



Ladies Bible Study is a ministry of GracePoint Church, Whiteland, Indiana. We serve the women of GracePoint church and all other interested women. The goal and heartfelt desire of this ministry is to teach the word of God, assist in the spiritual growth of women, and support fellowship through guided Bible Studies.

In our Bible Studies we use the Authorized King James Bible. We believe it is the only translation that is based upon the pure manuscripts and is perfectly preserved without error. We interpret the Scriptures according to 2Timothy 2:15: “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” God has established differences and divisions in His Word which are called dispensations. A dispensation is a God-revealed body of information that was given in a particular period of time for man’s obedience. We realize that God deals differently with man at different times.

#### **STUDY INTRODUCTION: “TITUS, FOR THIS CAUSE”**

“For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee” (Titus 1:5).

We’re so glad you are joining us for Bible Study this Spring 2020! We are studying the small book of Titus. Titus was written around 63 A.D. and is one of three Pastoral Epistles along with 1&2 Timothy. Paul is in-between Roman imprisonments and was no doubt anticipating his death would be soon. He was concerned about attacks upon the churches that would happen when he was no longer there, so with this in mind Paul writes these three epistles to Timothy and Titus.

In this epistle to Titus, Paul reminds him of what he is to do in the churches of Crete. Titus is to establish order and ordain elders in all the churches. As part of establishing order, Paul reminds Titus of the kind of behavior that sound doctrine produces in men and women, both young and old. He reminds Titus that the Grace of God teaches us how to live, and that believers should always be looking for the rapture; “that blessed hope”. We are to be subject to those in authority and maintain good works. Believers should avoid things that are unprofitable to their spiritual growth.

In Chapter One, we will look at what the Bible teaches about God’s elect, the mystery of godliness, mystery of iniquity, and the qualifications for elders.

In Chapter Two we will study the godly characteristics for aged men and women. We will focus our attention however, upon the aged women and what they should teach the younger women. We will end Chapter Two by studying the Rapture (and how it differs from His 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming/the Revelation).

In Chapter Three we will study our response to our governmental authorities and the importance of good works. We will end our study of Titus by studying four women in the Bible: Abigail, Anna, Salome, and the Proverbs 31 woman. We will see in their lives those godly characteristics which Paul lists in Titus chapter two.

I was excited to study Titus! I had always wondered about Titus, who he was, how Paul met him, where he came from, and where he lived out his life. We hope you enjoy the fellowship of studying with us, and that you grow in your understanding and appreciation of God’s Word. Thank you for joining us in our Study! To God be the glory.

Grace and Peace,  
Debbie Eads & the Leadership team



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### **1. CLASS SCHEDULE**

Classes begin: Wednesday, Mar 4, 2020

Classes end: Wednesday, May 13, 2020

Wednesday Day Class: 9:30am – 11:30am

Wednesday Night Class: 6:30pm – 8:30pm

**Note:** The discussion groups and leaders are the same as the Fall 2019 Study.

### **“TITUS, FOR THIS CAUSE”**

#### **2. LIST OF STUDY LESSONS**

Lesson One Mar 4	“Getting to Know Titus”	
Lesson Two Mar 11	“Paul Describes His Authority”	Titus 1:1-2
Lesson Three Mar 18	“Set These Things in Order”	Titus 1:3-9
<b>SPRING BREAK Mar 25</b>		
Lesson Four Apr 1	“The People You will Encounter”	Titus 1:10-16
Lesson Five Apr 8	“The Things Which Become Sound Doctrine”	Titus 2:1-4
Lesson Six Apr 15	“Adorn the Doctrine of God”	Titus 2:5-12
Lesson Seven Apr 22	“That Blessed Hope”	Titus 2:13-15
Lesson Eight Apr 29	“Maintain Good Works”	Titus 3:1-15
Lesson Nine May 6	“Abigail and Anna”	1Samuel 25:1-44 Luke 2:22-38
Lesson Ten May 13	“Salome and the Proverbs 31 Woman”	Matthew 20:20-27 Mark 15:40-41; 16:1-8 Proverbs 31:10-31



