

- 1.** Ladies, let's begin with a review of what we studied in last week's Lesson Three "Set Things in Order" which covered Titus 1:3-9.
- A. We began last week's lesson by looking at Paul's _____ ship. Paul was chosen by God to preach the _____ truths, which were hidden in God, but now were personally revealed to him by Christ Jesus. The "due times" began when Paul was saved by Jesus Christ in Acts 9. This was at God's timing and by His grace.
- B. God chose _____ to reveal the mystery truths, and through the _____ ing of his word man would learn them. In describing his ministry Paul said in Romans 16:25-26: "Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, but now is made manifest..." _____ uses preaching to reveal the mystery truths to man: "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17).
- C. Paul had to leave Titus on _____ so he followed up with his letter to both remind and encourage Titus about what needed to be done, and how to go about it. The churches needed order and they needed godly leadership. The titles Paul gave for this godly leadership are: " _____ ", " _____ ", and " _____ " and are interchangeable.
- D. Our lesson ended as we examined the list of 15 qualifications Paul gave Titus to look for in a _____ when selecting elders. Paul tied these 15 qualifications together with the overall requirement that the elder should be devoted to the word of God, believing it to be the source of _____ without _____. While these are the qualifications for a man to be an elder, they also apply to all godly saints.

Lesson Four "The People You Will Encounter", Titus 1:10-16.

- 2.** Paul warns Titus about the people he will encounter on Crete.

"For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision" Titus 1:10.



Before we continue notice this detail of word usage found in the KJV:

Note: the words "especially" and "specially" are very similar in their meaning and both are adverbs. "Especially" is more formal and is used to signify something greater than all others; such as something is 'very' or 'extremely'. "Specially" is informal and refers to a particular purpose not as something being greater than all others.

(Question #1 A&B) What are the people like that Titus will encounter?

- A. _____ talkers. They say things that disregard the authority of the Scriptures. They rebel against the _____ of the Bible.
- B. _____ talkers. They say a lot without having said anything at all! What they say has no substance and isn't truthful. They talk about things out of their proper context and speculate about it. But in the end it is _____ less talk.

- C. ____ceivers. They misrepresent biblical truth by saying things taken out of context. They present false teachings in a way that seems truthful with _____ words and biblical sounding terms. But their actions show they actually _____ the truths of the Bible.

(Question #1C, 2A&B) Who are the Judaizers and what did they say?

- D. Specially they of the ____cumcision. Some believing Jews thought one must also be circumcised to be saved (Acts 15:1), while other believing Jews from the sect of the Pharisee thought one must be circumcised and keep the _____ to be saved (Acts 15:5). The difference was one group of believing Jews only added circumcision while the group of the Pharisees required keeping the law and circumcision. They are often called Judaizers because they were trying to force gentile converts to Christianity to live according to Jewish _____.
- a. We have seen them before at the Meeting at Jerusalem in Acts ____ when Paul defended his gospel of grace. Paul taught those believing Jews that his gospel was different from the _____gospel Peter was preaching to the Jews. The gospel of the Kingdom reflected Christ's earthly ministry to Israel. It was the risen Christ who gave Paul his gospel of _____. Both gospels came from Christ but were for different _____.
 - b. As we saw in the churches of Galatia these Judaizers were stubborn and determined in how they spread their false doctrine.
 - i. It's important to remember that their doctrine was ____ false for the Kingdom gospel which required keeping the law and circumcision. But it ____ false doctrine for Paul's gospel of grace which does not require keeping the law and circumcision. The dispensation of grace was ushered in when Paul was saved in Acts __ and the _____ed Christ gave Paul the gospel of grace. The Kingdom gospel was for the dispensation of law while Christ was on the earth _____ he died and resurrected.
 - c. With this in mind, however, these Judaizers were ____verting Paul's gospel of grace by saying one must be circumcised and keep the law to be saved. Just as they were doing this with the churches of Galatia, they were doing this with the churches on _____.

(Question #3 A) What were Paul's reasons for his opposition to the Judaizers? (Galatians 3:1-3)

- d. Paul expressed strong _____ about these Judaizers and their false teaching they had spread in the churches of Galatia. These Judaizers had turned the Galatians away from the truth of Paul's gospel and had _____ them about the working of the Holy Spirit.
 - i. When Paul was with them they understood they could not _____ the Holy Spirit by the _____ of the Law. They knew they received the Holy Spirit by believing Paul's gospel and they knew it was the work of the Holy Spirit to mature them as believers.
 - ii. But when the _____ came with their false teaching they began to believe they could become mature by doing the works of the Law rather than through the work of the Holy Spirit within them. For this, Paul said they were _____.

(Question #3B) How does Paul advise the Galatians who had been bewitched by the Judaizers?
(Galatians 5:1-8)

- e. Paul told the Galatians to consider these things: (Galatians 5:1-8)
 - a. Verse 1-2: Christ makes us _____ from the Law and the Law is the yoke of bondage.
 - b. Verse 2, 4: If you are circumcised and _____ the Law then Christ cannot offer you anything.
 - c. Verse 3: You can't just follow _____ of the Law you must follow _____ of the Law.
 - d. Verse 4: If you try to _____bine the Law and Christ then you fall from grace.
 - e. Verse 6: Christ is _____ to the Law (also Phil 3:8; Ro 8:3)
 - f. Verse 7-8: It is not God who is persuading you to _____ away from Grace to the Law.
- f. Just as the Judaizers had caused trouble for Paul in the churches of Galatia they were also present on Crete and were causing _____ there too. Paul is warning Titus about them.

