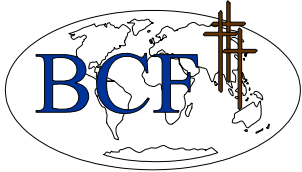


BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE FELLOWSHIP

TITUS



Answer Key CHAPTER ONE

The Book of Titus was written by the Apostle Paul while he was a prisoner at Rome. J. Sidlow Baxter in his book, "Explore The Book," says of Titus, "Judging from the allusions to Titus in Paul's epistles, he seems to have been the ablest and most reliable of all the friends and coadjutors whom the Apostle had about him In his later years. As an uncircumcised Gentile who had been converted by Paul, he represented in his own person the breath and freedom of the Gospel, for which the Apostle had so zealously and successfully contended."

You should read the following references in other epistles concerning Titus: Galatians 2:3; 2 Corinthians 2:13; 7:6; 8:1-6, 16, 17.

This epistle was written toward the end of Paul's life and ministry, so it has a great deal to offer in regard to Paul's final teaching concerning the Church, the Body of Christ.

Before you start your lesson, we suggest that you read the book through once very carefully.

Chapter One

1. (vs .1) What two descriptive titles does Paul give himself 1.) **A servant of God**
2) **An Apostle of Jesus Christ**
2. (vs .2) What kind of hope is referred to? **Eternal Life**
3. (vs. 2) When did God promise this hope? **Before the world began**

Note: 2 Timothy 1:9-11 tells us of a purpose of God which is ours through Christ. This purpose was established "before the world began." This same phrase is used three times: once in Romans 16:25 of the Gospel of the mystery, in 2 Tim 1: 1:9-11 of the Gospel unto which Paul was appointed an apostle of the Gentiles. The third time it is used is here in Titus 1:2 concerning the hope of eternal life. This phrase must be understood as pertaining to God's secret purpose in the Church, the Body of Christ. It is in contrast to such a phrase as in Acts 3:21 "since the world began." In reality, two distinct programs of God are characterized. by these contrasting phrases. One is the prophetic plan of God through Israel. The other is God's secret plan through the Body of Christ. The Apostle Paul was given that which was "kept secret since the foundation of the world." The Book of Titus pertains to the special message of God to members or the Body of Christ.

4. (vs. 3) How did God manifest His Word? **Through preaching**

When did God do this? **In due time**

Through whom did he do this? **Paul**

By whose command? **God, our Savior**

5. (vs. 4) What does Paul call Titus?. **His own son**

6. (vs. 5) Where was Titus when Paul wrote this letter? **Crete**

Note: The island of Crete in the Aegean Sea was notorious, known in history as a base of operations for pirate bands. Many of the people to whom Titus would minister would be those from very questionable backgrounds. We see for this reason the stress upon ordaining proper elders in every city and setting things in order. Paul refers to their questionable history in 1:12. Thus we see a stress upon their maintaining good works and speaking things that become sound doctrine. The saints of Crete had lived in the midst of a very crooked and perverse generation. We might consider this epistle as of special import to modern day believers living under similar adverse conditions.

7. (vs. 5) What two things were to be done? **Set in order the things that are wanting and ordain elders in every city**

8. (vss. 6-8) List five things an elder (or bishop) should not be.

1) **Not accused of riot (KJV); not wild or disobedient (NIV)**

2) **Not self-willed (KJV); not overbearing (NIV)**

3) **Not soon angry (KJV); not quick tempered (NIV)**

4) **Not given to wine (KJV); not given to drunkenness (NIV)**

5) **No striker (KJV); not violent (NIV) Not given to filthy lucre (KJV); not pursuing dishonest gain (NIV)**

9. (vss. 6-8) List five things an elder (or bishop) should be.

1) **Blameless, a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate (KJV)**

2) **Blameless; hospitable; One who loves good; Self-controlled; upright, holy, disciplined (NIV)**

3) **The husband of one wife**

4) _____

5) _____

10. (vs. 9) What should an elder be able to do with sound doctrine? _____

Exhort and convince the gainsayers (those who oppose sound doctrine)

Note: In a day filled with strange doctrines and multitudes of godless cults, we need to heed the admonition to hold fast to the Truth. More than ever we need, as Paul stresses in Titus 1:9, men who will by sound doctrine both exhort and convince the gainsayers (those who oppose it). Some believe the verse should read "exhort the believers and convict the gainsayers." This may very well be the case. We do know that the only real source of exhortation for the believer is "sound doctrine" and the only source of conviction for the sinner is the same.

Sinners will never be convicted of sin by gimmicks or programs. Saints will not be properly motivated by group dynamics and pressure. Sound doctrine is the only scriptural means of accomplishing these goals. Such sound doctrine can never be achieved without acknowledging God's message for the Church, the Body of Christ.

