

## **The Leadership We Need (Titus 1:1-5a)**

**Introduction:** *My testimony*

### **An Overview of the Book**

#### **1. Author: The apostle Paul (v. 1-3)**

(a) to bring faith to God's elect.

(b) to bring knowledge unto holiness.

(c) to bring the hope of eternal life which God (who cannot lie) promised.

#### **2. The recipient: Titus (v. 4)**

See Galatians 2:1-3, and 2Cor 7:6-16, 8:6, 8:16-24, 12:17-18.

#### **3. The setting: the island of Crete (v. 5)**

1:12, "One of them, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons."

The gospel had gone there early, in all likelihood (Acts 2:11).

#### **4. The message of the book of Titus: The Leadership We Urgently Need (v. 5)**

##### ***(a) The first lack: the faith of God's elect (1:1, 1:9-16)***

Men of other denominations, if you like, are leading whole households astray. "Who for me withstands the wicked" (Ps 94:16, in metre)?

##### ***(a') The first answer: elders in every city (1:5-9)***

We need men who have God's authority, whose word carries weight in the community, to stop the destructive ministry of heretics in town.

##### ***(b) The second lack: knowledge unto holiness (1:1b, 1:16, 2:11-15)***

If you have unholy Christians, what happens? "The word of God [is] blasphemed."

##### ***(b') The second answer: saints who adorn the gospel and teach others to do so (2:1-3:2)***

We need, 2:3, "teachers of good things" who, verse 7, will be a "pattern of good works" and "adorn the doctrine of God in all things."

##### ***(c) The third lack: the hope of eternal life (1:2, 3:9-11)***

There are people who get so wrapped up in some petty controversy that they are taking their focus off the gospel of grace and the life of Christ. It's "divisive," "unprofitable and useless."

##### ***(c') The third answer: people devoted to the gospel of grace and doing good works (3:3-8)***

"These things are good and profitable to men."

**Conclusion:** *we urgently need this kind of leadership in the church.*