

THE EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO TITUS

¹ Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Christ Jesus, for the faith of God's elect, and the knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness, ² in hope of everlasting life, which God, who cannot lie, promised from the most ancient times, ³ but in his own seasons manifested his word through the preaching with which I was intrusted by the commandment of God our Saviour: ⁴ to Titus, true child after the common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Saviour. ⁵ For this cause I left thee behind in Crete, that thou shouldst set in order the things that are wanting, and appoint elders in every city, as I directed thee; ⁶ if any one is without reproach, the husband of one wife, having believing children, that are not accused of dissoluteness, or unruly. ⁷ For a bishop must be without reproach, as God's steward; not self-willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, not a striker, not greedy of base gain, ⁸ but hospitable, a lover of what is good, discreet, just, holy, temperate, ⁹ holding fast the sure word according to what he was taught, that he may be able by sound teaching both to exhort, and to refute the gainsayers. ¹⁰ For there are many unruly vain talkers and deceivers, especially they of the circumcision; ¹¹ whose mouths must be stopped, since they overturn whole houses,

teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of base gain. ¹² One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said: "The Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, slothful gluttons." ¹³ This testimony is true; for which cause rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, ¹⁴ not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men who turn away from the truth. ¹⁵ To the pure all things are pure; but to the defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure, but both their mind and conscience are defiled. ¹⁶ They profess that they know God, but by their works they deny him, being abominable and disobedient, and for every good work reprobate.

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¹ But do thou speak the things which become sound teaching; ² that aged men be sober, grave, discreet, sound in faith, in love, in patience; ³ that aged women likewise be in behavior as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not enslaved to much wine, teachers of what is good, ⁴ that they may teach the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵ to be discreet, chaste, workers at home, good, in subjection to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed. ⁶ The younger men likewise exhort to be sober-minded; ⁷ in all things showing thyself a pattern of good works, in teaching showing uncorruptness, gravity, ⁸ sound speech that cannot be condemned; that he that is opposed to us may be put to shame, having no evil thing to say of us. ⁹ Exhort bond-servants to be in

subjection to their own masters, in all things to be well-pleasing to them, ¹⁰ not contradicting, not purloining, but showing all good faith; that they may adorn the teaching of God our Saviour in all things. ¹¹ For the grace of God, that bringeth salvation to all men, was manifested, ¹² teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in the present world; ¹³ looking for the blessed hope, and appearing of the glory of the great God and of our Saviour Jesus Christ; ¹⁴ who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify to himself a people to be his own, zealous in good works. ¹⁵ These things speak and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise thee.

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¹ Put them in mind to submit themselves to governments, to authorities, to obey magistrates, to be ready for every good work, ² to speak evil of no one, to be averse to strife, forbearing, showing all meekness to all men. ³ For we ourselves also were once foolish, disobedient, going astray, slaves to divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. ⁴ But when the kindness and love for men of God our Saviour appeared, ⁵ not by works of righteousness which we did, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the bath of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ which he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, ⁷ that having been accepted

as righteous by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of everlasting life. ⁸ True is the saying; and these things I desire that thou affirm earnestly, that they who have believed in God may be careful to practise good works. These things are good and profitable to men; ⁹ but avoid foolish questionings, and genealogies, and strifes, and contentions about the Law; for they are unprofitable and vain. ¹⁰ A man that stirs up divisions, after a first and second admonition, avoid; ¹¹ knowing that he that is such is utterly perverted, and sinneth, being self-condemned. ¹² When I shall have sent Artemas to thee, or Tychicus, use diligence to come to me to Nicopolis; for there I have determined to pass the winter. ¹³ Zenas the lawyer and Apollos forward on their journey diligently, that nothing may be wanting to them. ¹⁴ And let those also who belong to us learn to practise good works for the necessary wants that arise, that they may not be unfruitful. ¹⁵ All that are with me salute thee. Salute those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all.

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