(Question #4) What do we see in churches today that is similar to what happened during Paul's time?

- E. The same teachings of the Judaizers for salvation and maturing as a believer, are still seen in _____ yet today. They are false for our dispensation of grace today. Some examples are:
 - a. Water _____tism, confessing your sin, keeping the 10 commandments, keeping Lent which requires giving up something, Mass, and church _____ship. Actually it is anything that requires a _____ on one's part to gain _____ with God.

"Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake. One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, The Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies" (Titus 1:11-12).

(Question #5 A, B&C) What do these men do?

- F. Paul described what these vain and unruly talkers and deceivers _____:
 - a. They enter into someone's household and turn entire families _____ from the truth and to believing their lies. They also make _____ by doing this. This is wrong and they must be stopped from spreading their _____!

Who else in the past has caused grave damage to a household?

- b. We have seen the damage _____men have done in Israel's past. For example, in Matthew 23:14 we saw how the scribes and Pharisees would take advantage of _____ by saying long prayers and _____ their money for doing this. These religious men came in and using a holy pretense swindled them out of their money and property, leaving them with nothing. These widows were lonely and afraid and didn't know what to do.

What men today take advantage of people for their money?

- c. Today we can see damage being done by religious men on _____when these men make promises to people if they just _____ in their money! Many of these people can't afford to lose their money but they hope giving it to the evangelist will bring them more money or good _____. They trust what these evangelists say because they believe they know _____ better than they do and that they trust them. These men prey upon their _____ of understanding of God's word.

(Questions #6, #8, #9) Paul describes the Cretians. God's view on liars and their final destination.

- G. Paul continues in his portrayal of the Cretians by _____cribing them as liars, evil beasts, and slow bellies. Epimenides, a famous poet and a prophet of the _____ wrote this about them, "Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies. The Greeks used the verb "cretize" as a synonym for _____. The Roman poet Ovid referred to Crete as mendax Creta, or "lying Crete". What a reputation! We'll examine each of these labels for them now:
- a. _____. They were always being deceptive and saying things that are not the truth. Lying is a serious offense to God. Liars will be punished in the Lake of _____.

"These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood" (Proverbs 6:16-17).

"A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall perish" (Proverbs 19:5).

"But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murders, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death" (Revelation 21:8).

- b. _____beasts. They were wild, rude, crude, and _____. They had a savage character and could be fierce as a wild animal. They had no regard for anyone who was in the way of what they wanted.
- c. Slow _____. They were _____ and lived off other people's money if possible. They spent their time seeking _____ rather than working. They were gluttons both for food and for pleasure. They refused to take responsibility for themselves.

(Questions #7 & #10) How would Paul describe our American society? Who is the father of all lies?

- H. When we consider the Cretians whom Paul described as being liars, evil beasts, and slow bellies we can't help but wonder how Paul would describe our American society, or the world, today. Would he see similarities to the Cretians? We may want to consider some of the following _____ we are seeing today throughout the world:
- d. Many sell their products by using _____tive means. Many lie when telling the truth would be just as easy. Many _____ just to make themselves look good.
- e. Many are increasingly _____, crude, and cruel. Formally taboo cuss words are now _____able in public. Morals are becoming "anything goes".
- f. Many want the government to take _____ of them. They are pleasure seekers and _____ for food. They _____ize sports figures and celebrities.
- I. Just as lying was prevalent with the Cretians it prevails today; especially with those who do not know the one _____ God. We learn from the Bible who is the _____ of all lies. When Jesus was speaking to the unbelieving Jews he said to them:

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it" (John 8:44).

Let's pause for a moment to learn some history about Epimenides, a Cretian himself, who described the Cretians as liars, evil beasts, and slow bellies.

The Greek biographer, Laertius, wrote about Epimenides. He was born on Crete in the city of Gnosus around 600 B.C. While Epimenides was regarded as a poet he was more than that, for the ancients such as Cicero (Roman statesman), Apuleius (Roman philosopher/sorcerer), and Plato (Greek philosopher), thought he had been inspired by the gods. He was also considered to be a famous fortune teller. It was the same Epimenides, according to Laertius, who advised the Athenians to 'sacrifice to the appropriate god', and which led to that altar 'to an unknown god' which Paul points out in Acts 17:23



"Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. For as I pass by, and beheld your devotion, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you" (Acts 17:22-23).

"This witness is true. Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in faith" (Titus 1:13).

(Questions #11 A&B) Why does Paul tell Titus to rebuke them sharply and how does this help others?