### **3. OUTLINE OF TITUS**

- 1. Salutation (1:1-4)**
  - A. Paul's authority (1:1)
  - B. The promise of God (1:2-3)
  - C. Audience (1:4)
    - a. Titus, mine own son in the common faith
- 2. Establish order in the churches, ordain elders (1:5)**
- 3. Qualification of Elders & Bishops (1:6-9)**
- 4. False Teachers (1:10-16)**
  - A. Take action against them (1:10-11)
  - B. What they do and what they profess (1:12-16)
- 5. The behavior produced by sound doctrine in a believers life (2:1-10)**
  - A. Aged men and women (2:2-3)
  - B. Young women and men (2:4-6)
  - C. Titus' personal responsibility (2:7-8)
  - D. Servants (2:9-10)
- 6. The Grace of God (2:11-15)**
  - A. Grace brings salvation and has appeared to all men (2:11)
  - B. Grace teaches us how to live in this present world (2:12)
    - a. Deny ungodliness
    - b. Deny worldly lusts
    - c. Live soberly
    - d. Live righteously
    - e. Live godly
  - C. Grace teaches us to have an "Upward Look" (2:13-14)
    - a. Always looking for the appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. (2:13)
    - b. Christ gave Himself for us (2:14)
      - i. Redeem us from all iniquity
      - ii. Purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works
  - D. Titus' Duty (2:15)
- 7. Be Subject to those in authority (3:1-2)**
  - A. Our behavior in response to authority
    - a. Ready to do good works
    - b. Speak evil of no man
    - c. Do not be a brawler but be gentle
- 8. Motives for godly conduct (3:3-8)**
  - A. Remember who we once were (3:3)
  - B. The love of God our Saviour appeared bringing salvation (3:4-7)
  - C. Believers should maintain good works (3:8)
- 9. Response to spiritual error (3:9-11)**
  - A. Avoid things that are unprofitable and vain (3:9)
  - B. Admonish a heretic once, then after the second time reject him (3:10-11)
- 10. Final instructions and closing (3:12-15)**



#### 4. STUDY GOALS

1. To learn about Titus and the important role he had in Paul's ministry.
2. To know what the qualifications are for a bishop of a church (elder, bishop, and pastor are interchangeable titles).
3. To understand the kind of behavior that sound doctrine produces in the life of men and women; both young and old. This behavior is shown both inside and outside of the church.
4. To understand the doctrines given to us in Titus.
5. To learn from the examples of four women in the Bible who display the godly characteristics shown in Titus chapter 2.
6. To explore in your own life as a woman how you are living out the godly principles shown in Titus.

#### 5. STUDY RESOURCES

The following is a list of the materials I used during my study of Titus.

1. Authorized King James Bible.
  2. Books by C. R. Stam: Pastoral Epistles, No Other Doctrine, The Twofold Purpose of God  
Other Books: The Mystery, Joel Finck; The Bible in Seven Hours, Richard Jordon;  
Dispensational Theology, Charles F. Baker; Women of the Bible, Ann Spangler & Jean E. Syswerda; Holman Bible Atlas.
  3. Study syllabuses from Pastor Jim Devney's classes.
  4. Sermons & teaching videos from pastors: James Devney, Justin Johnson, Richard Jordon, Keith Blades, and Les Feldick. (Available on You-Tube or church websites).
  5. Two websites: (reliable sites)
    - a. Grace Ambassadors, Pastor Justin Johnson ([graceambassadors.com](http://graceambassadors.com))
    - b. Berean Bible Society, Paul Sadler ([bereanbiblesociety.org](http://bereanbiblesociety.org))
- B. **Note concerning internet websites:** There are many websites useful for **general** biblical information (dates/time periods, biographical information, and historical background). However, it is a minefield so be careful! For example, I came across two sites which at first glance were Christian, but as I checked them out I discovered they were written by a Muslim. Needless to say I got out right away!
- a. Always check the doctrinal statement for each site. Take the time to do this and carefully read it. You may be surprised at what you will or will not see. Realize that if they do not rightly divide, the doctrinal information they give will not be reliable. You will usually find their doctrinal statement in the "About" or "What we believe" section. If it doesn't clearly state that they rightly divide then don't use this site for teachings (doctrine) from the Bible.
  - b. For these reasons, I used most Christian websites for the general information I just mentioned. For doctrinal information I used the books and sermons, and the two websites (Grace Ambassadors, Berean Bible Society) that I have already mentioned.

