



Titus 1:1-3

Truth #1 - God's Word is the truth that leads to eternal life

Doctrine #1 - The doctrine of Predestination

Principle #1 - Preaching proclaims, explains, and applies God's Word

The Apostle Paul was under Roman prisoner transport when he came to Crete on his way to Rome and then eventually his execution (Acts 27:1-12). In the short time that he was there, a church was planted. One of those who accompanied him, Titus, was left on the island of Crete to set the church in order, train disciples, then appoint leaders.

- 1 Considering that when Paul wrote this epistle to Titus he was a prisoner of the Roman Government on his way to a fateful trial, read Titus 1:1 and observe where the Apostle's focus was?
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When we are feeling down, one of the best remedies is to consider how we can help others.

2. In what way did Jesus model this just before He was taken away to be tried and as He was crucified? (Note John 13:1; 19:27)
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3. Based on Titus 1:1, the Apostle Paul was concerned for the new Christians on Crete to know something. What was it that he wanted them to know, and what would be the result of this knowledge?
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Paul immediately stresses to Titus the importance of God's Word being taught as the main focus of his ministry to the Christians of Crete.

4. Note Titus 1:3. How did Paul say that God's Word of the hope of eternal life through Christ was made available to those on the island Crete?
 - (a) By a very moving stage play.
 - (b) By the preaching of the Word commanded to be done by the Saviour.
 - (c) By prayer-walking the Island.
 - (d) By composing a hit song about Jesus.
 5. What truth does this reveal about the means to finding eternal life in Christ?
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The Doctrine of Predestination

Paul refers to believers as 'elect' (Titus 1:1). This carries the idea that God calls people whom He has chosen to turn to Him and receive His forgiveness. In writing to the Ephesians, Paul describes this as being _____ (refer to Ephesians 1:5, 11). Some Christians have been confused by this doctrine and wrongly assumed then, that we do not have to witness, preach to or evangelise people. However, the *means* by which people reveal that God has 'elected' them to be saved is the preaching of the Gospel—whether by personal testimony, a sermon, or an evangelistic outreach event. This should be a tremendous weight off every believer's shoulders because it means that if we are

faithful and prayerful in proclaiming God’s Word, it is the Holy Spirit who converts a sinner to Christ.

The Principles for Our Growth

6. If you were helping a new believer to understand how Titus 1:1-3 applied to their life? What would you point out to them?

Prayer

Father,

Help us to be faithful to You—despite our circumstances—just as the Apostle Paul was. Help us to know the truth of Your Word and to bear the fruit of godliness that reflects the love of Christ to our friends, neighbours, work colleagues, and family members who do not know You. Give us the opportunities to share who You really are and the grace to reflect it in the way we live. And when we don’t measure up, give us the strength not to lose heart or to quit, but to continue to seek and receive Your forgiveness. In Jesus’ Name we pray.

Amen.