

Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

Pastor Howard Daniel, Jr.

4357 US Hwy 59 South

P.O. Box 343

Livingston, Texas 77351

936-327-8870



MINISTRY OF THE WORD

NOT GIVING HEED TO JEWISH FABLES,

AND COMMANDMENTS OF MEN, THAT TURN FROM THE TRUTH

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR.

SUNDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

SCRIPTURE READING: **TITUS 1:6-16**

Titus 1:14-16, **Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.** 15: ***Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto 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 abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.***

1. BACKGROUND

- a. Paul is the author of the **Book of Titus**. It bears the name Titus because it was actually written to him.
- b. The date of the writing is around 64 A.D. to 67 A.D.
- c. Titus apparently had been with Paul in his ministry on the island of Crete. **Titus 1:5** tells us, ***For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I have appointed thee.***
- d. Paul had two young preachers he was mentoring. One was Timothy and the other Titus.
- e. He emphasizes in **Titus 2:13**, ***Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.***
- f. In **2 Peter 1:19** he speaks, ***We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well the ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts.***
- g. Paul had the privilege of leading both Timothy and Titus to a saving knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
- h. That tells us we should not only be leading people to Christ but leading them so they will follow in our footsteps. If it all ends with us, we have not made an impact for future generations. **Proverbs 11:30**, ***The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.***
- i. Both Timothy and Titus are called Pastoral Epistles. Paul gives a lot of instructions to these young preachers concerning the local church. These three epistles tell us how to operate the local church. We have found that in this life only two things matter, where am I going? And what am I leaving behind? **Ecclesiastes 12:13**, ***Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.***
- j. Many local churches today have a spiritual need. We must keep the Word of God as our central focus. **We must not allow ourselves to become sidetracked, attempting to police the lives of church members; being obsessed with music, emotion and entertainment.** Our mandate from Jesus Christ is to preach the Word. **2 Timothy 4:2**, ***Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.***
- k. I believe that **1 Corinthians 9** explains Paul's actions in this case. **1 Corinthians 9:21-22**, ***To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law. 22: To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.*** It is plain that Timothy was a Jew because Paul circumcised him.
- l. Titus was a Gentile and Paul refused to circumcise him.
- m. **Galatians 2:3** tells about the circumcision of Titus, and it states, ***But neither Titus, who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised.***

- n. **Acts 16:3** tells us about the Timothy's circumcision, *Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him because of the Jews which were in those quarters: for they knew all that his father was a Greek.*
- o. We must be very careful not to be legalistic in our local churches. **Romans 10:4**, *For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.*
- p. Paul wanted us to know perfectly well that we are not to mix law and grace. **Galatians 2:21**, *I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.*
- q. Paul points out the operation of the ideal local church.
 1. It has an orderly organization.
 2. It is sound in doctrine.
 3. It is pure in life, ready for every good work.
- r. This is the New Testament Church as Paul laid it out to these two young preachers.
- s. **Titus 1:5** again emphasizes that Paul had left Titus in Crete. *For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I have appointed thee.*
- t. I cannot over-emphasize this. A church must be doctrinally sound. **2 Timothy 4:3**, *For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;* We must practice this throughout the church. Numerous churches of today are focusing on sign-gifts that have passed away when the emphasis should be on correct doctrine. **John 7:17**, *If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.* **1 Corinthians 13:8-10**, *Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. 9: For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. 10: But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.*
- u. According to the pattern in the **Book of Revelation** that our Lord Jesus Christ laid down for the church of Philadelphia emphasizing that there are **three non-negotiable in the local church concerning doctrine:** 1. The Preserved Word of God is the final authority. 2. The Deity of Christ must be held uppermost. 3. Justification by faith is essential for salvation.
- v. Our local church must have ministries outside its walls. Our church is aware that we are to support missionary endeavors around the world, and we do so in accordance with our resources. We must go into the nursing homes and hospitals, jails and the prisons; fostering ministries for both children and adults and impact our local community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We must also support local mission efforts.
- w. A quick outline of the **Book of Titus** would be:
 1. **Chapter 1**- The Church organization.
 2. **Chapter 2** - Preach and teach the Word of God.
 3. **Chapter 3** - To perform and maintain good works.
- x. Some themes for the **Book of Titus** are:
 1. Good works do not bring us to salvation but reflect our salvation experience. **Titus 3:5**, *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 Ghost;*
 2. Christians should not speak evil of anyone and especially believers. **Titus 3:2**, *To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men.*
 3. Believers should deny worldly lust. **Titus 2:12**, *Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;*
 4. We should never let our speech be such that we could be condemned or bring disgrace to the ways of the Lord in any way, shape or form. **Proverbs 15:1**, *A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.* **Philippians 1:27**, *Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;*
- y. Let's see what the Lord would have us to glean from the Mighty Preserved Word of God.