11. (vs. 10) What group especially is cited as having many vain talkers and deceivers? **The circumcision (Jews)**
12. (vs. 11) What must be done to these deceivers? **They must be silenced**
13. (vs. 11) Why do these people teach what they ought not to? **For dishonest gain**
14. (vs. 12) How did one of the Cretan poets describe his own people **Liars, evil beasts and lazy gluttons**
15. (vs. 13) Does Paul agree with this statement? **Yes** No
16. (vss. 13-14) How was Titus to rebuke these people? **Sharply, be sound in the faith, pay no attention to Jewish fables and commandments of men**
17. (vs. 15) To whom is nothing pure? **Those that are corrupted and unbelievers**
18. (vs. 15) What is said of their conscience? **It is defiled**

Note: How often we hear, "Let your conscience be your guide." 1 Timothy 4:2 makes it clear that the conscience can be cauterized like an open wound would be with a hot iron. That is, we can become so calloused to right and truth that our conscience will not even give a whimper when we engage in sin. The only true guide is the Scripture and the Holy Spirit using the Scripture to convict of sin and instruct in righteousness. We cannot and must not trust our conscience to be our guide.

19. (vs. 16) How are these men known as falsely professing they know God? **In works they deny God, they are abominable and disobedient and to every good work reprobate**

CHAPTER TWO

One notable aspect of this chapter is the reference to the "blessed hope" of the believer. How we should rejoice that we are not without hope as believers, but that Jesus Christ is our hope. Chapter 2 develops the three tenses of our salvation:

Past - "The grace of God which bringeth salvation appeared." (vs. 11)

Present - "Teaching us that denying "ungodliness and worldly lust we should live." (vs. 12)

Future - "The blessed hope, the appearing of our great God and Savior." (vs. 13)

Read this chapter through carefully before you go on with the questions.

1. (vs. 1) What was Titus to speak? **Sound doctrine**
2. (vs. 2) What are the aged men to be? **Sober, grave, temperate or sound in faith, in love, in patience**

3. (vs. 3) List three ways in which the older women should live.
- 1) Not false accusers (KJV), Not slanderers (NIV)
 - 2) Not given to much wine (KJV), Not addicted to much wine (NIV)
 - 3) Teachers of good things
4. (vss. 4-5) List five things the older women are to teach the younger
- KJV Answers: Be Sober, love their husbands, love their children, be discreet, be chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their husbands**
- NIV Answers: Love their husbands and children, be self-controlled, be pure, be busy at home be kind, be obedient to their husbands.**
5. (vs. 5) Why are these things to be taught? That the Word of God be not blasphemed

Note: Often modern-day writers play down the significance of the wife's role. Titus 2:4-5 outlines the God-given responsibility and privilege of the wife. For a woman to forsake this all-important task of God and to fail to fulfill God's objectives is to "blaspheme God." These are strong words, but they are nevertheless the Word of God as stated in these verses.

6. (vss. 6-7) What kind of behavior are the young men to pattern? Good works
7. (vs. 7) What is to characterize their doctrine? Uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, sound doctrine
8. (vs. 8) What will be the result of proper conduct and doctrine? No one will have anything evil to say about the believers

Note: Christians will always be opposed by the world and by the enemy of the faith. The Lord himself said, "if they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you." However we must be sure that the world's scoffing and ridicule is not justified because of our failure. Titus 2:8 emphasizes the need for "sound speech" to avoid uncalled-for criticism. Much of the world's scorn is justified because Christians are not careful to maintain "sound speech." May the Lord grant us wisdom not be of this kind.

9. (vs. 9) Who should be obedient and not talk back (answer again-KJV) Servants
10. (vs. 10) How should servants behave? Be trustworthy, not steal, (KJV- not purloining, showing fidelity)
11. (vs. 10) What will be the result of a servant that lives in that manner? The teaching of God will be attractive (adorn the doctrine of God our Savior – KJV)

Note: The emphasis in verse 11 is that God's grace has appeared and that it does in fact bring salvation to all men. All men can be saved if they will but place their faith in Christ and His finished work.

12. (vs. 12) What does God's grace teach us? **To deny ungodliness and worldly lusts and to live righteously, soberly and godly**
13. (vs. 13) What are we to look for? **The blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ**
14. We are told of this coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in more detail in 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. Read that reference carefully. Where are the believers to meet the Lord? **In the air**

Note: In Titus 2:13, Jesus Christ is given both the titles "God" and "Savior." We must realize that all the Bible is God's Word and its message is one of agreement and mutual support. In Isaiah 43:11-12 and Isaiah 45:21 we find that Jehovah states clearly that He is the ONLY GOD AND SAVIOR. Is Jehovah our God and Savior or is Jesus Christ our God and Savior? The overwhelming answer from Scripture is that Jehovah of the Old Testament is in fact, Jesus Christ of the New. There is indeed only One God and Savior, and that is Jesus Christ, Jehovah God. Read and compare Isa. 43:11-42 and Isa. 45:21 with Titus 2:13 and Col. 2:9.

