

Titus 1:1-4 Word Search

F D I Z U V J D A U T W T M T
 C A F L Q W E O E I G B A A I
 S O A P O S T L E R N N S D T
 V S M Q I H H A A L I E B Q U
 W H E M U R O C C F D A C E S
 V E O N O I E B E U R R Z N D
 Q R C E I N X S M E O P I D E
 P M C A W L T D V K C L A Z U
 O P S I E E D A D O C F A U X
 B F K S D P L O D H A W Y R L
 Q T U A B S E S G T Y C R E M
 C W W I J V T D O I Y J Z L G
 G N I H C A E R P A E L E C T
 Q W X P O J R X F F Z J E H A
 P W K J W K C V D Y O M K Q F

COMMON
 GODLINESS
 MERCY
 PREACHING
 TITUS

APOSTLE
 FAITH
 MANIFESTED
 PEACE
 SLAVE

ACCORDING
 ELECT
 GRACE
 PAUL
 PROMISED

Scripture of the Week

“You search the Scriptures for you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.

—John 5:39-40

I have completed my Bible studies for the following days:

- Lord's Day & Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday & Saturday

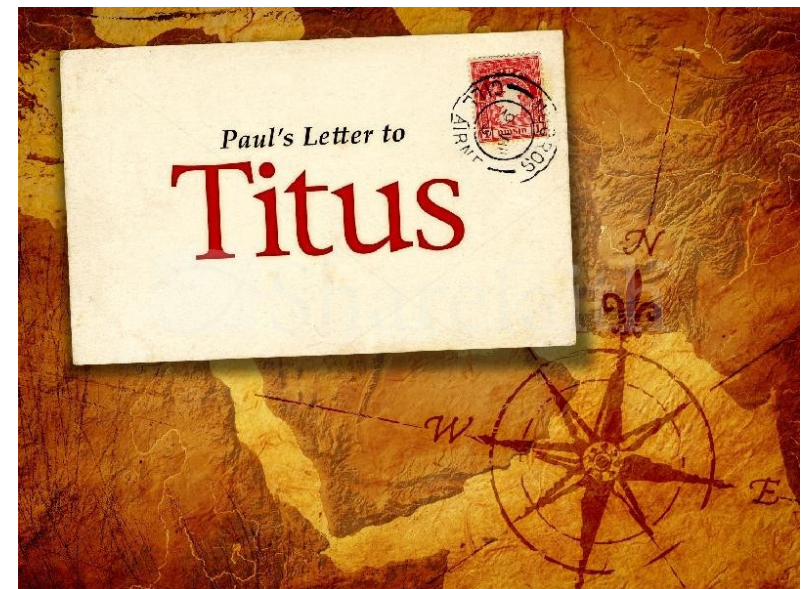
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Daily Bible Studies

November 10 - November 16, 2013

“An Important Introduction”

Titus 1:1-4



The Lord's Day & Monday

Read **Titus 1:1-4**.

This week we are starting the study of a new book, the book of Titus. In particular, we are going to study the first four verses of the book. These four verses are the introduction to the letter that Paul writes to Titus.

The introduction that Paul writes, sometimes called an *inscription*, is one of the longest that he wrote. Only his introductions to Romans and Galatians are longer.

One of the themes, or main ideas, that we will find in this book is called *godliness*. Godliness means to act like God. Now, of course, we cannot act like God by creating planets or by raising people from the dead, but if we have been born again, we can be a tiny bit like him by loving people, telling the truth, being merciful, giving to others, etc.

There is one important thing to realize though, and Paul will teach us this in the book of Titus: godliness and good works are connected to our doctrine. "Doctrine," you ask, "What is doctrine?" Doctrine is the collection of ideas that we are taught and that we believe. Of course, if we are Christians, our doctrine, or our ideas come from the apostles and prophets like Paul and Isaiah. In other words our doctrine should come from the Bible.

"So, what do you mean our ideas are connected to our godliness?" Well, here is one connection. Without proper thoughts about God, you will never do good works. How can you be like God, if you do not know what God is like?