**Order books from:** Forgotten Truths site (Richard Jordon); Enjoy the Bible Ministries (Keith Blades); and the Berean Bible Society site. Both Forgotten Truths ([forgottentruths.com](http://forgottentruths.com)) & Berean Bible Society sites offer books by various rightly dividing authors. Enjoy the Bible Ministries site is mostly Keith Blades' materials.

Paul’s letter to Titus is one of three letters which are called the “pastoral epistles”. The other two letters are 1&2 Timothy. These three letters address matters such as selecting church leaders, guarding and teaching sound doctrine, and exhorting believers to holy living. Titus was written prior to 2Timothy around 63 A.D. Most do not include Philemon as a forth pastoral epistle because it does not speak to the same kinds of issues as found in the other three epistles.

**Titus’ Background**

Before we study what Paul wrote to Titus in his letter to him, we will first get to know Titus and see how he was a trustworthy companion for Paul.

Titus was a Greek, reportedly from Antioch, who was a student of Greek philosophy and poetry in his early life. After being converted to Christianity by the Apostle Paul, he became his secretary and interpreter. He was an educated man whose skills were used by Paul in letter writing and communications.

Following time spent in Dalmatia, church history records that Titus returned to Crete and took Paul’s gospel to the neighboring islands. Titus died at the age of ninety-four in the city of Gortyn, Crete, as the Bishop of the church there.

**The Background of Crete**

Let’s begin by learning about Crete, the place where Titus spent much of his time and where the Apostle Paul left him to bring order to the churches there. Crete is a Greek Island and is approximately 100 miles south of the Greek mainland. It is the fifth largest island in the Mediterranean Sea. The Island is 160 miles long and varies in width from 7 to 35 miles. (Map: Look just above the word “Mediterranean Sea”).

The classical poet Homer spoke of “Crete of the hundred cities”. Twenty cities are attested to during the time Paul and Titus were there. Gortyn was the capital city. The island is mountainous and has a high mountain range crossing from west to east. Travel was difficult and there is little evidence today of any Roman highway system. So travel was challenging for Titus and Paul as they ministered to the churches!

**Mediterranean Sea area showing the location of the Island of Crete STUDY MAP #1**





Crete was the center of Europe’s first advanced civilization, the Minoans, from 2700 to 1420 BC. Not surprisingly, paganism was practiced by the Cretans. In 36 BC Mark Antony gave the island to Cleopatra as a gift. The cult of Asclepius, a god of healing, was confirmed in at least eighteen locations, along with the Egyptian cult of Isis and Serapis.

Later, Crete was incorporated into the Roman Empire. During this time, Crete was settled by veterans from the Roman legions, traders, and Jews, making it a thriving Roman province with its governor residing at the city of Gortyn. The Jews that settled there formed a sizable Jewish community in Crete. Amphitheaters, temples, Roman baths and aqueducts were built, and the island minted its own coinage. Gortyn’s population reached 300,000 and it had an early Christian community. Gortyn appears to have been the center of Christian growth on Crete. Titus is reported to have been the first bishop of the church at Gortyn. Sadly, the same amphitheater at Gortyn was used to persecute Christians in 249 A.D. There were ten Christians martyred during a wild animal hunt in the amphitheater.

**The Island of Crete, notice the city of Gortyn (Gortyna) near the center of Crete. STUDY MAP #2**



**Titus as a trustworthy companion and servant to Paul**

**Question #1**

Read Acts 2:5-11

What nation (nationality) does Verse 11 say Jewish men came from to celebrate Pentecost in Jerusalem?