15. (vs. 14) What did Christ do to redeem us from all iniquity? **Gave Himself for us**
16. (vs. 14) What other result, besides redemption comes from Christ's work? **To purify for himself a people that are His own (a peculiar people- KJV) zealous for good works**
17. (vs. 15) How was Titus to speak, exhort and rebuke? **With all authority**
18. Compare 2:15 with 1 Timothy 4:12 and state how Titus was to keep from being despised. **By being an example for the believers in word, in conversation, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity**
19. Read chapter 2 again. Five different groups are given special instructions. List the five groups with the reference for each.

	Group	Verse
1.	<u>Aged men</u>	<u>2</u>
2.	<u>Aged women</u>	<u>3</u>
3.	<u>Young women</u>	<u>4, 5</u>
4.	<u>Young men</u>	<u>6</u>
5.	<u>Servants</u>	<u>9</u>

CHAPTER THREE

The key word in chapter three is "maintain." There is a clear course of action which God wants us to take in our new life in Christ.

The Holy Spirit is very careful to reinforce that we are saved "not by works of righteousness which we have done." Rather we are saved by God's mercy and grace and through the operation of the Holy Spirit.

With the fact of justification by faith alone established, the Apostle Paul then goes on to explain the need for the believer to maintain good works. Read this chapter through and read also Ephesians 2:8-10, then go on to answer the questions.

1. (vs. 1) What was Paul's advice about our reaction to governmental authority? **We should be obedient to those in authority**
2. (vs. 1) What are we to be always ready to do? **Good works**
3. (vs. 2) What are we not to do to anyone? **Speak evil of them**
4. (vs. 2) What are we to do to all people **To be gentle and considerate**
5. (vs. 3) List five things that we ourselves once were :
 1. **Foolish**
 2. **Disobedient**
 3. **Deceived**
 4. **Enslaved by passions**
 5. **Hating one another**
6. (vs. 4) When did these things pass away? **When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared**
7. (vs. 5) What cannot save us? **Works of righteousness**
8. (vs. 5) What was God's motivation to save us? **His mercy**
9. (vs 5) What happens to us through the Holy Spirit when we are saved? **Washing and regeneration (renewal- NIV)**

Note: Regeneration can be defined as giving life anew. From Titus 3:5 we see that it is only the Holy Spirit who can perform this work of regeneration. Ephesians 2:1 makes it plain that in our natural condition we are dead in trespasses and sins. We need to be made alive. Through faith in Christ, we are actually made clean through regeneration, or new life, and made into a new person through the working of the Holy Spirit. At the very moment of salvation we come into contact with the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit. In fact, without the Holy Spirit and His work there is no new life.

10. (vs. 6) How is the Holy Spirit shed upon us? **Abundantly**
11. (vs. 7) How are we justified? **By God's grace**
12. (vs. 7) What do we become when we are justified? **Heirs, having the hope of eternal life**

Note: We are heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Eph.3:6 states that we are "joint heirs" with Christ. What a wonderful possession is ours to know that we have the same inheritance that belongs to Jesus Christ. Read Hebrews 1:1-3 and then meditate upon the wonder of our being made joint heirs with Christ.

13. (vs. 8) What does Paul say to assure us that what he is writing is true? **This is a trustworthy saying**
14. (vs. 8) What are we to constantly stress to the believers? **That those who believe in God would continue to do good works**

15. (vs. 8) What benefit are these good works? **They are good and profitable**

Note: We realize that a person is not saved by his good works but by faith in Christ and His finished work upon the Cross. Eph. 1:10 does tell us that after we have been saved, we are to realize that we have been created in Christ Jesus to do good works. We are told the importance of good works in Titus 3:8. They are to characterize the life of all Christians so that the unsaved world can visibly see the results of the new life in Christ. We must be careful to maintain good works. Fundamental to this is a daily study and reading of God's Word and communicating with Him in prayer.

16. (vs. 9) What are we to avoid? **Foolish questions, genealogies, contentions, strivings about the law**

Note: Many people in Paul's day, and even now, feel there is some spiritual benefit in their family background. In Paul's day the Jews especially took great pride in their human heritage. Our boast can only be in Christ, and we must not be misled to concentrate on issues which have no significance to our spiritual well-being.

17. (vs. 9) Why are these to be avoided? **They are unprofitable and foolish**

18. What is to be done with a heretic (divisive person) after the first and second warning? _____
He is to be rejected (Have nothing to do with him)

19. (vs. 11) How is such a man condemned? **Of himself**

20. (vs. 12) Where had Paul decided to winter? **Nicopolis**

Note: At the close of the Book of Acts Paul was under house arrest in Rome. He was able to live in his own hired house but was kept under confinement by the Roman guard. There are strong indications that Paul was released from this house arrest for a short period, after which he returned to Rome. He was then put into maximum security confinement, which ended with his death at the hand of Nero. How wonderful to know as did Paul, "Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evildoer even unto bonds, but the Word of God is not bound" (2 Timothy 2:9).

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