Doctrine and godliness are connected another way as well. Think about this. If we live ungodly lives and do not do good works, what will other people think about the things that we teach and believe? Most of the time, they will say we are phonies, fakes, and hypocrites. They will laugh at us and make fun of our God. They will notice when we tell them about Jesus but do not act like Him.

As we read Titus, look for the three ways that Paul tells us our doctrine should affect our lives. In chapter 1, he shows us how our doctrine affects what we do at church. In chapter 2, he shows us how our doctrine affects what we do at home. Finally, in chapter 3, he shows us how our doctrine affects what we do everywhere else.

Friday & Saturday Activity

Write down three things you learned from this week's study:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

Heavenly Father, thank you for the mercy, grace, and peace that you give to us each day. Help us to show mercy and grace to others as we deal with them though out the week. Please continue to mold us according to your Truth. Amen.

Pray for the Lord's Day service:

1. Pray that everyone would think it is important to come and be able to come.
2. Pray for Sunday School and Pastor Tim's sermon.
3. Pray that we would encourage each other to love the Lord Jesus.

Friday & Saturday

The last reading this week is **Titus 1:4**.

Our final verse for the week gives us some information about Titus, the man who received the letter from Paul.

Galatians 2:3 seems to suggest that Titus became Christian after he heard Paul preach.

Titus was a very close friend of Paul's. Paul calls him his "son" (Titus 1:4), his "brother" (2 Cor. 2:13), his "partner and fellow worker" (2 Cor. 8:23).

Titus went with Paul and Barnabas to Jerusalem for one of the most important meetings of the early church. (Galatians 2:1, Acts 15)

Titus delivered Paul's second letter to the Corinthians and it is also noted that Titus had great care for the Corinthians. (2nd Corinthians 8:16-18 & 23, 9:2-4, 12:18)

Titus also apparently was with Paul in Rome until he left to go to a place called Dalmatia. (2nd Timothy 4:10)

Paul trusted Titus and sent him to some troubled churches including the churches in Corinth, but in this letter we find that Paul had sent him to the churches on an island called Crete. Actually, Paul left him there after they had both visited. Paul seemed to trust Titus as a man who would be faithful to God even in difficult places where many were weak in faith or who directly opposed the faith.

Notice that Paul calls Titus a "true son in our common faith." There are not different varieties and different levels of Christianity. All Christians, whether they were apostles, or pastors, or just an average Joe, were and are united by a common faith that is shared.

Finally, Paul gives a benediction, or blessing, to his friend Titus. First, he prays that Titus would receive grace. To have grace means that we are blessed and favored by God despite the fact that we do not deserve it. Paul desires that Titus would be found in God's favor and that God would bestow blessings on him. He also prays that Titus would have mercy. Mercy is God's choice to not punish us the way we deserve. He decides to give us better than we deserve and to overlook the offenses that we commit. Paul lastly prays that Titus would have peace. We know that peace with God is only possible through Jesus.

The Lord's Day & Monday Activity

1. What is godliness?

2. There are some things that God does, that we cannot. There are also things that He does, that we *can* do and imitate. What are some of the things we can do as Christians?

3. What is doctrine?

4. Where should our doctrine come from?

5. Discuss with your mom or dad how your doctrine connects to your godliness and behavior.

Prayer

Lord, help me learn from your Word this week. Help me to understand that what I believe about you affects how I obey you and serve others. Teach me to submit to your Word. Amen.

Pray for your family:

1. Dad and Mom
2. Brothers and Sisters
3. Grandpas, Grandmas, Uncles, Aunts, and Cousins

Tuesday

Today we will be reading **Titus 1:1**.

What would you think of yourself if thousands of people became Christians because of your preaching? Or what if you actually got to go to heaven for a short time and then come back? What if Jesus appeared to you and handpicked you to do a job? You might think you were a great man of God or that you were Mr. Big Shot.

