

- Background
 - Called “Pastoral Epistles”
 - Written by Paul for Titus in order to give him advice
 - Titus worked very closely with Paul
 - Not mentioned in Acts
 - Mentioned in several of Paul’s other epistles though!
 - Titus is serving in Crete at the time
 - Gentile
 - Lots of teachings here about appointing leaders
 - We can still learn from this!
 - We should strive to have the traits of leaders
 - These traits are pleasing to God
- Titus 1
 - Spiritual leaders
 - We have many spiritual leaders in our lives!
 - Anything from someone that helps you read scripture to a ministry leader to a pastor
 - Someone that embodies the Christian faith
 - That is not to say that a spiritual leader is 100% perfect
 - We are not above anyone else, but we can still be an example for others by the grace of God (1 Peter 5: 2-3)
 - We should strive for perfection anyways!
 - What makes a leader?
 - Above reproach (Titus 1: 7a)
 - What does this mean?
 - Not having anything that can be held against you
 - If people have nothing to say against you, then you are logically representing God really well to them (1 Peter 3: 12)
 - Alternatively, if you do things that are not seen as being pure, it may taint their vision of the church (1 Corinthians 8: 7-13)
 - We have an obligation as Christians to do whatever we can to help others in their faiths
 - In this example, it is noted that eating food offered to idols is not inherently sinful, but if it leads to someone’s stumbling, it would be sinful to cause that stumble
 - Examples of how to be above reproach: not being arrogant, quick tempered, drunk, violent, greedy, but

instead loving, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined (Titus 1: 7b-8)

- Living according to the word so that you may be an example for others (Titus 1: 9)
 - We need to know scripture in order to teach it
 - We need to be able to back up what we say with scripture, as to make our teachings credible (Titus 1: 10-11)
 - We must live scripture out so that we are not ministering hypocritically
- Titus 2
 - Live a solid, upright life in order to represent God well (Titus 2: 7-8)
 - A reiteration of before
 - This is why we must live above reproach
 - People notice when you do good things
 - This should not be our reason for doing them
 - We should not take this praise for ourselves
 - Giving the praise back to God can open someone's eyes as to the true grace and peace offered through Christ
 - God has brought a chance of salvation for all people (Titus 2: 11)
 - Everyone has a chance to turn away from sin (Titus 2: 12)
 - We are a people of good works (Titus 2: 15)
 - We can best live out our faith by taking action
 - Words are good, but sometimes its more powerful to show God we love him rather than tell him
- Titus 3
 - We must serve everyone (Titus 3: 1-7)
 - We lead by serving those below us
 - Even spiritual leaders are not above those they are teaching
 - We can only be righteous by the grace of God (Titus 3: 3-7)
 - "The first shall be last and the last shall be first" (Mark 20: 16)
 - We must be willing to be good to everyone
 - Everyone needs the grace of God
 - We must not do anything to turn anyone away
 - So many people get turned away from the church due to hypocrisy
 - A single saint in your life can make all the difference to show you the wondrous love of God
 - Pick your battles, avoid useless bickering (Titus 3: 8-11)
 - Leading others from faith is sinful (Titus 3: 11)
 - We are called to help people realize what they are doing (Titus 3: 10)
 - Above all, we must use our talents for good works, as they were given to us by God to glorify him