



11/6/25

In Genesis 3, God declared curses over the serpent, Adam, and Eve... curses that we still live under today. He also gave the first promise of hope through Jesus. All the New Testament letters are about walking in the newness of life in Christ and overcoming the curse of the power of darkness. The Book of Titus was a letter written by Paul to Titus, his "true child in a common faith" who Paul appointed to appoint elders in the churches in the area of Crete. In Titus 2, Paul gives tangible wisdom for how to live out our hope. Let's see what we can learn.

*Blessings,
Jonna*

Titus 2 ~

Vs. 1 ~ Paul said, "BUT as for you, speak the things that are consistent with sound doctrine... the word of God." Why say that to Titus? Because in chapter 1, he told Titus that there were men who were teaching false doctrine for personal gain. He said in Titus 1:16, "They profess to know God, but they deny Him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work."

The most important wisdom I can learn here is that EVERYTHING I do MUST be aligned with truth from God's word. In John 17:17, Jesus prayed to the Father right before He was arrested and then crucified, "Sanctify them in the truth. Your word IS truth." I have to start with the promise that there is no "my truth and your truth." My opinion is not equal to truth. Truth is truth. And truth comes from God.

Vs. 2 ~ Paul speaks to what Titus needs to teach older men. Why older men? These are the people who "should" have the greatest wisdom from God because they have spent the most time growing in their faith in Jesus. Older men are also to teach what aligns with sound doctrine... to be ~

- *Sober-minded... free from the influences of deception, free from anything other than the love of Christ being their motivation.*
- *Dignified... honorable, worthy of respect... not just for what they say, but for what they do. Actions speak louder than words.*
- *Self controlled... I know from Galatians 5:23 that self control is a fruit of the Spirit. There is no true self control if we are not walking by the Spirit. True self control will be more like Spirit control... This is not confined to self control over food or other substances... but much more... self control over feelings and emotions and desires and choices... Choosing to walk by the Spirit and not by the flesh.*
- *Sound in faith, love, and steadfastness... healthy, uncorrupted in trust and confidence in the Lord... uncorrupted in the sacrificial love of Jesus... uncorrupted in endurance, because navigating life with Jesus in this world takes endurance.*

This is not just what the older men are to teach, but how they are to live... This is not just how older men are to live, but what they are to teach the rest of us. I do not get a pass if I'm not an older man. I need to humbly learn from them. I need to pray for the older men in our church, that they will truly live and teach what aligns with the truth of God's word.

Vs. 3-5 ~ Well... I used to need to learn from the older women... but it seems that I have crossed that line into being the older woman. 🙄 Before I look at what I need to teach, I need to LIKEWISE... in the same way the older men do... look at what I need to model.

- *Reverent behavior... to have a holy, sacred demeanor both in attitude and actions... to do, want, and think what is honorable to God.*
- *NOT slanderers... the Greek word for this is "diabolos" which is the word used for the devil! I am not to be an accuser or critical of others. That's founded in pride. The older I am, as I become more and more like Jesus, the more I will be humble and loving! O Lord, please make it so!!!*
- *Not slaves to wine... or anything that would control me other than the love of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:14).*

So this is what I need to teach the younger women... What is GOOD. So... what IS good?

- *To Love their husbands... this Greek word is from the word, "philandros" and it means "brotherly love". I'm supposed to teach younger women to be their husband's friend. That means I need to make sure I'm being MY husband's friend. I can't teach what I don't know. May I model and teach Song of Solomon 5:16 with my husband, "This is my beloved, this is my friend."*
- *To love their children... this is a maternal, nurturing love... just like the Lord nurtures and cares for me. I have always prayed that I would model the Lord with my kids as He spoke in Zephaniah 3:17, that I would "delight in them greatly, quiet them with my love*

(not my anger), and rejoice over them with singing." My girls are grown... but I can still be this for them AND watch them as they model this for their kids.

