

Titus: "The" Truth
2024-02-25

Titus 1:1-2

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, 2 in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began

In world filled with **AI, relativism (no absolute truth, only relative, subjective)**, **absolute truth comes from outside world and gives meaning to world.**

- **God is truth so He always speaks truth and always does what He says and promises.**

Paul wrote Titus around 63-66 AD from Corinth between 1 and 2 Timothy....

One of three Pastoral Epistles

- **Similar date, subjects, and purposes as 1 Timothy. See outline at end.**

We know very little of Titus.... was Greek and referred to 13 times in Paul's epistles.

- **With Paul on third Missionary journey...pastor of Crete...large island off Greek coast notorious for treachery, violence, corruption, lying. Titus 1:12**
 - **"Liars" from their claim tomb of Zeus on Crete.... a god, can't be dead.**
 - **Verb "to cretize" was slang for lying or cheating.**

Missionary plan for **Crete**: preach **Gospel and salvation**, then **develop sound doctrine** result in **hope for future and changed, purified lives. Titus 1:1-2, Hebrew 6:18, Jeremiah 10:10, Tozer**

- **Sound doctrine for "lying" Cretans is that many may have truth but only Christian God Himself is absolute truth.**

All Lord knows and thinks is true and correct understanding of reality.

- **Because all Scripture God-breathed, must be totally true, completely honest, and thus final standard for truth. Job 37:16b, John 17:17, Proverbs 30:5a, 2 Timothy 3:16a, 2 Peter 1:20-21**

Author of Scripture omniscient.... knows all true past, present, future facts.

- **Truth and reality about God, creation, man, life, death, all things in Scripture.**
 - **Beliefs conform to Bible are true, not conform are not true.**
 - **The only "certain" truth is truth God revealed in Bible.**

Jesus Himself is TRUTH because He was and is fully God, total embodiment of absolute truth in human flesh. John 1:14, 18:37-38, 14:6 & 17

- **No danger of being deceived by believing what Jesus said.... He can't lie.**
 - **Essence of true faith is taking God at His word and relying on Him to do as He promised.**

God is honest in every way so never renege on promises.

- **Reason why hope of eternal life assured. Titus 1:2, 2:11-13, 3:7**

- God's **truthfulness** and His **faithfulness.... interchangeable** terms.

When Christians embrace sound doctrine, result is hope for future and changed, purified lives that produce upright and holy living through regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit. Titus 3:3-8

- **Gospel changes** what people **intrinsically are.... transform** our nature.
 - **We used** to be **like Cretan's** and **without Jesus we'd still** be **like** them.
- **Gospel so powerful** it **creates new** kind of **people** with a new **eternal future**.
 - **This how** Gospel **transforms Cretan culture** and our **society**.

God is Truth...not merely that God does **not lie** or **can't lie....** thus, **God is ultimate source of all truth. Jeremiah 10:10**

- **Truth** finds its **origin** in **God**, its **incarnation** in **Jesus Christ**, it's **expression** in **Gospel** and its **present manifestation** in **written Word** of God, the **Bible**.
 - **Hope of eternal life assured** because **God is truth**, He **always speaks truth**, **can't lie**, **always does** what **says and promises**.

Outline of Titus

1:1-4 INTRODUCTION

1:5-16 INSTRUCTIONS FOR CHURCH ORGANIZATION

5-9 Appoint Qualified Elders.....*essentially same as 1 Timothy 3:2-7*

10-16 Dealing with False Teachers

2:1-3:11 INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING CHRISTIAN CONDUCT

2:1-3 For Older Men and Women

2:4-8 For Younger Women and Men

2:9-10 For Servants

2:11-15 Theological Basis for Christian Living

3:1-11 INSTRUCTIONS ON DOING WHAT IS GOOD

3:12-15 CONCLUSION