### Titus

## Chapter 1

1From Paul – a slave of God, an Apostle of Jesus the Anointed One and a follower of the faith of God’s elected who have a complete knowledge of truth and whose worship 2is based on the hope of age-long life, which The God (who doesn’t lie) promised ages ago 3and who, in His own due time, made His Word known through an important message that was entrusted to me by the command of our God and Savior.  
  
4To Titus – a true child in the faith that we hold in common.  
  
May you have loving care and peace from God the Father, and from the Anointed Jesus our Savior!  
  
  
5The reason why I left you in Crete is so that you could straighten out some of the problems there, and for you to appoint elders in each city, as I instructed you.  
  
6[So, choose those who] haven’t been charged with misconduct… one-woman men who have believing children who aren’t rebellious or accused of being beyond hope.  
  
7Because, as a manager of the household of God, an overseer must be blameless.  
  
[He can’t be] selfish, quick tempered, a heavy drinker, a fighter, or a greedy person.  
  
8Rather, [he must be] hospitable, a faithful friend, levelheaded, righteous, devout, self-controlled, 9[and a person who] lives by the word of truth, so he can teach and encourage those who are strong as he exposes the wrongs of those who contradict.  
  
10For there are lots of rebellious and deceitful windbags (most of whom are circumcised) 11and whose mouths need to be sealed.  
  
They’re the ones who are dishonestly making money by teaching things that they shouldn’t, and they’re misleading entire households!  
  
12It was one of their own prophets who said:  
  
 ‘Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, and lazy gluttons.’ [quote from Cretan philosopher Epimenides]  
  
13And that’s a fact!  
  
This is why you’ll have to be tough when it comes to exposing their wrong ways, so they can become healthy in the faith, and stop 14paying attention to Jewish myths and the rules of men, which are turning them away from the truth.  
  
15For although everything is clean to those who are clean, nothing is clean for those who are dirty and faithless, because both their minds and their consciences are dirty!  
  
16And while they all claim to know God, everything they do disproves it, because they’re disgusting, disobedient, and unqualified to do anything worthwhile.