**THE**

**EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL TO THE**

**TITUS**

ST. PAUL *having preached the faith in the island of Crete, he ordained his beloved disciple and companion,* TITUS*, bishop, and left him there to finish the work which he had begun. Afterwards the Apostle on a journey to Nicopolis, a city of Macedonia, wrote this Epistle to Titus, in which he directs him to ordain bishops and priests for the different cities, shewing him the principal qualities necessary for a bishop, also gives him particular advice for his own conduct to his flock, exhorting him to hold a strictness of discipline, but seasoned with lenity. It was written about thirty-three years after our Lord’s Ascension.*

**CHAPTER 1**

*What kind of men he is to ordain priests. Some men are to be sharply rebuked.*

**1** Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of the elect of God and the acknowledging of the truth, which is according to godliness:

**2** Unto the hope of life everlasting, which God, who lieth not, hath promised before the times of the world:

**3** But hath in due times manifested his word in preaching, which is committed to me according to the commandment of God our Saviour:

**4** To Titus my beloved son, according to the common faith, grace and peace from God the Father, and from Christ Jesus our Saviour.

**5** For this cause I left thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and shouldest ordain priests in every city, as I also appointed thee:

**6** If any be without crime, the husband of one wife, having faithful children, not accused of riot, or unruly.

**7** For a bishop must be without crime, as the steward of God: not proud, not subject to anger, not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre:

**8** But given to hospitality, gentle, sober, just, holy, continent:

**9** Embracing that faithful word which is according to doctrine, that he may be able to exhort in sound doctrine, and to convince the gainsayers.

**10** For there are also many disobedient, vain talkers, and seducers: especially they who are of the circumcision:

**11** Who must be reproved, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre’s sake.

**12** One of them a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slothful bellies.

**13** This testimony is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith;

**14** Not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men, who turn themselves away from the truth.

**15** All things are clean to the clean: but to them that are defiled, and to unbelievers, nothing is clean: but both their mind and their conscience are defiled.

**16** They profess that they know God: but in their works they deny him; being abominable, and incredulous, and to every good work reprobate.