

Dear Grace Church,

In preparation for worship this Lord's Day, I encourage you to read Titus chapters 1 and 2 with the chapter outlines. Note the group of adversaries in the church at Crete and what Paul instructs Titus to do with them (1:10-16). Then note the various groups in the church who need teaching and shepherding but whom Paul assumes will receive the teaching about the grace of God in the gospel to live together daily to build Christ's church.

Then read Titus 2:9-15, giving careful consideration to each of us living together to adorn the doctrine of God with the right understanding and use of gospel and law to build Christ's church. Read and re-read Titus 2:11-15 and pray through it with the help of the outline.

Seeking to grow together with you daily in the experience of grace to build Christ's church,

Murray

How to Build the Perfect Church Series, 10
The Covenant of Grace Applied

**“Adorning the Doctrine of God Our Savior Together to Build Christ’s Church:
Or, Using Both Gospel and Law Rightly in the Daily Life of the Church”**
Titus 1:10-2:15, Esp. 2:9-15

Titus 2:9–15 ⁹*Exhort* _____ to be obedient... to be well pleasing in all *things*... that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things. ¹¹For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹²teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, ¹³looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works. ¹⁵Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you. (NKJV)

I. The Context of Problems (1:10-16) and Needs (2:1-10) within the Church for which the Right Understanding and Application of Gospel and Law are Necessary (1:10-2:15)

II. The Gospel (11)

A. The nature of the Gospel— “the grace of God” (11a)

B. The work of the Gospel— “bringing salvation” (11b)

C. The free offer of the Gospel— “appearing to all men” (11c)

III. The Designed Effect of the Gospel and the Law Upon All Who Receive It (12-14)

- A. The teaching, molding, nourishing power of the gospel (12)
- B. The Spirit's influence in the Gospel upon the soul (13)
- C. The peculiarity of the Gospel in relation to all other religions (14a)
- D. The purpose of gospel and law to redeem and purify (14b)

IV. Faithful Ministers of the Gospel—

- A. “speak, exhort, and rebuke with all authority” (15a)
- B. “without fear of disapproval and without regard for approval” (15b)

Titus 1:1–16 ¹Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness, ²In hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began, ³but has in due time manifested His word through preaching, which was committed to me according to the commandment of God our Savior; ⁴To Titus, a true son in *our* common faith: Grace, mercy, *and* peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior. ⁵For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you—⁶if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination. ⁷For a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, ⁸but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, ⁹holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict. ¹⁰For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, ¹¹whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain. ¹²One of them, a prophet of their own, said, “Cretans *are* always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.” ¹³This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, ¹⁴not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn from the truth. ¹⁵To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. ¹⁶They profess to know God, but in works they deny *Him*, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work. (NKJV)

I. Greetings (1:1-4)

II. Qualifications of Elders (1:5-9)

III. Characteristics of Enemies of the Local Church and the Duties of Elders to Correct their Church's Enemies (The Church's Enemies: those who won't receive grace, or oppose grace, or misuse grace to serve themselves) (1:10-16)

Titus 2:1–15 ¹But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine: ²that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience; ³the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things—⁴that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵*to be* discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed. ⁶Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded, ⁷in all things showing yourself *to be* a pattern of good works; in doctrine *showing* integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, ⁸sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you. ⁹*Exhort* bondservants to be obedient to their own masters, to be well pleasing in all *things*, not answering back, ¹⁰ not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things. ¹¹For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹²teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, ¹³looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works. ¹⁵Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you. (NKJV)

IV. Duties of Elders toward Various Groups of Sound Members of the Local Church and Their Duties towards One Another to Adorn the Doctrine of God (Sound Members: those who receive grace and use grace to build Christ's church in their daily life together) (2:1-10)

V. The Shaping and Nourishing Power of God's Grace to Obey His Will to Adorn the Doctrine of God's Grace to Build His Church (2:11-15)