I am sure Paul thought some of these things, but God kept him humble. Paul said, "I am a bondservant of God. I am God's slave." He knew that everything he was depended on God and he lived with one purpose, which was to please his Lord. It really is amazing that Paul thought of himself this way, because he really did do all the things that are at the beginning of today's lesson. As he said in verse 1, he was an "apostle of Jesus Christ." Only 13 men out of 10 billion or more people that have lived could say that they were apostles. Wow! With such a high office and title, he must have been tempted to brag, but he knew that being an apostle meant that he was a servant to God and to His people.

That is what we see in the next part of the verse. Paul was an apostle "according to the faith of God's elect." What is "God's elect?" God's elect are the people that God chose, before time began, to save. Some of God's elect have already died and gone to Heaven. Some are alive today and have been born again. Others are alive today, but have not been converted yet. Still others will not even be born until sometime in the future.

Paul is making an amazing statement. He is saying that he lived to serve God's people, both in his time and afterward. That includes you! Paul was serving you as he taught and wrote his letters that have come to you almost 2000 years later. Praise God!

How did Paul serve God's elect, or God's people? He taught them and us so that we can built up in the faith. Why would he do that? Because as we learn more about God and obey Him more, we become more godly, we become more like Jesus. Just like the muscle man at the gym teaches you how to build bulging muscles, Paul was determined to "pump you up" in the faith so that you would be able to live a godly and God-glorifying life.



How did Paul do it? Did he tell God's people to lift some weights? No, he taught people to believe God by speaking the word of God to them. As we learn about God in His word, we find that he is trustworthy and that we can have confidence in Him.

Thursday Quiz

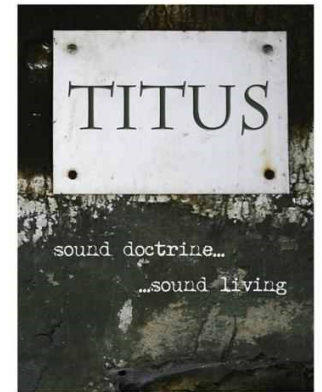
1. How is God's truth, the truth that can make us godly, given to us according to Titus 1:3?

2. Who gave the message to Paul? _____

3. Who did Paul give the message to?

4. Who announces God's Word to us today?

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." - 2nd Timothy 3:16-17



Prayer

Dear Father, thank you for revealing your plan of salvation to us through your Son. Thank you, Jesus, for obeying the Father, dying for my sins, and rising again. Help me to be like Paul and tell others about the Gospel message. Thank you for faithful men who have taught me about You and your Word. Amen.

Pray for the leaders of our government. As always, pray that they would fear and honor the Lord Jesus with the decisions they make.

1. William Porter (Salamanca Building Code Enforcement)
2. Andrew Hvidak (Cattaraugus County Building Code Director for NYS)
3. William Craig Fugate (U.S. F.E.M.A Administrator)

Thursday

Today, you should read **Titus 1:3**.

We ended yesterday's lesson talking about the fact that God had promised eternal life before time began. Before any human beings existed, God planned to give some of them eternal life, but for a long time after God created man there were only glimpses of this plan. We had some understanding of God's plan, but not very much. It was hidden, cloudy, unclear, and not fully known. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, David, Isaiah, Jeremiah...all of these men only had a glimpse.

But now, verse 3 tells us, God has fully revealed his plan to us. He has uncovered it and made it plain to us. He "has in due time manifested His word." God has made it clear to us that the eternal life that he promised is found in His Son, Jesus. Because Jesus obeyed the Father, was punished for our sins, and rose again, a way to God has been made. All of those that believe what Jesus said and in what he did, that turn from their sins to God, will have eternal life. These things have been made clear.



But how were they made clear? God has revealed them to us by giving us His Word. And how did he give us His Word. He gave it through the apostles like Paul. The apostles, like trumpeters playing a majestic fanfare, announced the Gospel to the whole world. Yes, that was a long time ago, but their words are written down for us in the Bible. We can read it for ourselves and listen to the pastors and teachers that God has given to us in the Church, the men that still announce God's Word to us.