3. How Titus must handle the Cretains

- A. So their faith will be _____ upon the truth rather than upon lies. So they may be _____ in the faith. Those believers whose lifestyle showed they were far away from God's truth needed to be confronted with the truth of their sin. Accept no _____ for their sin.
- B. Then follow up with direction to get them _____ to the truth of God's word and its authority.
- C. Don't _____ this rebuke from others as it will help others to consider what sin they are involved with and go back to the truth of God's word and its _____.

"Them that sin rebuke before all, that other may also fear" (1Timothy 5:20).

"Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth" (Titus 1:14).

(Question #12 A, B & C) What things does Paul say we should not pay attention to and why?

D. Paul tells Titus _____ to pay attention to Jewish _____ and the commandments of men because they will turn you away from the truth!

1. All of these Jewish sayings, myths, and fables are _____ of the Bible and are called "extra-biblical". Those things "extra-biblical" rely upon _____periences and feelings. Within these _____ and the commandments of men were rigid rules about foods and purifications which included abstinence from meats and other things created by God. The commandments of _____ were man's traditions and preferences.
2. Only the _____ is our standard of truth because it is the word of God.

"Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do" (1Timothy 1:4).

We saw an example of this during Jesus' ministry. What did Jesus say to the Pharisees about their teaching?

- E. During his earthly ministry _____ confronted the Pharisees and scribes about teaching the commandments of men as doctrines and rejecting God's commandments so they can keep man's traditions. From Mark 7:6-8 we learn that the Pharisees and scribes honored Jesus with their words but it wasn't coming from their hearts. They taught the doctrines of men and not what _____ commanded.

"Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashed hands? He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, THIS PEOPLE HONOURETH ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR FROM ME. HOWBEIT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING FOR DOCTRINES THE COMMANDMENTS OF MEN. For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. And he said unto them. Full ye reject the commandment of God that ye may keep your own tradition" (Mark 7:5-9).

- F. The Judaizers _____ the law to grace, and some also added Jewish fables and the commandments of men. The Pharisees and scribes _____ the commandments of men as doctrines while they _____ ed God's commandments in order to keep their traditions. The nature of man has not changed from those times to now, so we look to the Bible for our instruction.

"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding"
(Proverbs 3:5).

That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God"
(1Corinthians 2:5).

- G. God's word is _____ man's opinions. Man's opinions should never be added to God's word. We place all our trust in what the LORD has said in his Word. The power of God rests in his Word to us and it is upon his Word that we base our faith.

"For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye receive the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe" (1Thessalonians 2:13).

- a. Grace has done _____ with the elements of religious training and the ceremonial practices of the Jewish Law. Grace has _____ placed the Law. Therefore, we do not _____ these practices from the Law with the grace we have been given. Nor do we allow man's puffed up opinions and smooth words, which are not based on truth, to ruin us. Instead we stand firmly upon the gospel of grace and the mystery truths given to our Apostle Paul by Christ. We embrace these words that Paul wrote:

"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ" (Colossians 2:8).

"Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage" (Galatians 5:1).

"Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate" Titus 1:15-16).

(Question #13 A) How does Paul describe the differences between those who are pure and defiled?

- H. Paul describes the difference between those who are _____ and those who are _____.
1. Those that are pure:
 - a. Are saved by _____ and have a _____ conscience and a pure mind.
 - b. They view all things according to the _____.
 - c. Their _____ have clean thoughts
 - d. They realize the Law no longer has _____ over them.
 - e. They _____ righteously because they are in Christ and bring their _____ tice up to the position they now have in Christ. (Ephesians 4:1)
 2. Those that are defiled:
 - a. Their _____ doctrine has defiled both their mind and conscience.
 - b. They see _____ as defiled
 - c. They _____ to live by the Law and can't grasp that the Law has been _____ placed by the grace of God.
 - d. They can't accept the _____ grace gives.
 - e. These _____ were defiling the truth of Paul's gospel with the Law and circumcision.
 - f. They profess that they know God but their daily living destroys their _____.
 - i. Religion creates _____ fusion but truth and grace takes away the confusion and replaces it with freedom and the true and everlasting knowledge. When Titus is trying to convince those who are caught up in the _____ of religion with the truth of God's word, he will need to remember what Paul has told him:

"Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers" (Titus 1:9).

(Question #13B) What causes people to depart from the faith in the latter times?

J. Paul wrote to Timothy what causes people to _____ from the faith in the later times:

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained. But refuse profane and old wives fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness"
(1Timothy 4:1-7).

K. Paul _____ us that Christians will leave Pauline truth because they will listen to the doctrines of _____ delivered by seducing spirits. Those speaking these false teachings are under the _____ of the devil. These doctrines of devils include profane and old wives fables.

L. To keep yourself _____ from false teaching

- a. Seek after _____ness and follow the doctrine that is for you _____ in this present _____pensation of grace. Our doctrine is found only in Paul's writings of Romans through Philemon. This is the doctrine that tells us how to be saved and how to mature and live as a Christian in this present dispensation of grace.
 - i. All of the Bible is for us. We can learn about God's character and we can learn from the things that happened to Israel, but _____ instructions on how to be saved and how to live as a Christian, is only found in _____ epistles.
- b. Don't _____man's commandments or the wisdom of this world to influence your thinking or behavior.