

Titus

Leadership for the Last Days

Trinity of Fairview Tuesday Night Bible Study

Session 2, 11/24/20

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

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

- 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)

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?”

Competent Leadership:

- a. Is authoritative (Has a clear concept of their position; slave, apostle)
- b. Is appropriate (according to = consistent; fully aligned with)

The Faith (v1b), Faithfulness (v1c) 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.

- 2. The Basics of Competent Leadership (1:5-9)

⁵ For 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— ⁶ if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of [a]dissipation or insubordination. ⁷ For a [b]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, ⁸ but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, ⁹ holding 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.

What are the Biblical qualifications for leadership in the church?

a. See the Need Underscored (v5)

See here a two-fold need that called for Competent Leadership in Crete among the churches.

Note again: Paul “left” Titus there. This is indicative of a visit that dictated some sort of a leadership intervention.

1. Paul tells us the cause. (“wanting”)

2. Paul tells us the cure. (“ordain elders”)

b. See the Nature Unveiled (v6-9)

Note the clarion qualification is that the leader be “blameless”.

(This is twice mentioned, once in v6 and once in v7)

Note the list of areas where the leader is to be “blameless”

1. Home v6

2. Heart v7-8

3. Hands v9

Concluding thought: My, what a challenging calling!