- To be self controlled... just like ALL believers are called to be, as we live by the Spirit.*
- To be pure... holy... Don't just model it, teach them what holiness looks like... encourage them to seek the Lord so that the Holy Spirit will transform them and help them to be pure as well.*
- To work at home... this does not mean woman can't have a job outside the home. All I have to do is read Proverbs 31 to see that. But it does mean that we prioritize Proverbs 31:26-27, "She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness."*
- To be kind... true kindness takes humility. I am only genuinely kind when I can be kind to those who are not kind to me.*
- Submissive to their own husband... This is a hard one. Some women want to say it's no longer culturally relevant... but... the reason given for why I'm called to model and teach submission, not to ALL men, but to my husband... is that "the word of God may not be reviled." That is still the culture of God.*

The concept of living out our golden years, trying to make them heaven on earth is not biblical. I'm called to serve the kingdom of God here on earth until I take my last breath.

Vs. 6-10 ~ IN THE SAME WAY as the older men and older women, young men need to be self controlled... as they walk by the Spirit and not by the flesh.

ALL people, from Titus on down, need to be a model of good works in everything they do. What are those good works? Everything done in faith. No work can be good if it is not done in faith.

But also... show integrity, dignity, and sound speech that can't be attacked or condemned in everything you teach. What I say, do, and teach needs to be above reproach before God... not just in appearance, but in truth. This is a HIGH calling. I cannot do this if the Lord is not the one I serve. I WILL face opposition. When I do, the question is... Will I give in to the pressure and be ashamed? Or will I stand firm in the Lord so that the one who opposes me is put to shame before God? Ultimately, the one who judges is the Lord. His opinion is the only one that really matters. Everything HE does is above reproach. I will be doing the works that please Him when I do what He does, love what He loves, hate what He hates.

Then Paul speaks to bondservants... those who have voluntarily chosen to be under the authority of a master in order to pay off debt or help support their family... or whatever. God wants bondservants to submit to their masters. I think of this today as employees with their employers... Don't take matters into my own hands. Serve at the pleasure of my boss without arguing or accusing... for the glory of God. Don't steal from them... whether it be by not putting in the hours I'm committed to work, or by literally taking what isn't mine. Why work for my

employer with humility like this? This is how I show my love for the Lord and His word.

In everything I do, think, or want, my ultimate goal, if I'm seeking to align with God's word, is to do what pleases Him, what honors HIM. He's at the center. I am not.

Vs. 11-15 ~ For... because... The reason I do all things for the glory of God is because His grace brought me salvation. But it does more than that. His grace teaches me to turn AWAY from things that go against God and things that feed my worldly flesh... and turn TO living by the Spirit with self control so that I don't get caught up in the things that go against God. Turn TO learning about what matters to God and living for what matters to God today.

Because of His salvation and grace, my hope is not in today... but I wait for Jesus to return. I live in this world with my eyes set on doing what pleases Him and my hope set on being with Him in my eternal home forever.

Jesus did not give Himself only to redeem me so that I could be with Him. He gave Himself to redeem me from all the things that entangle me and go against His word. Jesus came to make me... and all His people... pure... to help us to be zealous, fervently pursuing what makes Him happy. If I think His plan stops at setting me free, I miss all the treasures of relationship with Him in making me pure and zealous.

Paul closed this section to Titus and said...

- Declare these things. What things? Things that align with sound doctrine.*
- Exhort... encourage, comfort, urge the believers to follow God's word... not begging them, but speaking with authority... as a representative of God's word.*
- Rebuke... expose people's sin... with all authority... not to condemn, but to rescue.*
- Let no one disregard you... let no one despise you. How do you not let someone despise you? I know one thing... it's not by giving them everything they want, and it's not by trying to force them. It's by standing on God's word, in wholehearted loyalty to Him.*

O Lord, if I boil this all down to one statement, it is... Stand on the word of God without apology. Everything else I do comes from that position. I do what I do... stay true to God's word in all my actions... because I think what I think... that God's word is true and right... because I want what I want... to please the Lord above all else... because I worship HIM. O Lord, please may it be so. Please help my life to model this. Please help me to teach it to whoever You place in my path. Let Your name be lifted up!