

Brentwood Bible Fellowship
Reading thru the New Testament
2017

Week 39

Titus 1-3, I John 1-2

Key Verses:

He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit.

Titus 3:5

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

I John 1:9

NAS Version

September 25 - October 1

Monday Titus 1 – Responsibilities of the elders in the church

Tuesday Titus 2 – Responsibilities of church members toward one another

Wednesday Titus 3 – Responsibilities of believers to the world

Thursday I John 1 – Principles concerning Christian fellowship

Friday I John 2 – The Practice of Christian fellowship, the preventatives of
Christian fellowship

Saturday - Review

Sunday – Review

Introduction to **Titus**

The Author: Paul

The Addressee: Titus

Titus is the third of Paul's prison epistles. I Timothy and II Timothy were the first two.

Titus was born to Greek parents. Possibly, he was a brother of Luke. He was probably a native of Antioch. He, like Timothy, was converted early in the ministry of Paul, meeting Paul around 49/50 A.D. He accompanied Paul and Barnabas to the Jerusalem council (See Galatians 2:1-3). He accompanied Paul on his third missionary journey. Paul twice sent Titus from Ephesus to Corinth. During the last of Paul's ministry, Titus was a positive support to him. After Paul's first imprisonment, he left Titus in Crete to shore up the ministry there.

Date: Probably early in 63 A.D. Titus was serving on the Island of Crete.

The setting: The Cretans were considered to be a crude, half civilized people. (See Titus 1:12) The church had possibly been first established by a group of Christians saved in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost. There was a great need for spiritual leadership as there were those who were deceiving the Christians with an improper teaching concerning the need of good works for salvation.

Purpose: Paul wrote Titus to give him further directions as to the organization of the churches and their leadership and to emphasize the need for sound doctrine and high moral conduct. Good works do not save us, but good works should be the result of our salvation.

Key verses: Titus 1:5; 3:5, 8

Key Chapter: Titus 2

Questions and comments concerning the daily readings

Titus 1-3; I John 1-2 Week Thirty-Nine

Titus 1 Direction concerning church leadership

1. Titus 1:1-4 What did Paul say was his purpose as an apostle?
2. Titus 1:5 Why did Paul leave Titus in Crete?
3. Titus 1:6-9 As in I Timothy 3, Paul again states the qualifications for an elder. These are qualifications we should all strive for as mature believers.

What do you learn about the pastor/elder's responsibilities and relationship to his family according to verse 6?

What should depict the character of the pastor/elder according to verse 7?

What is evident about the Christian virtues of the pastor/elder in verse 8?

What must be true of the pastor/elder according to verse 9?

4. Titus 1:10-14 What was Paul's concern in verses 10-12? Do we have similar problems today? If so, can you give any examples of such false teachers? What did Paul suggest that Titus should do? What advice would you give pastors today concerning dealing with individuals like the ones Paul was talking about in this passage.
5. Titus 1:15-16 How can we tell the difference between the pure and the unbelieving if both profess to be Christians?

Titus 2 How are Christians to relate to one another

1. Titus 2:1-2 What qualities should typify older men in the church?
2. Titus 2:3-5 What qualities are to typify older women in the church? Do any of these qualities surprise you? Notice, older women are to set an example and teach younger women how to be wives and mothers. Why is this necessary? Is this happening effectively within the church today? Why or why not? What could be done to make it more effective?
3. Titus 2:6-8 Explain what Paul said should typify the lives of the young men. Why are young men to live upright lives?
4. Titus 2:9-10 Bond-slaves made up much of the workforce of Paul's day. What direction does Paul give for the bond-slave or employee? Why did Paul say they should act in the manner he suggests? How does this relate to employees today?

5. Titus 2:11-15 According to verse 11, what does the grace of God bring us?
According to verse 12, having salvation by the grace of God, how are we then to live? What should be our focus according to verse 13? According to verse 14, why did Jesus give himself as our savior? How does that make you feel? How should that make you want to live?

