

“SETTING THE HOUSE IN ORDER”

THE BOOK OF TITUS

BACKGROUND BULLET POINTS OF TITUS

- Author of the Book: The Apostle Paul
- Type: Pastoral Epistle
- Date Written: Between A.D. 62-67 between his first and second imprisonment either in Corinth or Nicopolis (3:12).
- Recipient: Titus as well as the churches in Crete. The letter is private in its form but public in its intent. Meaning while the letter is addressed to Titus, it is to be read to or by the entire congregation.

BACKGROUND BULLET POINTS OF TITUS

- Who is Titus? Titus is possibly a gentile (Galatians 2:3) convert of Paul (1:4), either before or during his first missionary journey. He was with Paul and Barnabas as they went before the Council of Jerusalem to address the matter of circumcision as a requirement for the salvation of the gentiles. He is mentioned 9 times in 2 Corinthians. Paul visited Crete on his voyage to Rome (Acts 27:7-9) and returned there to do ministry with Titus and left Titus there to continue the work of church organization (1:5).

BACKGROUND BULLET POINTS OF TITUS

- Setting: Crete, an island southeast in the Mediterranean Sea, 160 miles long and 35 miles wide and is one of the larger islands in the Mediterranean. Most believe the gospel came to Crete because of those who were converted at Pentecost (Acts 2:11) and the church began there. Cretans had a reputation of being liars, cheaters, violent, and those who lived in excess.

BACKGROUND BULLET POINTS OF TITUS

- Occasion: Possibly a letter in response to a letter or report that he (Paul) had received on the status of the churches. The churches needed to be organized. False teachers were threatening the churches and needed confronting. Godly leaders were needed to confront false teachers, preach, and teach sound doctrine, and be a model of Godly living and good works. There was a disconnection between their faith and their works. Consequently, effective evangelism was endangered.

THE CULTURE OF THE CRETANS

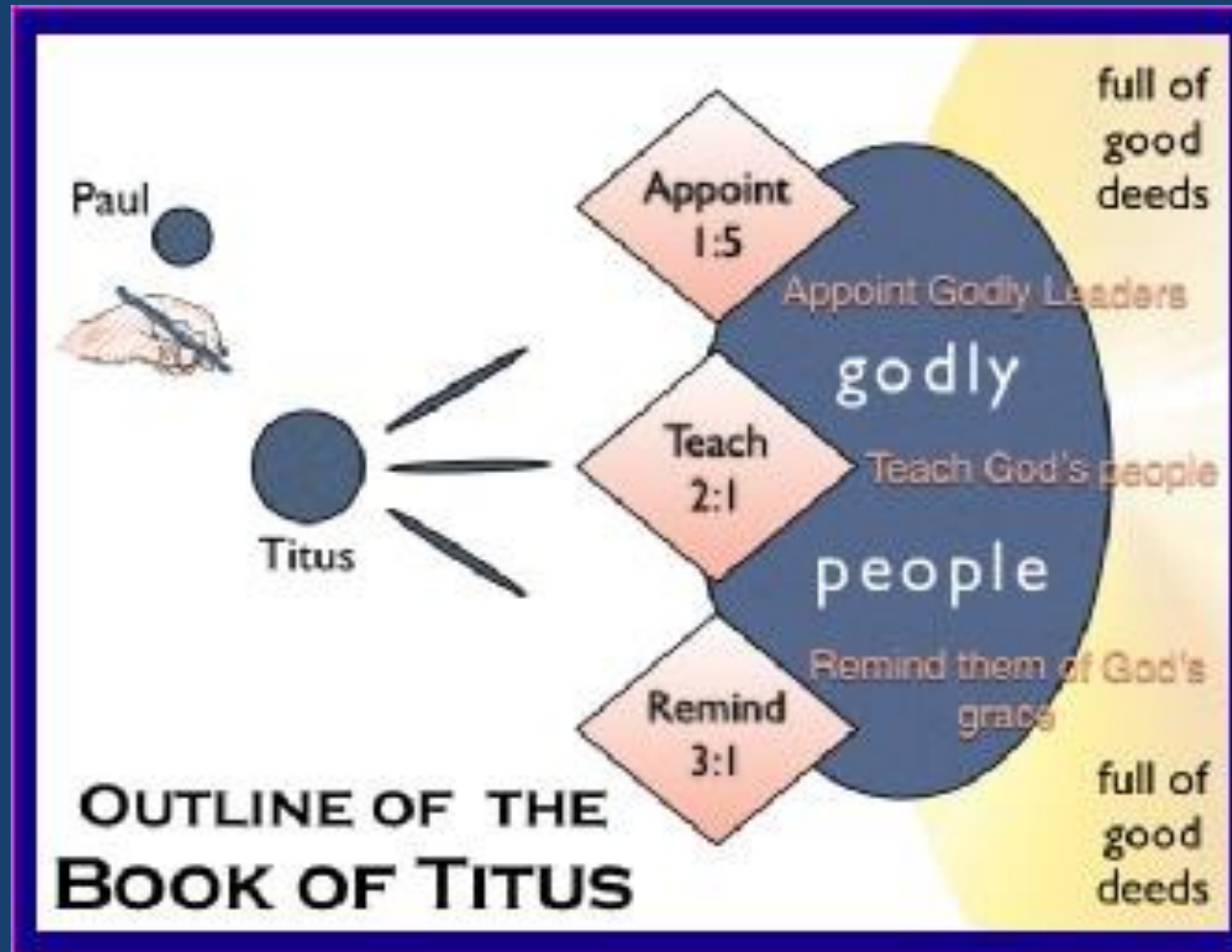
**“‘Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.’ This testimony is true.”
--Titus 1:12f**

THE CHALLENGE OF THE CHURCH

This book is a template of “how to be a flourishing church in a pagan society with immature believers” (Andy Woods).

Flourishing churches are healthy churches. Healthy churches are organized biblically, have a true understanding of the gospel, faithfully share the gospel, perform good deeds, and live godly lives.

OUTLINE AND THEME



DETAILED OUTLINE OF THE BOOK

- Introduction & Greeting (1:1-4)
- Appointment and Qualifications of Elders (1:5-9)
- The Need of Godly Elders (1:10-16)
- Sound Doctrine & A Sound Church (2:1-15)
- The Need for Good Works and Christian Living (3:1-8)
- Disciplining Difficult People (3:9-11)
- Final Instructions and Greetings (3:12-15)

THEMES IN THE BOOK OF TITUS

KEY THEMES

Godly and Qualified Church Leaders (1:5-9), Countering False Teachers with Sound Teaching (1:9-16), Church Organization (1:5), Church Discipline (3:10-11), Salvation (1:3, 2:11, 3:5-7), Effective Witnesses (3:2-3, 3:8).

KEY WORDS AND PHRASES

Sound Doctrine, namely the Gospel (1:1, 1:9, 2:1, 2:8, 2:10-15, 3:4-8), Good Works (1:16, 2:4, 2:7, 2:14, 3:8, 3:14), Godliness (1:1, 2:12), God our Saviour (1:1, 1:4, 2:10, 2:11, 2:13, 3:4).

THE THRUST OF TITUS

Godly leadership in the church of Jesus Christ must proclaim **sound doctrine and sound living** so that the church will be internally healthy and externally effective amidst a pagan society.