The Pastoral Epistles (Letters)

- Lesson 11 -

Titus 1:1-16

1 Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; 2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; 3 But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to

the commandment of God our Saviour; 4 To Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour.

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

6 If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly.

7 For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;

8 But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate;

9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

10 For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision:

11 Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.

12 One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are alway liars, evil beasts, slow bellies.

13 This witness 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, that turn from the truth. 15 Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but

even their mind and conscience is defiled.

16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

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Your Personal Notes:

Spurgeon's Notes

- 1:2—The scriptural idea of God forbids that he should lie. It is utterly inconsistent with the Holy One, whose kingdom is over all, that he could lie. God is too wise to lie. Falsehood is the expedient of a fool. Only a shortsighted person lies. For some present advantage the poor creature who cannot see the end as well as the beginning states what is false, but no wise person who can look far into the future ever thinks a lie to be profitable; this person knows that truth may suffer loss at first, but in the long run she is always successful.
- 1:13-14—This was bad soil, but it had to be plowed, sown; and, with an Almighty God at the back of the Gospel plower and sower, a fruitful harvest came even in Crete. We need not be afraid of the adaptation of the Gospel to the lowest of the low. If in any quarter of the town the people are more sunken in vice than anywhere else, there the gospel is to be carried with more prayer and more faith than anywhere else. Depend upon it: God can bless his Word anywhere.