

Households In Danger (Titus 1:5-11)

Introduction: *Carrying the Bus*

These qualifications we read about for elder, for example, can be or become a great heavy burden. The question that we need to ask as we look at the letter is: what do we need leadership *for*?

Review: *“The leadership we urgently need in order to fix what’s lacking in the church.” Three big problems: heretics, hypocrites, and divisive people.*

1. Elders in every city (1:5-9) as whole households are in danger (1:9-16)

Titus, you need to appoint or ordain elders in every city, blameless men who hold fast to the word of God. Why? Verse 9, “that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict” (See Ps 94:16).

2. Saints who adorn the gospel and teach others to do so (2:1-3:2) because of hypocrisy and evil speech (2:11-15)

We need, 2:3, “teachers of good things,” or verse 7, those who will be a “pattern of good works” (see 2:10), because 2:5, “The word of God [is] blasphemed.” Verse 8, they have evil to say of God’s people.

3. Being devoted to the gospel and good works (3:3-8), because of unprofitable divisions (3:9-11)

People were concerned about other things, disputes which were at best unhelpful to God’s people, at worst actively divisive. What the churches of Crete need are people who are utterly devoted, to things which *are* good and profitable to men, not things which are unprofitable and useless.

Exposition

1. Examples of practical godliness (v. 5-7)

With “blameless” being repeated for emphasis in verses 5 and 7 as the supreme overarching quality. The blamelessness of an elder first should first extend to his marriage and family (see 1Tim 3:2).

2. Examples of personal godliness (v. 7-8)

God is giving this local congregation and every local congregation real-life examples of His truth lived out in the elders’ lives, in order to encourage and move us as a congregation to grow in grace.

3. Teachers sound in the faith (v. 9-10)

They have walked the walk before they bring this talk of exhortation and rebuke. They have a life that backs up the words, the strong words, that they are going to deliver to this local congregation.

Conclusion: *Dabney, “What is a call to the ministry”*

If you have preparation to make, and God calls you to preach, he calls you to begin that preparation now; for a perishing world needs you now; while you causelessly hesitate souls drop into hell. “TODAY, IF YE WILL HEAR HIS VOICE, HARDEN NOT YOUR HEART.”