

# Gleanings of Grace

## Titus 2

### Lesson 17

The apostle Paul wrote this letter to Titus, a new pastor on the island of Crete. In this second chapter of the letter, Paul encouraged Titus regarding the importance of teaching *sound doctrine*. God's grace is the motivation for all good deeds. Paul gave instructions to Titus about the roles of specific groups of people—older men, older women, young women, young men, and bondservants—as well as general instructions to all believers about their conduct. The chapter ends with the hope we have as believers and the motivation for living according to *sound doctrine*. That *blessed hope* is the *glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ*.

#### OBSERVATION: Read Titus 2

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet (the last page of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
2. Key words help us to better understand the verses. We have listed below key words. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text. Remember to mark any personal pronouns that refer to *Jesus* and *God*, the Father.  
Key Words: *Jesus*, *God*
3. The contrasting word *but* is used two times in Titus 2. Mark the word. Choose one instance of its use and record what is being contrasted.

## Background:

1. It is believed that chronologically, Paul's letter to the Galatians was written before he wrote the letter to the Corinthians. According to Galatians 2:1, who did Paul take with him to the council meeting in Jerusalem?
  - a. What was one of the topics discussed at that meeting? (Acts 15:24)
    - 1.) What can we learn about Titus from Galatians 2:3?
    - 2.) Sometimes we may feel adamant about something that the Bible does not take a stance on. What affect might Paul taking Titus, an uncircumcised Gentile, to this council where many believed that all male believers must be circumcised have had?
2. Paul referred to Titus several times in his letter to the Corinthians. Using the following verses, record what they reveal about Titus.

2 Corinthians 8:16

2 Corinthians 8:23

2 Corinthians 12:18
3. It is believed that Paul wrote this letter to Titus after his first Roman imprisonment. From there, Paul went to Nicopolis. What instructions did Paul write to Titus in Titus 3:12-14?



- a. Trace Paul's route from Rome to Nicopolis on the map.
4. According to Titus 1:5, where was Titus when Paul sent this letter to him via Artemas or Tychicus?
  - a. Mark the island of Crete on the map.
  - b. *For what reason* did Paul leave Titus in Crete?
5. Keep in mind Paul's purpose for leaving Titus in Crete. One commentator titles this chapter: "Teach Them How to Live". What are some things you might think a young pastor would need to teach new believers in a brand new church as far as conducting their daily lives?

## Read Titus 2:1-3 – The Pattern for Sound Doctrine for Older Men and Women

1. Paul began this chapter with the instruction to Titus to *speaking the things which are proper for sound doctrine*. The Living Bible translates this: *speaking up for the right living that goes along with true Christianity*. We are saved by grace, not “right living”. What does a person’s lifestyle reveal about his or her beliefs?
  - a. The teaching of and walking in *sound doctrine* is an important purpose of this epistle. What did Paul write in Titus 3:8?
2. In Titus 2:2, Paul addresses important characteristics and behaviors for *older men*. The call to be *sober* does not refer to abstaining from wine. What do the following verses teach us about this word?

1 Peter 4:7

1 Peter 5:8

  - a. Make a list of each of the characteristics and behaviors and define each one. (Titus 2:2)
3. Paul addressed the older women next. List the characteristics and behaviors required of them along with definitions for each.
4. What differences do you see in the instructions to the *older men* and the *older women*?

## Read Titus 2:4-6 - The Pattern for Sound Doctrine for Younger Women and Men

- - One of the responsibilities of the *older women* is to *admonish the young women*. Using verses 4 and 5, list what they were to *admonish* them to do and define each one.
- Notice the possible consequence of ignoring these instructions. What is it?
  - Using synonyms define the word *blaspheme*.
  - Romans 2 addresses the contrary behavior of the Jews in their *breaking the law*. What did Paul state about them in Romans 2:24?
  - Add to your understanding of *blaspheming/speaking reproachfully* about God by recording the words of:  
  
1 Timothy 5:14  
  
1 Timothy 6:1
  - How does it speak to you that your disregard of your responsibility as a *woman* (old or young) can cause others to *blaspheme the word of God*?
- The instruction to the *young men* begins with the word *likewise*. This word connects the responsibilities of all Christians, male and female, young and old. They are not exempt from the responsibilities of *sound doctrine* or right living given to the older men. One specific instruction was given to the *young men*. What was it?
  - Why is this sometimes difficult for younger men?

## Read Titus 2:7-10 – The Pattern for Good Works

1. In Titus 2:7,8 Paul returned to specifically exhorting Titus and his responsibilities as a pastor. List, and using your own words, define each one.
  - a. Why are these important for a pastor to *pattern*?
2. The communities of the first century had a high percentage of slaves. List the instructions to be given to *bondservants* and define each one.
  - a. Ponder the last phrase of Titus 2:10. What do you think it means to *adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things*?

## Read Titus 2:11-15 – The Grace of God That Brings Salvation

1. Titus 2:11 is linked with the previous verses relating to *bondservants*. What status did *slaves* hold amongst Christians according to Galatians 3:28?
2. These last verses of Titus 2 apply to all those who trust *in the grace of God that brings salvation*. Using verse 12, list what the *grace of God teaches us*.
3. *Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ* (Titus 2:13). How is Jesus identified in this verse?
  - a. Notice our hope as described here, does not speak of heaven, but seeing *Jesus*. In what ways does this speak to you?

4. According to Titus 2:14, what did Jesus do *for us*?
  - a. Rewrite this verse in your own words as you express what Jesus did for you.
  
5. Consider the final exhortation to Titus in verse 15. Why is it important that a pastor be reminded of these things?
  - a. Likewise, how does this instruction challenge you?

**REVIEW: Read Titus 2**

1. Bask in the words of Titus 3:4-7. Express your gratitude by writing a few phrases of thanksgiving.
  
2. Share something you have gleaned from the life of an older Christian.
  
3. Share one thing you have gleaned from Titus 2.

*And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works*  
- Hebrews 10:24

# Observation Worksheet

## Titus 2

But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine: <sup>2</sup>that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience; <sup>3</sup> the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things-- <sup>4</sup>that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, <sup>5</sup> to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed. <sup>6</sup> Likewise exhort the young men to be sober-minded, <sup>7</sup> in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, <sup>8</sup> sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you. <sup>9</sup> Exhort bondservants to be obedient to their own masters, to be well pleasing in all things, not answering back, <sup>10</sup> not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things. <sup>11</sup> For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, <sup>12</sup> teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, <sup>13</sup> looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup> who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. <sup>15</sup> Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.