2. INTRODUCTION

- a. Please refer to the September 9, 2021 Morning Message for the Introduction.

3. FIVE POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

- f. **If any be blameless.**

1. **Titus 1:6-9, 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 selfwilled 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 hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.**
 2. It is very necessary that men of God be blameless.
 3. This does not mean they are perfect and without sin.
 4. This means that his life must be above reproach.
 5. We must be very careful in this life because there is always some person who can find fault in an individual.
 6. We must not put Christ's faithful brethren and sisters aside because of some personal vindictive motive.
 7. Notice it says, **"the husband of one wife, having faithful children"**
 8. The idea here is there was not to be polygamy in having several wives. Remember God continued to use David after his encounter with Uriah and Bathsheba.
 9. God has always ordained one man for one woman for a lifetime.
 10. We must not get into the legalistic approach and set people on the shelf because of things done before they were saved.
 11. A man needs to be a Godly man with a Godly family.
 12. The children are to be faithful and we can only train them in the way they should go. **Proverbs 22:6, Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.**
 13. Do not hold a man responsible for the complete actions of his children after they reach the age of accountability.
 14. If we do so, we are not taking the complete Scriptures in their totality.
 15. **"not accused of riot or unruly."** – This means they are not involved in protest and all types of things; a life that is not glorifying the Lord and is against the Word of God.
 16. This verse specifically mentions a bishop or elder must be blameless as a steward of God.
 17. A good steward is one who will represent the Master in a very special and unique way, always being faithful to the calling. **1 Corinthians 4:2, Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.**
 18. **"not selfwilled"** – We must be careful to not put our self in the place of God.
 19. **"not soon angry,"** – many times we are too quick on the trigger as Christians.
 20. **"not given to wine,"** – we do not need the world in order to do things for God. **Proverbs 23:31, Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright.**
 21. **"no striker,"** – means not violent.
 22. **"not given to filthy lucre;"** – not worrying about money or material things.
 23. If we do not know what we believe and why we believe it, it is hard for us to hold fast and be trustworthy according to the teachings of God. **Ephesians 4:14, That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;**
 24. There are two things that an officer must do:
 - a. Teach the Preserved Word of God.
 - b. Be able to refute the heretics. Resist the opportunity to gossip and spread discord. **Proverbs 6:16-19, These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: 17: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, 18: An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, 19: A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.**
 25. **1 Timothy 5:22** lays it all out for us, **Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.**
 26. We must be very careful not to allow people to teach and preach the Preserved Word of God without knowing exactly what doctrines they believe. **John 7:17, If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.**
- g. For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers.**
1. **Titus 1:10-12, 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.

2. Paul is going to talk about the bad reputation of the Cretians.
3. He was assigning this young man a tremendous mission, to go in and get them saved.
4. Once a man or woman gets saved by the grace of God, it is amazing the difference in their lives. **2 Corinthians 5:17, Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**
5. We know we are all sinners and come short of the glory of God. **Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**
6. We also know it is only by the new birth that we can enter into heaven. **John 3:3, Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**
7. In Adam all die, but in Christ all shall be made alive. **1 Corinthians 15:22, For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.**
8. The Cretians had a bad reputation.
9. When the Word of God gets a hold of a man or woman there is a difference in their lives.
10. Vain talkers are nothing more than empty chatter.
11. There are a lot of these people in the church.
12. My admonishment to the members of Chesswood Baptist Church: let's not get involved in gossip; getting in other folks' business, putting out hot air and jumping to conclusions before we know the facts. **Psalms 12:3, The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things: Psalms 34:13, Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Proverbs 10:31, The mouth of the just bringeth forth wisdom: but the froward tongue shall be cut out. Proverbs 12:19, The lip of truth shall be established for ever: but a lying tongue is but for a moment. Proverbs 17:4, A wicked doer giveth heed to false lips; and a liar giveth ear to a naughty tongue. Proverbs 18:21, Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.**
13. If there is a problem, elevate it to a source that can indeed solve the problem.
14. Let's not be vain talkers and deceive others; deception is something that is very prevalent in our day and people love to get a hold of negativity.
15. Notice how deceptive they are when they get off into someone else's business.
16. They are able to **"subvert whole houses,"** - means they are able to overthrow whole families, leading them astray with error and not truth.
17. People who are young in the faith are totally destroyed many times by something that is not true.
18. **The Devil always tries to steal the Preserved Word of God and we must be alert to his devises. Isaiah 55:11, So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.**
19. The Bible, in this particular case, speaks of those who are teaching things that they ought not to teach.
20. They were doing it for **"for filthy lucre's sake."**
21. We must never get involved in the love of money because God's Word says in **1 Timothy 6:10, For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.**
22. **"The Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies."** - means they were rude and cruel.
23. Slow bellies mean they were lazy; gluttonous.
24. It is amazing the Word of God says they were liars.
25. We know that Satan is a liar from the very beginning. **John 8:44, Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.**
26. Many of these people have now turned to Christ and Paul instructs Titus to be stern in his instructions to them.

h. Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.

1. **Titus 1:13-14, 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.**
2. Paul is telling Titus he is not going to have an easy job.
3. He must be strict with the Creteans; he must not have a hidden agenda; he must tell it like it is.
4. Jewish fables represent legalism; people getting saved and then putting themselves under the law.
5. This is very prevalent in this day and time; we have people who want to get saved by grace and they live by the law. **Romans 10:4, For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.**
6. We are saved by grace and we must live by grace. **Ephesians 2:8, For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:**
7. Commandments of men that turn from the truth; how timely this is as we have all the new versions of the Bible that are exploding on the market today. 150 copyrighted versions of the Bible was my last count. Where is the Preserved Word of God? **2 Timothy 3:16, All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 2 Peter 1:20, Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. Psalms 119:160, Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever. Romans 3:4, God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.**
8. Men and woman are using commentaries instead of the Preserved Word of God and expect special blessings which are in fact not going to come.
9. **We must never turn from the truth. John 8:32, And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.**
10. Every one of God's Words is pure. **Proverbs 30:5, Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Psalm 119:160, Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.**

i. **Unto the pure all things are pure.**

1. **Titus 1:15, Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.**
2. This verse, many times, is used by people who are saved by grace and want to live like the devil.
3. It certainly has nothing to do with that at all.
4. God is saying we must recognize what is pure and we have to deal with that.
5. The Word of God is pure; every single word and has been preserved. **Psalms 12:6-7, The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. 7: Thou shalt keep them, O Lord, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.**
6. We must have a relationship with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in order to fully know God. **Philippians 3:10, That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;**
7. Notice this verse says to them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure, even their mind and their conscience is defiled. We must recognize the difference between men of God and men that are carrying a title behind their names. **Colossians 2:8, Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. 1 Timothy 4:2, Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;**
8. God will give them over to a reprobate mind. **Romans 1:28, And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;**
9. Sitting under the preaching and teaching of individuals we should know what they believe concerning the Preserved Word of God. We should know their doctrine and whether they are rightly dividing the Word of Truth. **2 Timothy 2:15, Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.**

j. **They profess that they know God.**

1. **Titus 1:16, They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.**
2. Many believers today are denying the Lord Jesus Christ by their actions. They buy into the concept that Jesus was a created being and that we are being saved which is far from the truth.
3. We must be very careful at Chesswood Baptist Church to know that we represent God in an unbelieving world.
4. Everyone is not going to believe, and the only Bible some people are going read is our life. **Acts 28:24, And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not.**
5. **"being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate."** - It is not about rituals or ceremonies it is about a pure heart.
6. We must reflect a pure heart. **1 Peter 1:22, Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:**
7. Remember **Titus 1:15, Unto the pure all things are pure; but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.**

4. CONCLUSION

- a. Friend, do you know Jesus as your personal Saviour?
- b. If you do not know Him today, you need to come to Him.
- c. The Bible says in **John 6:37, All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.**
- d. **Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**
- e. **Romans 3:10, As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:**
- f. **Romans 10:9-10, That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**
- g. Would you come to Jesus today and be saved?
- h. Please stand.

www.chesswoodbaptist.org

