

New Testament Survey

Class 23: Titus

Background

Author: Paul

Date: early 60s AD

Primary Recipient: Titus

Like Timothy, Titus was a trusted associate of Paul's who had served with him for 15-20 years (Gal. 2:1-3; 2 Cor. 2:13; 7:6, 13, 14; 8:6, 16, 23; 12:18; 2 Tim. 4:10). He was a Gentile and was experienced in dealing with delicate situations and conflict.

Location: Crete (1:5)

The church on Crete likely started soon after Pentecost (early 30s AD) since we're told that Jews from Crete who were visiting Jerusalem heard Peter preach (Acts 2:11). In the 30 years between Pentecost and Paul writing this letter, the Cretan church may have drifted or died out, and so maybe it was in need of a fresh start.

Compositional: Short, terse, candid

Paul and Titus knew each pretty other well, so likely Paul didn't need to spend much time on explanations.

Purpose

The church at Crete was unhealthy and unfruitful because of false teachers, some of whom were Jewish, who were teaching "unprofitable and worthless" things (3:9), stirring rebellion against authority, and causing chaos in Christian homes. In response, Paul wanted Titus to appoint godly leadership (1:5), teach sound/healthy doctrine (2:1), and refute these false teachers so that they would stop troubling the church and turn to faith (1:13).



Source: *Wikimedia.org*

Class Schedule

25-Feb-24	Titus
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Outline of Titus

I. Greetings (1:1-4)

II. Organizing the Church on Crete (1:5-16)

A. *Appointing Godly Leadership (1:5-9)*

B. *Dealing with False Teachers (1:10-16)*

III. Teaching Sound Doctrine and Exhorting Godly Conduct (2:1-15)

A. *Exhortations to Godly Conduct (2:1-10)*

B. *A Meditation on Sanctification (2:11-14)*

C. *Paul's Charge to Titus (2:15)*

IV. Further Instructions on Doing What Is Good (3:1-11)

A. *Exhortations to Live Peaceably and Productively (3:1-2)*

B. *A Meditation on Justification (3:3-8)*

C. *Final Instructions on Dealing with False Teachers*

V. Parting Greetings, Travel Plans, and a Final Exhortation (3:12-15)