

The Book of Titus: Living As The Church

Godly Elders Are Born Out Of Godly Christians

Outline

Godly Elders Born Out Of Godly Christians

1. Context For The Book Of Titus
2. High Level View
3. We Are All Called To Be Qualified
4. What Do These Words Really Mean?

Context For The Book Of Titus



Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, 2 in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began 3 and at the proper time manifested in his word through the preaching with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Savior; 4 To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

Titus 1:1-4

5 This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— 6 if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. 7 For an overseer, 8 as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, 8 but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. 9 He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound 10 doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

Titus 1:5-9

¹⁰For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party. ¹¹They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach. ¹²One of the Cretans, ¹³a prophet of their own, said, “Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.” This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, ¹⁴not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth. ¹⁵To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. ¹⁶They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

Titus 1:10-16

High Level View

1. Built on the Gospel

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, **for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, 2 in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began 3 and at the proper time manifested in his word through the preaching with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Savior; 4 To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.**

Titus 1:1-4

2. Qualifications For Elders

The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. ² Therefore an overseer ¹ must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³ not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴ He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, ⁵ for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? ⁶ He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. ⁷ Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

1 Timothy 3:1-7

5 This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— 6 if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. 7 For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, 8 but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. 9 He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

Titus 1:5-9

3. Work For The Elders

¹⁰For there are many who are **insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers**, especially those of the circumcision party. ¹¹**They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach.** ¹²**One of the Cretans, a prophet of their own, said, “Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.”** ¹³**This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith,** ¹⁴not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth. ¹⁵**To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled.** ¹⁶**They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works.** They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

Titus 1:10-16

We Are All Called To Be Qualified

1. Above Reproach

When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be **blameless**.”

Genesis 17:1

Blessed are those whose way is
blameless, who walk in the law of
the Lord!

Psalm 119:1

That you may be **blameless and innocent**,
children of God without blemish in the
midst of a crooked and twisted
generation, among whom you shine as
lights in the world,

Philippians 2:15

2. The Husband Of One Wife

Therefore a **man** shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his **wife**, and they shall become **one** flesh.

Genesis 2:24

Let marriage be held in honor among all,
and **let the marriage bed be undefiled**, for
God will judge the sexually immoral and
adulterous.

Hebrews 13:4

3. And His Children Are Believers

Train up a child in the way he should go;
even when he is old he will not depart
from it.

Proverbs 22:6

4. Not Arrogant

Do nothing from selfish ambition
or conceit, **but in humility count others
more significant than yourselves.**

Philippians 2:3

5. Not Quick Tempered

Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, **slow to anger**; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

James 1:19-20

6. Not A Drunkard

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit.

Ephesians 5:18

7. Not Violent

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy,
peace, patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, **gentleness**, self-control;
against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5:22-23

8. Not Greedy

And he said to them, “Take care, and **be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.**”

Luke 12:15

9. Be Hospitable

**Show hospitality to one another without
grumbling.**

1 Peter 4:9

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Hebrews 13:2

10. Love Good

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil;
cling to what is good.

Romans 12:9

11. Self Controlled

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with **self-control**, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love.

2 Peter 1:5-7

12. Upright

Good and upright is the Lord; therefore
he instructs sinners in the way. He leads
the humble in what is right, and teaches
the humble his way.

Psalm 25:8-9

13. Holy

For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy.

Leviticus 11:44a

14. Disciplined

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. **But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.**

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

15. Hold Firm To The Word

So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.

2 Thessalonians 2:15

16. Able To Teach Sound Doctrine

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

17. Able To Rebuke False Teaching

See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.

Colossians 2:8

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, **for reproof, for correction,** and for training in righteousness.

2 Timothy 3:16

We Are All Called To Be Qualified

**God Is The Ultimate Example Of
All Of These**

To be clear, what Christ requires of his pastor-elders (1 Timothy 3:1–8; Titus 1:5–9) is not simply for qualification to enter the office. Rather, these virtues are the ongoing, daily graces needed to serve well in the office. Yet these too are the qualities Christ means to grant in growing measure to his whole church.

David Mathis

**What Do These Words Really
Mean?**

Above Reproach

So I exhort the **elders** among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: **shepherd the flock of God** that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; ³ not domineering over those in your charge, **but being examples to the flock.**

1 Peter 5:3

Above Reproach

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 John 1:7-10

Manage His Household Well

The gratuitously distracted, and often unexamined, lives of modern unmarried men can be concerning enough. Then the seriousness of the problem rises higher when we say, “I do.” And even more when we bring children into the world. One of the greatest needs wives and children have — and all the more in our relentlessly distracting age — is dad’s countercultural attentiveness. Perhaps human attention never has been more valuable. Today the largest corporations in the world no longer compete for oil, but for human attention. And when attention is short and scarce, one of the greatest emerging tragedies of this new era is distracted dads. And in the church, its digital-age analog: distracted pastors.

David Mathis

Manage His Household Well

⁴ He must manage his **own household well**, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, ⁵ for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, **how will he care for God's church?**

1 Timothy 3:4-5

For the husband, being “head” in his home doesn’t center on his enjoying the greatest privileges, but on shouldering the greatest burdens. Being *head* means going *ahead*, in conflict, and being first to apologize. It means taking initiative when no one else wants to. It means treating his co-manager with unrelenting kindness, even when she’s less than kind. It means exercising true strength, by inconveniencing himself to secure her good, rather than serving himself by presuming on her. And, of course, it includes vigilance in being a “one-woman man” utterly committed in mind, heart, and body to his one wife.

David Mathis

Manage His Household Well

His Children Are Believers

His Children Are Believers

What Do These Words Really Mean?

- The Basic Logic
- *Pistas*
- The Grounding Question
- Personal Responsibility
- God Saves

He Must Not Be Arrogant

He Must Be A Lover Of Good

He Must Be A Lover of Good

What Do These Words Really Mean?

1. Believe In Good
2. Look For Good
3. Do Good
4. Love Good

Conclusion

Conclusion

Titus 1

- The church is to be built on the hope of the gospel
- Elders are God's appointed leaders
- Godly elders are born out of Godly christians