

THE RESPONSE OF ELDERS TO FALSE TEACHING (Titus 1:9-16)

- What are Satan's 4 favorite strategies to hinder or defeat believers?

- The Introduction (1:1-5)

A. The SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS for the APPOINTMENT of ELDERS. (Titus 1:6-9)

B. The SERIOUS RESPONSIBILITIES of a PASTOR / ELDER to the Local Church. (Titus 1:9-16)

- 1) Pastors must be _____ to the church by godly marriages, submissive families, with personal integrity & character. (1:6-8)
- 2) Pastors must be able to _____ the church as demonstrated by his home. (1 Timothy 3:4-5)
- 3) Pastors must be _____ stewards of God's Word, starting with the Gospel. (1:9a)
- 4) Pastors must be diligent _____ of the Word of God for their own growth, teaching, and defense of scriptural truth. (1:9b)
- 5) Pastors must be able to _____ God's sheep with the WOG. (1:9c; 1 Tim. 3:2)
- 6) Pastors must be discerning, able, and willing to _____ by _____ those who _____ biblical truth. (1:9d) What is the difference between mere guilt / condemnation and true conviction? What is the opposite of vs.9d?

C. The SPIRITUAL REALITY of FALSE TEACHERS & their SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE to Believers. (1:10-16) "For" – links this section with the previous underscoring the need for the appointment of elders.

- What do we learn about these false teachers in Crete? (1:10-13a)
- 1) They were _____. (1:10a)
 - 2) They were _____ to authority – God, the Bible, elders, etc. (1:10b)
 - 3) They were _____ content-wise vs sound doctrine. (1:10c)
 - 4) They were _____ by their false teaching. (1:10d)
 - 5) They were especially of the _____ from WITHIN the Church. (1:10e)
 - 6) They needed to be _____ immediately. (1:11a)
 - 7) They were spiritually _____. (1:11b)

- 8) They were _____ in contrast to Grace teaching. (1:11c & 14)
- 9) They were motivated by _____ instead of love & faithfulness to the Lord. (1:11d)
- 10) They were of no actual difference or testimony to the _____ of Crete. (1:12)

- What can we learn from this about quoting others? What did Paul think of the Epimenides' quote?
- What does this tell you about Crete and the spiritual challenges there?

D. The SHARP REBUKE of these FALSE TEACHERS. (1:14-16)

1. They were to be _____ that they would become _____.

- Who is the "them" and "they" of this verse?
- Did the Lord Jesus Christ or Paul ever give a sharp rebuke to others? Does your view of love & grace allow for and even demand a sharp rebuke at times?
- What is the personal or pastoral challenge to doing this?
- What is to be the proper intent of this sharp rebuke? What would be the residual affect toward the affected families?

2. They were to _____ any longer to _____ and the _____ who _____ believers from _____.

Observe 1 Tim. 1:4, 4:1-7, 2 Tim. 4:3-4, Matthew 15:9, Col. 2:22.

- What is Paul's contrast of being legalistically pure/cleansed vs. being truly pure/cleansed? (vs. 15)
 - What is Paul's closing evaluation of unsaved false teachers & why they should be rejected? (vs. 16)
- Lessons for you to take home ...
 1. About the reality of doctrinal & personal issues in a local church?
 2. About the responsibilities, needs, and challenges of your pastors / elders?
 3. About the reality of false teachers and the need to confront them?
 4. About the potential effect of false teaching upon you and others?
 5. About true love and sharp rebuke when needed and to what end?
 6. About the challenges of legalism in the church and license in the world impacting believers?
 7. About the importance of holding fast to sound doctrine without compromise, starting with the Gospel?