Titus 3 Living a Godly life.

1. Titus 3:1 What did Paul say is our responsibility to the political leaders in authority over us? Are you comfortable with that? Why or why not?

2. Titus 3:2-8 Our responsibilities to all people.

Verse 2 - How are we to treat all other individuals?

Verse 3 - Why did Paul encourage us to remember the follies of our past life?

Verses 4-7 - Paul encourages us to be mindful of God's mercy toward us.

According to this passage, what all did God's mercy provide for us?

Verse 8 - What did Paul want Titus to encourage his listeners to do? Why?

3. Titus 3:9-11 What instruction did Paul give in verse 9? How does this instruction relate to discussion concerning diverse theological issues? What should be our attitude toward an individual who causes division and divisiveness within the church?
4. Titus 3:12-15 Paul's personal messages on behalf of others. What do you learn from Paul's requests on behalf of others? What general lesson is there for all believers in verse 14?

I John 1 The Foundation of Christian Fellowship

1. I John 1:1-4 According to verse 4, why did John write what he wrote?

What was John talking about in verses 1-2? What was from the beginning? (The beginning may have been either that which existed from and before the beginning of creation, or the beginning when Christ was present on earth, lived, taught, died, rose again and the beginning of the church.)

What is the Word of Life?

Notice everything John includes concerning his being an eye witness of Jesus. Due to the growing heresy that Jesus was not a real person, it was important for John to explain his personal encounter with the Lord. He heard His message. He saw Him. He touched Him. Jesus was real. So, John proclaimed to his listeners eternal life. Jesus had been with the Father and he was made manifest to his disciples. John really saw and encountered Jesus!!! (This is a great chapter on the person of Christ in His deity and humanity.)

According to verse 3, why did John proclaim the message of Jesus and salvation to his readers? With whom did John say he enjoyed fellowship? Cool, huh!!!

2. I John 1:5-10 What does it mean that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all?

How are we to walk in the light rather than in the darkness?

What keeps us from having fellowship with God?

What is true if we say we have no sin?

John makes a promise in verse 9 concerning our sin. What does that mean? Is it addressed to the believer or the non-believer?

I John 2 The Practice as well as the preventatives of Christian fellowship.

1. I John 2:1-2 If I sin after I am saved, am I lost? Who will be my advocate with the Father? Who did Jesus ultimately die for? (verse 2)
2. I John 2:3-6 How can we know that we have come to know Christ? What if I claim to be a Christian, but do not obey His commandments, what does that say about me? Where can I learn how Jesus walked?
3. I John 2:7-11 The old and the new commandment are restated. How is it old? How is it new?

Who is my brother? What does my attitude toward my brother tell me about my relationship with God?

4. I John 2:12-14 Little children – all redeemed believers, Father – mature believers Young men – Those with the strength and challenge of youth.

Key: The word is needed by all, no matter what their maturity level.

5. I John 2:15-17 The love of the world has to do with the world system. We are not to love the world system. Note the three categories of sin or temptation in verse 16. List them and explain what each one means. What is going to happen to the world and its lusts? (Lust means strong desire.) What will happen to the one who does the will of God?
6. I John 2:18-24 What is an antichrist? (see verse 22) Are there antichrists present today? How do we know it is the last hour? (Notice, the last hour was already present at the time of John.) Who is the liar according to verse 22? Can a person be saved if they do not have a right relationship with the Son, Jesus? What is essential to having a relationship with the Father?
7. I John 2:25 What was the promise Christ made to us? What is eternal life? How can we know that we have eternal life? Are there people who think they have eternal life, but do not? Explain.
8. I John 2:26-27 According to verses 26-27, how can we know what is true and what is false? There are false teachers, even today, who would seek to delude us. Be careful who you follow.
9. I John 2:28-29 Explain the meaning of verses 28-29.