

Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Beaumont
Pastor, Dwight Benoit
Wednesday, September 15, 2021, ~ Bible Study

The Epistle of Paul to Titus

Titus—*Believer, Servant, Partner*—Fellow-worker, a *Leader* to **The Church of GOD** in Crete...

Tonight's text: Titus 1: 10-16 ~ Teachers *teaching* wrong doctrine and leading others into error.

Focus on **Titus 1: 16-2: 1-15...**

In verse 16, Paul continues to encourage Titus to *refute* the false teachers and evildoers, who say they *know* **GOD**, but by their *actions* they *deny* **HIM**... *Three* words he describes them by...

1. Abominable, *bdelugma* (bdel'-oog-mah), *detestable*, [*bdeo*—to reek with stench], *disgusting*; moral horror 'as a stench to **GOD**' (as when people *refuse* to *hear and obey* **HIS Voice!**)
2. Disobedient, *apeithes* (ap-i-thace'), unwilling to be *persuaded* (by **GOD**) which shows itself in *outward disobedience* (outward *spiritual* rebellion.)
3. Reprobate, *adokimos* (ad-ok'-ee-mos), failing to pass the test, unapproved, counterfeit.

Read Matthew 7: 21; Mark 7: 6, 7; Romans 1: 21-22

But if Titus spent all his time *refuting* the false teachers and the evildoers, **The Church** would be ineffective! So, Leadership (Pastoral Leadership) must be balanced--

Teaching and *exhorting* the saints as well as *refuting* the enemies of **The Truth!**

In chapter 2, Paul deals with *three* Groups of Saints (*believers*) in **The Church**, and exhorts Titus to remind *them* of their obligations in **The LORD**...

They are:

1. The Matured Saints. (Titus 2: 1-3) *Mature*, *teleios* (tel'-i-os), those who have gone through the necessary stages to reach the *end-goal*, i.e. those who have *developed* into a consummating *completion* by fulfilling the necessary *process* (*spiritual journey*).
2. The Young Men and Women. (Titus 2: 4-8)
3. The Servants. (Titus 2: 9-15)

The Matured Saints. What is the *believer* to be like? How is the *believer* to live in the world? Especially the Matured ones...

--V. 1, They must Practice what they Teach. "Speak thou the things which become sound doctrine." *Preach* and *teach* sound doctrine. "Sound" means, wholesome and healthy doctrines. (Not what's *cancerous* and *slow killing*, deadly) "Sound Doctrines" are **The Teachings of GOD'S WORD**—not one's own ideas or opinions or thoughts (I think'), not the latest *fads of theology*. Not adding anything to **The WORD of GOD** nor leaving anything out.

Read Matthew 15: 9; I Thessalonians 2: 13; I Timothy 4: 16

--V. 2, *The Matured Men*. What is the *behavior* of the Mature Men? What are they to be like in the world? How are they to live? Six traits...

a. Sober, *nephalios*, (nay-fal'-eh-os) free from negative influences, clear-minded; circumspect, free from life-dominating influences. It the opposite of over-indulgence in anything such as, work, recreation, eating, drinking, Caveman time, or whatever.

Read, I Thessalonians 5: 6; I Peter 1: 13; I Peter 4: 7

b. Grave, *semnos* (sem-nos), meaning to be "revered", respected, serious, honorable, worthy, noble. It has to do with 'seriousness of *purpose* and life.' The opposite of being 'flippant and double-minded,' non-*purposeful* and uncommitted. Mature men are not to enter a 'second childhood' and act like a child.

Read John 4: 34-36; Philippians 3: 13-14.

c. Temperate, *sophron* (so'-frone), sound-minded, **Spirit**-controlled vs. self-controlled, disciplined, able to curb desires and emotions. Neither age nor retirement gives the matured the right to live a life of license, neither in drink, eating, sex, sensual desires, travels, play nor in any other area of life. The mature who really know **The LORD** are not to waste time and fritter their life away.

Read Acts 24: 25; I Corinthians 9: 24-27

d. Sound (healthy) in The Faith. This means to be strong in **The CHRISTian Faith**—in one's **Faith in CHRIST** and in **The WORD of GOD** and its promises. It means **The Whole Body of CHRISTian Doctrines**... *Spiritual health* is more important than *physical health*!

Read John 6: 28, 29; I John 5: 4, 5.

e. Sound (healthy) in Love (charity)... Not tricks nor schemes...

Read 1 Corinthians 13

f. Sound in Patience. *Hupomeno* (hoop-om-en'-o), meaning to undergo, i.e., bear (trials), have fortitude, persevere—abide, endure, (take) patient(ly), suffer, tarry behind. How difficult it is for some 'senior saints' to be patient with the younger folks! (Young whipper snappers)

Point: None of us grew overnight! Someone took time with us... even now!!!