

The New Testament Church
Book of Titus #1: Introduction and Mission of Titus to transform Crete
 Pastor Paul Jehle – April 24, 2022
 Titus 1:1-5

I Introduction to the Book of Titus

- A. Island of Crete – mountainous – OT mentions it as Caphtor, home of Philistines
 1. Located off the coast of Greece (150 miles long, 8 to 35 miles wide)
 2. Founded by Phoenicians by 1500 BC
 3. Home of Jupiter? – Greek gods, Minos was his son (Minoan civilization)
 - a. Greek civilization created “god” in man’s image
 - b. They also rejected absolutes – greed, theft, immorality – *most corrupt place?*
 4. The Book of Acts (2:11) mentions Cretans on the day of Pentecost
 - a. It is possible that some of these individuals were converted
 - b. They (Jewish believers) may have started churches on the island...
 5. Paul could have gone to Crete after Acts 28 (released from prison) or it may not have been mentioned by Luke for some reason
 6. By 67 AD, when Titus would have been there, it was governed by Rome
- B. Who was Titus?
 1. One of two key disciples of Paul – Timothy (Jewish) and Titus (Greek)
 2. Titus had worked with the Apostle Paul in Corinth and Dalmatia

II Titus 1:1-5

- A. Paul – bondservant (voluntary slave) of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ
 1. According to the faith of God’s elect (calling must also have character)
 2. And the acknowledgement of the truth which accords with godliness
 3. In hope of eternal life which God (an eternal perspective is critical)
 4. Who cannot lie, promised before time began (gifts and calling irrevocable)
- B. In due time it was manifested – incarnated through preaching
 1. The Word of God – Old Testament; *main method through preaching/teaching*
 2. Committed to me according to the commandment of God our Savior
- C. To Titus, a true son in our common faith
 1. When someone leads you to the Lord, you are their “son or daughter in the faith”
 2. Though you are not “under” them with any obligation,
 3. You ought to honor who led you to the Lord – part of your spiritual heritage
- D. To whom do we give glory to for all of this? – *God...*
 1. Grace – ability given – getting what we don’t deserve
 2. Mercy – unmerited favor – not getting what we do deserve
 3. And peace from – harmony in relationships
 4. God the Father – sovereign over all
 5. and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior
- E. *The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town – Titus 1:5*
 1. The church did not have the foundations it needed to transform the culture
 2. The book will reveal the foundational truths needed to transform a godless culture
 3. This is timely now, for we see parallels of our slide toward such a culture as Crete