Paul said that God's Word was "committed to (him) according to the commandment of God our Savior." Paul had received the Gospel message from Jesus. He was entrusted with it and he was commanded to preach. He was commanded to blow the trumpet and let the world know. Paul did this, but he also gave the message to Timothy and Titus and told them to preach. They too lifted up their voices like trumpets and taught the people that God had put under their care. The Gospel has come down to us through the ages through faithful men preaching the Word of God to their churches. What is the main point? The point is, the truth that every saved or unsaved person needs to know and please God comes through the preaching of God's Word.

Tuesday Quiz

What does the Bible mean when it says, "God's elect?"

According to 2 Timothy 2:10, for what reason did Paul suffer so many things e.g. beatings, shipwrecks, imprisonments?

Romans 1:14-16 tells us that Paul was a debtor to who?

It also tells us in **verse 16** that the preaching of the Gospel was for _____ and _____.

Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you as well. Here is an idea of what you could pray: Dear Jesus, thank you for using men like Paul to write your Word. Thank you for showing us, through your Word, how to be built up in the faith so that we might live godly and God-glorifying lives. Amen.

Pray for your church family:

1. Ms. Britany Clark and baby Amelia
2. Ms. Tammy Cummings
3. Mr. and Mrs. Duff, Andrew

Wednesday

Please read **Titus 1:1-2**.

First, we want to say a few more things about verse 1. Paul mentions a “truth that accords with godliness.” What did he mean by that? He meant that God’s truth agrees with, goes with, and actually causes godliness. You see, Paul will teach us later on in this chapter that there were then, as there always have been and always will be, false teachers. They did not teach God’s truth. They taught untruths. Paul said that the false teachers in his time claimed to know God, but their works did not prove their claim. A person who says he knows Jesus, but steals anything he can get his hands on contradicts himself. His words disagree with his actions. False teaching will not result in good works.

On the other hand, true teaching from God’s Word results in a godly life and an overflow of good works. Jesus prayed to our Father, “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.” In other words, Jesus prayed, “Father, make your people godly with your Word (the Bible). Your Word (the Bible) is truth.” If you want to live a godly life that pleases God, there is one and only one way to do it. You need to pray, then study the Bible and obey it. There are no ifs, ands, or buts about it.

Now we come to verse 2. Paul said that he was an apostle in the “hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began...”

Paul spoke of eternal life, which in the Bible is not limited to living in Heaven forever. It also includes the privileges and blessings of being accepted by God right here and right now.

Paul speaks of having the hope of eternal life. Was he crossing his fingers and wondering if he would go to Heaven? No, no he was not. He was sure he was going to Heaven. He expected to go to Heaven. He wasn’t uncertain. He was certain. Why? Was he that good? Was he that arrogant? No and no. He was certain because, “God, who cannot lie, had promised before time began...” We should all fall on our faces and worship God when we read that. Actually, one day we will, if we are Christians.

God, who cannot lie, has promised you eternal life. Do you believe Him? Before the world even existed, God planned to offer you eternal life. He has promised it to everyone who will believe. Do you believe Him?

Wednesday Quiz

How can we describe biblical hope in two words? (Look through the lesson)

C _ _ R _ _ _ _ N EX _ _ _ _ T _ _ T _ _ _ N

What is one necessary ingredient to produce good works?

SOUND _____.

When someone’s works are not good, what is a reasonable conclusion to come to even if they say that they know God?

According to John 17:3, what is eternal life?

Why should we believe God according to Titus 1:2?

Prayer

Father, help me to read and study your Word that I might know more of you. Cleanse me through your Word and make me more like you. Thank you for all the wonderful promises that you have given to me in the Bible. Thank you for the hope of Heaven that you have given to all your children. Amen.

Pray for missionaries who tell others about Jesus:

This week’s missionary is Ms. Hannah West. She works in freezing cold and dark Alaska. She spreads the good news about the Lord Jesus through a radio program for children. She helps and encourages God’s people at a church in a town called Craig, Alaska.

