

Titus

Leadership for the Last Days

Trinity of Fairview Tuesday Night Bible Study

Session 1, 11/17/20

I. Introduction

These are surely the last days, which is an exciting thought on so many fronts!

The church has an opportunity like never before to break outside preconceived notions both inside and outside the body, and make a major impact for the Kingdom of God.

To seize this moment will require great spiritual leadership as we function both inside and outside the body.

Titus gives us timely, and timeless, truth to utilize.

II. Background Information

A. Authorship: Clearly Paul

B. Date: Range between 63 and 65 AD;

C. Recipient: Titus; A most trusted ambassador of Paul's.

D. Occasion: To give explicit instructions to help Titus appoint qualified leaders over the churches in Crete.

E. Key Verse or Theme:

I like 3:8 to fit this bill.

⁸ This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men.

This text underscores the inescapable connection between God focused faith and the works that spring from such faith.

That is the challenge for us as we attempt to be leaders in our spaces for the cause of Christ in these last days.

III. Brief Outline (Note the Brevity, and neglect(In comparison to Timothy), and power of the letter)

A. Lead with Competence (1:1-16)

B. Lead with Character (2:1-15)

C. Lead with Conduct (3:1-15)

IV. Analysis

A. Lead with Competence (1:1-16)

1. The Basis of Competent Leadership (1:1-4)

Greeting

¹ Paul, 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, ² in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began, ³ but has in due time manifested His word through preaching, which was committed to me according to the commandment of God our Savior; ⁴ To Titus, a true son in *our* common faith: Grace, mercy, *and* peace from God the Father and ^[a]the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior. (NKJV)

You will never rise above your leadership!

In the church, we need competent leadership more than ever.

So the question we must ask in these opening verses of salutation is, "What are they teaching us is the Basis for such necessary competence in leadership?"

Maybe better, “What are the building blocks, the foundational characteristics of competent leadership?”

Paul asserts a few things here.

Competent Leadership:

a. Is authoritative

b. Is appropriate (according to = consistent; fully aligned with)

1. The Faith (v1b)

2. Faithfulness (v1c)

3. The Focus(v2-3)

The Gospel Message is, and must be, the content, context, and cause of our preaching!

c. Is Aimed (v4)

->At enabling others.

->At engendering grace and peace. A good Christian leader brings peace to the moment... without compromise...

Conclusion:

So there is the Basis for Competent Leadership

It is:

Authoritative

Aligned

Aimed