



# Titus

## “Young Lions”

*“In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.”*

Titus 2:7-8

There is a book in the Bible named Titus. But aside from knowing that, we don't often talk about him. The quote in the box is from Paul letter to Titus. Who was he anyway? Was he important? A little bit of studying tells us a physical thing about him that doesn't seem very important to us, but it was very important at the time to some people. According to Genesis 17:10-14, God told Abraham to circumcise himself, his household and his slaves as an everlasting covenant in their flesh. Then it comes up again when Paul has Titus working in Crete. We have no direct quotes from Titus.

Paul took different men with him on his trips. Titus was a young man given a difficult job in Crete. The people were very politically savvy and they knew how to use it to their advantage – not unlike some people today! Titus was of Greek ancestry evidently converted to the Lord by Paul. Some authorities think that circumcision is mentioned here because since Titus was not Jewish and was not circumcised, he was a test case for the people of Crete.

Paul and Titus had gone to Crete to tell the people about Christ, and then Paul felt called to go to Nicopolis. Paul had been imprisoned once and seemed to feel a pressure to tell as many people about Christ as he could. He told young Titus to stay in Crete. He gave him a job to do that would seem almost impossible. He told him the people were immoral and the thought criminals were heroes.

Paul tells Titus to finish up the task that he had started with these people. He told Titus they were a hard people to deal with. They were liars, lazy, and “barking dogs”. Titus was to appoint a leader in every town and make sure that he scrutinized them thoroughly. We assume that Titus was a young man at this time. He had quite a bit on his shoulders. Paul gave him definite things to look for in these men. But Paul knew that Titus could do it because of his faith and the power that Titus had received from God and Paul reminded Titus of this several times.

But it wasn't only the men he was to work with. He was also to work with the older women and make sure they were good wives and mothers, and that they set examples for the younger women so they would become good wives and good mothers to their children.

He then told him to witness to the younger men and make sure they were leading disciplined lives. But Paul wasn't finished yet. In the second chapter of Titus, the letter that Paul wrote to Titus, he also tells him to work with the slaves and make sure they were loyal workers, a bonus to their masters. We can only imagine Titus' response. It could have been “Who me? No way.” Or it could have been “I'll do it because I believe and want others to know my Saviour.”

Paul pushed that the most important thing was not whether or not a man was circumcised, but whether or not he knew that salvation was available for everyone. He wanted everyone to know that Christ offered himself as a sacrifice to free everyone and through his grace, not good works, everyone could have salvation. Titus was the test case for the people of Crete.

He told Titus to not let anyone put him down. He believed the people should respect their government and he also reminds Titus that at one time he and Titus were ignorant and sinful before they knew Christ as their Savior. He wanted them to know there was an eternity of life.

Prayer: Dear Lord, You have given so much for us, and yet we think of it only as a gift often and don't stop to realize our responsibility to keep reaching out so that others can have the same assurance we do of spending eternal life with You. Help us to be like Titus and work for You. Amen

1. Titus is just mentioned in the short book which is actually a letter that Paul wrote to him outlining what he should do. Was he important? Is each one of us important?
2. Why was Paul just a pusher? Do we need someone to push us?
3. Paul laid down definite guidelines for men and women. How do we measure up? Read the second chapter of Titus to see how you fit in. It is very short!
4. What can you do to help spread the Word of God to others of your peer group? Do you have an obligation to tell others when you think they are wrong? How can we help in a positive way when people have strayed from God?

5. How would you react if you were given the job that was given to Titus by Paul?

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