#### **Titus**

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"The book of Titus"

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#### **Introduction Notes**

- 1. Titus was one of Paul's theological students. (Titus 1:4).
- 2. He was sent to Corinth to straighten things out (He was a trouble shooter.) after Timothy's failure.

(II Corinthians 2:13)

- 3. Titus straightened things out and then he joined Paul in Macedonia to turn Paul's depression into +H. (II Corinthians 7:5-7, and 13-15).
- 4. Between Paul's first and second imprisonment, Paul and Titus visited Crete. (Titus 1:5).
- 5. Then Titus was sent to Dalmacia. (II Timothy 4:10). This was a year later.
- 6. Prior to all this, Titus had been a test case in Jerusalem. (Galatians 2:1-3). Titus was a Gentile.
- 7. Historical tradition says that Titus later returned to Crete and lived there as its Bishop/Elder until he died at a ripe old age which is unusual for a troubleshooter.

# **Background**

- 1. This epistle of Titus was written somewhere between 65 and 67 A.D. The author of Titus is Paul.
- 2. This is one of 3 letters Paul wrote to Timothy and Titus. The three letters were written in this order. (1 Timothy, Titus and 2 Timothy) They are called the Pastoral Epistles.
- 3. The epistle of Titus was written from Necropolis. This is where Paul was imprisoned for the second time.
- 4. The purpose of this letter was to give further instructions to Titus concerning the organizing of the churches in Crete. Also, to inform Titus that Paul was sending him some help, Apollos. Also, that there were false teachers going to Crete in order to make life miserable for him. Apollos was an eloquent and learned Jew born at Alexandria and deeply versed in OT scriptures. Apollos grew up in the leading center of Hellenistic thinking of Greece. Apollos was a firm supporter of Paul, and of one who was, despite his natural abilities, in no way interested in competing with or subverting Paul's influence and authority. He seems to have preferred taking the subsidiary role of helping to strengthen churches which had already been established.

## Outline of Chapter 1

Verses 1-4. Salutation to the Epistle

Verses 5-9. Appointment to leadership

Verses 10-16. The necessity for that leadership

### Salutation (Greeting)

Tit. 1:1) Paul, a bond-servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of those chosen (Elect) of God and the knowledge of the truth (God's Veracity) which is according to godliness,

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a bond-servant GR. "doulos" δοῦλος (means = a slave of God)
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No Roman citizen would normally call himself a Doulos, (a slave). Paul was a slave to God, because he lived during the Church Age.

- 1. He is in union with Christ, just like you and I.
- 2. He is indwelt by Christ, just like you and I.
- 3. He is indwelt by God the Holy Spirit, just like you and I.
- 4. He is an Ambassador for Christ.

An <u>Ambassador for Christ</u> is a commission of every church age believer to represent Jesus Christ before

Angels and the human race. The commission is granted at the moment of salvation but becomes ever more functional with spiritual growth.

Paul was not a slave because he was a priest. He was not a Levite. He was from the fighting tribe of Benjamin. That's how he got the name Saul, meaning "a fighter "and Paul meaning "small". The irony was that Paul was a priest just like you and I are. Yet, he was from the fighting tribe, not the Levite tribe (priestly tribe).

The tribe of Benjamin has great truths to teach. First, God doesn't see as men see, for God looks on the heart not the outward appearance. God saw a warrior inside of Benjamin. Outwardly, others saw him as the youngest son and his tribe as the smallest tribe. But God saw more, a man who would both devour and divide. The second lesson for us lies in the two Sauls who came from the tribe of Benjamin.

King Saul, the epitome of the sin nature and its war against God, and Saul/Paul whose nature was changed after being a murderous Pharisee. Saul/Paul is the example of what God can do with those who come to Christ in faith.

5. Paul was in fulltime Christian service, as are we, once we become believers, making us all "doulos" slaves.

## **Apostleship**

#### an Apostle of Jesus Christ:

Apostle - GR. "apostolos" ἀπόστολος,

The admiral of the fleet. Absolute authority.

- 1) Paul was elected by God in His Plan. (Romans 1:1)
- 2) Apostles were appointed by the Holy Spirit.

(I Corinthians 12:11)

3) No apostle was appointed to the church until after the ascension of Christ.

(I Corinthians 12:28, Ephesians 4:11-12)

4) An apostle had to be an eyewitness to the resurrected Christ. Paul qualifies because of what happened on the Damascus road and the Revelation received from Jesus Christ.

(I Corinthians 9:1, I Corinthians 15:8-9)

5) Paul had the full range of spiritual gifts given to other Apostles. (healing, casting out demons, etc.)

(Acts 5:12, Acts 28:8-9)

Paul could turn any believer over to Satan for the sin unto death. (I Corinthians 5:1-5)

#### The Chosen (Elect)

Does the statement in verse 1 mean that God chooses who will become believers?

How can we have volition (free choice) about accepting God if he chooses who will be believers?

If you are a believer, you are the elect!

Some believe God chose who would be saved.

This thought highlights the sovereignty of God because he can do what he wishes but goes against scripture when we are given Volition (free choice).

In this sense, God would create some to believe and some to be destined for separation from him. This is contrary to God's character. God desires that all should choose him. Faith is the basis of our salvation!

Why would Jesus need to come for the sins of the world if we were pre-chosen, who would receive him?