of the gospel

II. The Dynamic v.2-10

Diversity in people

Commonality in self control v2, 5, 6, 12

The dynamic of 'No' and 'Yes' v.12

As older men v.2

As women v.3-5

As younger men v.6-8

As slaves v.9-10

III. The Power v.11-14

- 1) The teaching of grace (now) v.11-12
- 2) The hope of Christ's return (future) v.13
- 3) The work of the Cross (past) v.14

TITUS 3: DOING GOOD

JONATHAN STEPHEN

Doing What is Good

3 Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, ²to slander no-one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility towards all men.

³At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. ⁴But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. ⁸This 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.

⁹But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless. ¹⁰Warn a divisive person once, and then warn him a second time. After that, have nothing to do with him. ¹¹You may be sure that such a man is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

Final Remarks

¹²As soon as I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, because I have decided to winter there. ¹³Do everything you can to help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way and see that they have everything they need. ¹⁴Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives.

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

Grace be with you all.

1. The good we should be doing (verses 1-2).

'Remind them...to be ready for every good work' (verse 1)

Be submissive to rulers and authorities

Be obedient

Speak evil of no one

Avoid quarrelling

Be gentle

Show perfect courtesy toward all people

2. How to develop a passion for doing good (verses 3-11)

'I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works' (verse 8)

Understand what you once were:

Understand what you now are:

Understand how this transformation came about:

3. What doing good achieves (verses 12-15)

'Let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful' (verse 14)

It promotes the proclamation of the gospel

It produces evidence of salvation