Titus

CHAPTER 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 has in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed to me according to the commandment of God our Savior;

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

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

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 self-willed, 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 has 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 always 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 To the pure all things are pure: but to 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 abom-

1:1 The world cries out for truth. They have no idea of their origin, why they exist, or what death holds in store for them. Sin has left them lost and in darkness. The truth will set them free (John 8:31,32), but there can be no understanding of the truth without repentance and faith. It comes *after* godliness.

1:9 The steward of God is not to see himself as being above the lowly task of evangelism.

1:11 The way to "stop the mouth" is to use the Law of God. See Romans 3:19 footnote.

1:15 Those who defile the conscience remove the battery from their own smoke detector.

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inable, and disobedient, and to every good work reprobate.

For alleged mistakes in the Bible, see Mark 15:26 footnote.

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CHAPTER 2

 $B^{\text{UT}}_{\text{sound doctrine:}}$

2 That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.

3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behavior as becomes holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;

4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,

5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

6 Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded.

7 In all things showing yourself a pattern of good works: in doctrine showing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,

8 Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you. 9 Exhort servants to be obedient to their own masters, and to please them well in all things; not answering again;

10 Not purloining, but showing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.

11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men,

12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ;

14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify to himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

15 These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise you.

CHAPTER 3

PUT them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,

2 To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, showing all meekness to all men.

3 For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in mal-

1:16 There are many who profess to know God, but they lack the things that accompany salvation—the fruit of righteousness, holiness, repentance, good works, and the fruit of the Spirit. We must repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance (Acts 26:20).

2:6–8 We must be sober-minded, rich in good works, sound in doctrine, living in the fear of God and without corruption—all for the sake of our testimony.

3:2 This is the spirit in which we should share our faith. See James 3:17.

3:3 This is why we should never have a holier-than-thou attitude toward the unsaved (see also 1 Corinthians 6:9–11).

3:3 The deceitfulness of sin. Two women from Southern California were about to cross the Mexican border to return to the U.S. when they saw what looked like a very small, sick animal in the ditch beside their car. As they examined it in the darkness of the night, they saw that it was a tiny Chihuahua. There they decided to take it home with them and nurse it back to health. However, because they were afraid that they were breaking the law, they put it in the trunk of their car, and drove across the border. Once they were in the U.S., they retrieved the animal and nursed

ice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.

4 But after that the kindness and love of God our Savior toward man appeared,

5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit;

6 Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior;

7 That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

He is no Christian who does not seek to serve his God. The very motto of the Christian should be "I serve."

CHARLES SPURGEON

8 This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that you affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men.

9 But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain.

10 A man that is an heretic after the first and second admonition reject;



The Bible tells us that God created everything with things that are not seen. See Hebrews 11:3 footnote.

11 Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sins, being condemned of himself.

12 When I shall send Artemas to you, or Tychicus, be diligent to come to me to Nicopolis: for I have determined there to winter.

13 Bring Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that nothing be wanting to them.

14 And let ours also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful.

15 All that are with me salute you. Greet them that love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

it until they arrived home.

One of the women was so concerned for the ailing dog that she actually took it to bed with her, and reached out several times during the night to touch the tiny animal and reassure it that she was still present.

The dog was so sick the next morning, she decided to take it to the veterinarian. That's when she found out that the animal wasn't a tiny sick dog. It was a Mexican water rat, dying of rabies.

The world, in the blackness of its ignorance, thinks that sin is a puppy to be played with. It is the light of God's Law that enlightens the sinner to the fact that he is in bed with a deadly rat.

We were once "deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures," but now, if we are truly converted, our eyes have been opened. We see sin for the sugar-coated venom that it is.

3:5 New birth—its necessity for salvation. See 1 Peter 1:3.

3:5 For those trusting in good works, see Galatians 2:16 footnote.

3:10 It is wise to avoid those brethren who only want to argue about doctrine. Rather, put your energy into reaching the lost.

Intelligence Tests

(Do not read these questions yourself. If you do, you will fail to see their evangelistic potential. Instead, have someone ask you the questions.)

- **1** How many of each animal did Moses take into the ark?
- **2** What is the name of the raised print that deaf people use?
- **3** Is it possible to end a sentence with the word "the"?
- **4** Spell the word "shop." What do you do when you come to a green light?
- It is noon. You look at the clock. The big hand is on three. The little hand is on five. What time is it?
- 6 Spell the word "silk." What do cows drink?
- **7** Listen carefully: You are the driver of a train. There are thirty people on board. At the first stop ten people get off. At the next stop five people get on. Now for the question: What is the name of the train driver?

Answers:

- None. It was Noah.
- **2** Deaf people don't use raised print.
- **3** The question is an example of one.
- **4** Go.
- 5 Noon.
- 6 Water.
- **7** You are the driver of the train.



The Bible warns, "He who trusts his own heart is a fool" (Proverbs 28:26). The tests are an excellent way to humble an unsaved person and show him that he can't trust his own judgments. This may be followed with, "If you make a mistake with something as simple as this, could you be wrong in your beliefs about God, Judgment Day, the existence of hell, etc.?"