


Apostolic Authority and Order In The Church

Titus 1:1-5

Presented by Eric Douma
August 30, 2009




Introduction To Titus

Author: Paul

Date: Fall of 63 A.D. (In between 1st and 2nd Roman imprisonments of Paul)

Recipient: Titus – Paul’s “true child in a common faith” (1:4)

Purpose: To encourage and strengthen Titus’ reputation as Paul’s personal representative. Titus is, in turn, to restore doctrinal and practical fidelity to the church on the island of Crete.



Abbreviated Outline To Titus

- I. Salutation (Apostolic Authority) 1:1-4
- II. Concerning Elders and Heretics 1:5-16
- III. Concerning Congregational Groups 2:1-15
- IV. Obligations as Citizens 3:1-2
- V. Motives for Godly Living 3:3-8
- VI. Reaction to Spiritual Error 3:9-11
- VII. Conclusion/Benediction 3:12-15

Paul's Apostolic Authority

Titus 1:1a Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ...

Paul Is Equal With The Prophets

Jeremiah 7:25 Since the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt until this day, I have sent you all My servants the prophets...

Amos 3:7 Surely the Lord GOD does nothing unless He reveals His secret counsel to His servants the prophets.

Apostles Bear The King's Authority

➤ Old Testament = Shaluach "sent ones"

1 Samuel 25:5 So David sent ten young men; and David said to the young men, "Go up to Carmel, visit Nabal and greet him in my name..."

2 Samuel 10:2 Then David said, "I will show kindness to Hanun the son of Nahash, just as his father showed kindness to me." So David sent some of his servants to console him concerning his father...

Paul's Apostolic Authority

Titus 1:1 Paul, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of those **chosen of God** and the knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness...

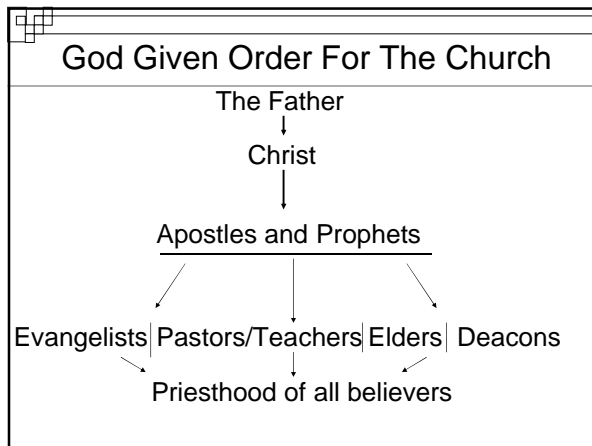
Hope Based Upon God's Character

... for the faith of those chosen of God and the knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness (Titus 1b)

Titus 1:2-3 in the hope of eternal life, which **God, who cannot lie**, promised long ages ago, but at the proper time manifested, even His word, in the proclamation with which I was entrusted according to the commandment of God our Savior,

Titus Is Left To Restore Order

Titus 1:4-5 To Titus, my true child in a common faith; grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior. **For this reason** I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you...



Application

1. Understanding who the apostles were, and the authority they were endowed with keeps the church from error.
2. If we teach the Bible accurately, we stand under apostolic authority.
3. "Red letter Christians" are denying Christ's authority.

1. Criteria For The Office of Apostle

1. Apostles were taught by Christ from the beginning, and were eyewitness to the resurrection.

John 15:26b-27 ...He (The Holy Spirit) will testify about Me, and you will testify also, because you have been with Me from the beginning.

1. Criteria For The Office of Apostle

Acts 1:21-22 Therefore it is necessary that of the men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us – beginning with the baptism of John until the day that He was taken up from us – one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection.

1. Criteria For The Office of Apostle

2. Apostles did signs, wonders, and miracles confirming they were God’s spokesmen.

Hebrews 2:3b-4 After it (message of salvation) was first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard, God also testifying with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.

1. Criteria For The Office of Apostle

Acts 5:12, 16 At the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were taking place...the people from the cities in the vicinity of Jerusalem were coming together, bringing people who were sick or afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all being healed.

1. Criteria For The Office of Apostle

3. Men who held the apostolic office were called by Jesus Christ.

Romans 1:1 Paul, a bondservant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel ...

1Corinthians 1:1a Paul, called as an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, ...

1. Criteria For The Office of Apostle

3. Men who held the apostolic office were called by Jesus Christ.

2nd Peter 3:15, 16 ...consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation – as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him has written to you, as also in all his epistles...which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also to the rest of the Scriptures.

2. If we teach the Bible accurately, we stand under apostolic authority.

John 14:12 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in Me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, **because I am going to the Father.**



3. Red Letter Christians Are Denying Christ's Authority

John 13:20 Truly, truly, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send receives **Me**; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.

1st Corinthians 14:37 If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you are the Lord's commandment.
