

**INSTRUCTION FOR SENIOR SAINTS**

PCC, 10 Nov 2013

*Text: Titus 2:1-4***Introduction**

- Titus must not only stop the spread and establishment of falsehood in the church. He must also exercise a positive, practical ministry.
- In chapter 2, Paul gives him guidelines on how he is to minister to the older men and women and the younger men and women.
- These instructions are not only needed by pastors. They are needed by every member in the church.

**1. What should Ministers Preach?***<sup>1</sup> But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:*

- a. Paul is saying, “but as for you, in contrast to the false teachers, speak the things which become [or conduce to] sound [healthy] doctrine” (1 Tim 1:10; 6:10; 2 Tim 1:13; 4:3; Tit 1:9, 13; 2:2).
- b. Ministers have a duty to feed the flock as under-shepherds of Christ (1Pet 5:2). Unsound or unhealthy doctrine will beget an unhealthy flock and unhealthy (or even false) believers.
- c. To do so: “Ministers must not stay in generals, but must divide to every one his portion, what belongs to his age, or place, or condition of life; they must be particular as well as practical in their preaching; they must teach men their duty, and must teach all and each his duty” (M. Henry).

**2. What should Older Men Focus On?***<sup>2</sup> That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.*

- a. Three marks of maturity:
  - i. Sobriety or to be clear-minded in judgement.
  - ii. Gravity or to be grave or dignified, serious-minded and worthy of respect *contra* levity.
  - iii. Temperate or self-controlled, moderate and prudent.
- b. Three marks of godliness:

- i. Sound in faith or to hold on steadfastly to the truth of the Gospel, not tossed to and fro by every wind of opinion.
- ii. Sound in charity or to love as the word of God teaches us to love.
- iii. Sound in patience or to wait upon the Lord prayerfully.

### 3. What should Older Women Focus On?

<sup>3</sup> *The aged women likewise, [i.e. teach the aged women likewise] that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;* <sup>4</sup> *That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children &c...*

- a. Why does Paul emphasis on the outward behaviour for women?
 

“We very frequently see, that females advanced in age either continue to dress with the lightness of youthful years, or have something superstitious in their apparel, and seldom hit the golden mean” (Calvin; cf. 1 Tim 2:9; 1 Pet 3:3-4).
- b. Three marks of a godly woman:
  - i. Not false-accusers i.e. they must not slander and backbite their neighbours (cf. 1 Tim 5:13). “Talkativeness is a disease of women, and it is increased by old age” (Calvin).
  - ii. Not given to much wine. What is the equivalent of alcohol addiction for Christian women today?
  - iii. Be teachers of good things. “Not public preachers, that is forbidden [1 Cor 14:34], but otherwise teach they may and should, that is, by example and good life. Hence observe, Those whose actions and behaviour become holiness are thereby teachers of good things; and, besides this, they may and should also teach by doctrinal instruction at home, and in a private way” (MH).

### Conclusion

- Older men and women:
- Younger men and women:
- All of us: