

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. The Bible says we are to “be holy” as He is holy (Lev.11:44; 1 Peter 1:16).
2. What exactly does that mean?
3. And what kind of impact does that have on the church?
4. For the next several weeks, we will be looking at Titus chapter 2 and seeing how we live reflects on the testimony of the church.
5. Paul is addressing 5 groups that exist in every church.

6. Older men (v.2), older women (v.3), young women (vv.4-5), young men (vv.6-8), servants (employees) (vv.9-10).
7. All of these groups make up the church.
8. All represent the church.
9. How each group lives makes or breaks the testimony of the church.
10. If you live an ungodly life then that will have a negative impact on the church and on our ability to evangelize because people will not see any difference Christ makes in their lives.
11. As we consider this today, I want to read the first 10 verses of Titus chapter 2 but for today we will only look at verse 1.

12. Read Titus 2:1-10.

13. In chapter one of Titus, Paul is addressing the ordination and qualifications of pastors in the church.

14. Specifically, Titus was to “appoint elders in every city” (1:5) on the island of Crete.

15. Churches had been started and they needed qualified spiritual leadership.

16. But now in chapter two he moves from pastors to the congregation and focuses on the character of a healthy congregation.

17. One commentator says, “The entire chapter deals with the evangelistic impact of a spiritually healthy congregation and gives direct, practical instruction about how

believers are to live for the purpose of showing sinners the power and joy of salvation. (MacArthur, John F., Jr. Titus).

18. That's a fancy way of saying, "Live what you preach."

19. If Jesus is real and you're like have been changed, then show it!

20. There are two ways that Paul sets this up for us in chapter two, verse 1.

21. He gives first the contrast and then the command.

22. The contrast in verse 1 Titus' ministry against the false teachers of Crete.

23. Notice how he says this with the first 4 words of verse 1:

## **LESSON**

### **I. The Contrast (v.1a)**

“But as for you.”

In Greek it literally reads “But you”

A. This indicates a Contrast with  
Something Previously Mentioned

What was previously mentioned? The  
false teachers of Crete.

Verse 10 tells us that these false  
teachers were “of the circumcision”  
which is a reference to Jews “who

taught that salvation required the physical cutting of circumcision and adherence to Mosaic ceremonies” (MacArthur Study Bible, p.2665).

Notice chapter 1:10-16 (Read):

1. idle talkers (v.10)
2. deceivers (v.10)
3. subvert (undermine) whole households (v.11)
4. teach for money (v.11)
5. Liars (v.12)

6. evil beasts (v.12) “behaving like a wild animal, living solely on the level of sensual appetites and passions”
7. lazy gluttons (v.12) “Cretans hated to work but loved to eat”
8. believed Jewish fables and commandments of men (v.14) “Paul does not identify the particular Jewish myths and man-made commandments that were being promulgated” but Timothy was to warn against it too (1 Tim.1:4;4:7).
9. defiled (v.16)
10. unbelieving (v.16)

11. abominable (v.16) NASB has  
detestable

12. disobedient (v.16)

13. disqualified for every good work  
(v.16) “They can do nothing that  
pleases God.”

B. What Paul Describes In Titus About  
False Teachers is True in 2 Peter and  
Jude

2 Peter 2:1-17 (false prophets, false  
teachers, v.1)

1. teach heresies (v.1) They “parade  
themselves as Christian pastors,  
teachers, and evangelists” and teach  
“heresies” which means



“self-designed religious lies which lead to division and faction.”

2. they blaspheme the way of truth (v.2)

3. they exploit God’s people with greed (v.3)

4. they walk according to the flesh (v.10)

5. they despise authority (v.10)

6. they are presumptuous (v.10) This “is to be brazen, audacious, and defiant.”

7. they are self-willed (v.10) This is to be “obstinate, determined in one’s own way.”
8. they are fearless by flippantly speaking against Satan and demons (vv.10-11) “dignitaries” refers to “angels, probably wicked angels.”
9. they are brute beasts (v.12) like wild animals.
10. they are spots and blemishes (v.13) They are “dirt spots and scabs.” They are opposite of the character of Christ.
11. they are adulterers (v.14) (see note)

12. they cannot cease from sin (v.14)

13. they entice (v.14) (see note)

14. they are greedy (v.14) (see note)

15. they have forsaken the right way  
(v.15)

16. they are wells without water (v.17)

### Jude 1:4-19

1. they are ungodly men (v.4) (see note)

2. they corrupt God's grace (v.4) (see note)