Between his imprisonments, Paul traveled with Timothy and Titus. He left Timothy at Ephesus (1Timothy 1:3) and traveled on to Crete with Titus.

**Question #2**

Read 1Timothy 1:2; Titus 1:4

How does Paul refer to both Timothy and Titus?



**Let's now focus upon Titus and his ministry there with the Apostle Paul.**

After leaving Titus at Crete, Paul travels alone onto Nicopolis (Titus 3:12). Nicopolis is located in western modern day Greece. On Study map #1 it is in Macedonia, southwest of Berea. Paul would have traveled there from Crete by the sea. He went there to spend the winter. The Bible doesn't say why he choose to go to Nicopolis. It was however, a central location for traveling to established churches so perhaps Paul was thinking of visiting nearby churches. We do know that Paul asks Titus to join him there later (Titus 3:12).

**Question 4**

Read Titus 1:5

Why did Paul leave Titus in Crete?

Now that we have looked at the background of Crete and have been introduced to Titus, let's examine more closely what the Bible tells us about him.

**Question #5**

Read Galatians 2:3

What does this tell us about Titus?

**Question #6**

Read Titus 1:4

Who led Titus to faith in Christ?

**Question #7 (Parts A, B, C)**

Read Galatians 2:1-4; Acts 15:1-4

**Part A:** As a trusted companion Titus accompanied Paul to an important event. What was it?



**Question #7 cont.****Part B:**

Read Acts 15:2 “...they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem...” **Who do you think is one of the “certain other of them”?** (Don’t forget to consider what we read in Galatians 2:1.)

**Part C:**

Read Acts 15:1-31 (especially verses 19-24, 28-29), and Galatians 2:1-10 (especially verses 7-9).  
What was the outcome of that important event?

We also get some insight into the character of Titus by the assignments given to him by Paul. It appears Titus was Paul’s apostolic delegate, or representative, to the church at Corinth. Corinth was a carnal church and because of this they had many problems. Paul sent Titus with a letter to confront these believers about their behavior and to lead them in the right direction. We read about this letter in 2Corinthians and in it Titus is mentioned several times because he took this letter to them. Let’s explore that letter now and see how Titus is involved.

**Question #8**

Read 2Corinthians 2:1-4, 7:5-15.

Read these passages of Scripture and write what you have learned about Titus, his character, and his usefulness to Paul. Support your answer with a verse/verses. (Especially note verses 7:6-7, 13-15).

Titus was given the responsibility of taking up a collection for the needy saints in Jerusalem at Corinth, which we read about in 1Corinthians 16:1-4; 2Corinthians chapters 8 & 9.

**Question #9 (Parts A, B) about TITUS**

Read 2Corinthians 8:16, 23

**Part A:** What does 2Corinthians 8:16 tell us about Titus?

**Part B:** How does Paul describe Titus in 2Corinthians 8:23?

**We can learn about Titus by examining how Paul interacted with both Timothy and Titus.**

**Question #10 (Parts A, B) about TIMOTHY**

Read 2Timothy 1:5, 3:15; 1Timothy 5:23

**Part A:** What do we learn about Timothy from these Scriptures?

1. 2Timothy 1:5, 3:15

2. 1Timothy 5:23

**Part B:**

Read 2Timothy 1:4, 6-8; 1Timothy 4:12-15, 1Corinthians 16:10-11

What other insight do we get about Timothy and the struggles he had? Remember Paul had left Timothy as the Bishop of the church at Ephesus (1Timothy 1:3.)

1. 2Timothy 1:4, 6-8

2. 1Timothy 4:12-15

3. 1Corinthians 16:10-11



**Question #12**

Read Titus 1:12-13; 2:15

What does Paul expect Titus to do and how does he expect him to do it? Does that tell you anything about how Paul views Titus and his abilities?

**Question #13**

Has anything surprised you about Titus and his background or his ministry with Paul?

**Question #14:**

What do you expect to learn from Paul's letter to Titus?