3. they deny Jesus (v.4) (see note)

4. they defile the flesh (v.8) (see note)
5. they reject authority (v.8) (see note)
6. they speak evil (v.10) (see note)
7. they are spots in your love feasts (v.10) (see note)
8. they are clouds without water (v.12) (see note)
9. they are late autumn trees without fruit (v.12) (see note)
10. they are raging waves of the sea (v.13) (see note)

11. they are wandering stars (v.13)  
(see note)
12. they are grumblers and  
complainers (v.16)
13. they walk according to their own  
lust (v.16)
14. they speak arrogantly (v.16)
15. they flatter people (v.16)
16. they are mockers (v.18)
17. they are sensual persons (v.19)
18. they cause divisions (v.19)
19. they do not have the Spirit (v.19)

This is the contrasts Paul makes with Titus' ministry.

Notice...

## **II. The Command (v.1b)**

“Speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine.”

“Speak” translates a present imperative of *laleō*, which refers to ordinary conversation.

The present tense carries the idea of continuity and persistence, and the imperative makes the verb a command.

What is Titus to speak about in ordinary conversation?

“Sound doctrine”

“Sound” Gr.hygiaino, where we get hygiene. It means “healthy”. It’s used 5 times in Titus.

“Doctrine” Gr.didaskalia, is teaching (content)

When both words are used together it is “healthy teaching.” “Healthy” then referring to what is “correct” or “accurate.”

In comparison of what the false teachers were teaching which was full of infirmities and diseases, Titus is to speak in ordinary conversation that which is “free from infirmity or disease.”

Paul gives Timothy an example of this in 1 Timothy 6:3 (NKJV) <sup>3</sup> If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness.”

So...

A. In Ordinary, Everyday Conversation, Titus is to Speak about Right Doctrine and Right Living

Because right doctrine or sound, healthy teaching, will produce healthy spiritual living.

Right doctrine restrains sinful living. The same is true about diseased doctrine. It produces sinful living.



When contrasting the fruit of the Spirit with the works of the flesh, Paul says about the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:23-24 (NKJV) Against such there is no law. <sup>24</sup>

In other words, you do not want to restrain the fruit of the Spirit but you do want to restrain the flesh.

The fruit of the Spirit will not harm or hurt others but the works of the flesh will.

Paul continues in verse 24, And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

That's right doctrine and right living working together in verse 24.

So Titus and well as the elders he would appoint were to speak these things and “not to deviate...or be intimidated. They were to be as aggressive in their teaching of sound doctrine and its corresponding godly lifestyle as the false teachers in the Cretan churches were in their unsound doctrine and its consequent ungodly lifestyle.” (MacArthur, John F., Jr. Titus).

By doing this, they would “close the awful chasm between the lips of God’s people and their lives” (MacDonald, William. Believer’s Bible Commentary).

Malachi 2:7 (NKJV) <sup>7</sup> “For the lips of a priest should keep knowledge,

And people should seek the law from his mouth; For he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts.

## B. Using Healthy Teaching of God's Word in Everyday Conversation is What Parents Are to Do with Their Children

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (NKJV) <sup>4</sup> “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! <sup>5</sup> You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

<sup>6</sup> “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. <sup>7</sup> You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. <sup>8</sup> You shall bind them as a

sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.<sup>9</sup> You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”

“Teach” and “Talk” about God’s Word.

That’s what pastors are to do in the church. That’s what God’s people are to do in the home and in the world.

Anything else is of little profit.

## **CONCLUSION**

1. Why is all this important?
2. What is Paul’s point?
3. There are two verses in chapter 2 that give us the main reason why our teaching

and living are to be sound.

4. Titus 2:5 says the older women are to teach the younger women “to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, ***that the word of God may not be blasphemed.***”
5. Verse 9 says that “bondservants” are “to be obedient to their own masters, to be well pleasing in all things, not answering back, not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, ***that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.***”
6. Both passages are teaching that if we do not honor God’s Word with an obedient life then the occasion is given for God’s enemies to blaspheme God’s Word.

7. Next week we will look at the first group that Titus is to have the everyday conversation of healthy teaching with....Older Men.
8. If you're here today and you have been one who has listened and followed after unhealthy teaching, I want you to know there is forgiveness with Christ.
9. Come to Him today and have your mind renewed by His Word and have your heart transformed by His life.
10. If you have never received Jesus as Lord and Savior, I want to urge you to repent right now and surrender your life to Him.
11. As we pray, call on Him to save you.