"PREAMBLE TO THE BOOK OF TITUS" (1) Titus 1:1-4 Col. 1:25-29 (1)

Read 1 Cor. 1:10-31

INTRO:

A.-Persons Of The Book:

1-Paul, the author

2-Titus, the recipient

3-Those in Titus' flocks in Crete, the sheep of this Shepherd

B.-Book Of Titus: Peculiarities Of The

NB

1-Peculiarity-One of (4) "Person-directed" books of Paul's writings in N. T.
- Philemon
- 1 + 2 Timothy
- Titus

-Three of the 4 are "Pastoral Letters"

2-Authoritative instructions -To Pastor -To People

3-Pastoral admonitions

HOW TO DO PASTORAL MINISTRY

4-Written between the writing of 1 Timothy & 2 Timothy — During time between two imprisonments

5-Establishment of the LOCAL CHURCH to be forwarded & its pattern established:

- God's Institution for this age !!!!
  - 1 Tim. 3:15 - "But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."
- "Pillar and ground of the truth" == "PROP AND SUPPORT"
- * Church is for holding up and holding forth the truth of God
- Church rests UNSHAKEN, though opposed from without & though besieged with apostasy from within
  - Mt. 16:18 - "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

We need to 6-PROP:
- To KNOW God's truth
- To KNOW God's church so as
- To TAKE our place in each as believers!

C.-Preamble To The Book Of Titus:

1-God's Messenger

2-God's Message

3-God's Method

4-God's Minister To Crete:

I.-GOD'S MESSENGER (1:1a, b, c):

A.-The Man:

1-Paul was born SAUL == "Asked for" Hebrew Name

2-Jew - Educated well in Judaism - Gamaliel

-Righteous before the Law

-Sanhedrin member, and thus a married man

-Persecutor of Christianity
- * Instigated stoning of Stephen (Acts 8:1)
- * Sought to enlarge persecution (Acts 8:3; 9:1-2)

PLUS "Paul" = Little, Roman Name AND in Gentile Culture (Acts 7:58)

WORKS-RIGHTEOUSNESS

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

OVERHEAD MATTE

--Tentmaker by trade
--Industrious man — He Knew how to work!
--Zealous above all his fellows in Judaism
3-Converted --On the Road to Damascus [redacted]
** [redacted]
"therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away, Behold all things are become NEW"
*--New Creation --2 Cor. 5:17
--New Nature --2 Pet. 1:4 — Partaker of the divine nature
--New Profession as a preacher of Christ

B.-The Motive:
1-"A servant of God" == "A bondslave of God" — "one who gives himself up wholly to another's will" (THAYER)
Unusual terminology; Only found here
Usually as an APOSTLE only
--Four possible ways to become a bondslave
** By birth
** By purchase
** By conquest
** By voluntary decision
TWO DESIGNATIONS
--ALL FOUR were true of Paul's bondslavery to God
--Paul considered "Bondman" not an epitaph of which to be ashamed — HIGH PRIVILEGE!
*--Knew he was "bought with a price"! — Christ's BLOOD
2-Low name, but a High privilege
3-YOU, TOO, are in bondslavery..... NO RIGHTS!
4-Christianity means WORK for those of us who are bondmen of God, purchased for His glory

C.-The Ministry:
1-"An Apostle of Jesus Christ" — FIRST RANK in the Ch
GIFTS
• 1 Cor. 12:28
• Eph. 2:20
--Not just an empty formula of designation
--But a descriptive title
Apostle = "One sent" Term shows AUTHORITY
• Personally taught by X
• Eyewitness of Res
• Officially commissioned
2-1 Cor. 15:8--"And last of all He was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time"
--Called into salvation "out of due time"
--Before the nation of Israel as a whole
--To be an authentic apostle of Christ
3-1 Cor. 5:9-10--"For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. By the grace of God I am what I am: and His grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me."
--DIGNITY and HUMILITY are both expressed in this
--God certifies Paul as a true apostle
• Authoritative calling & ministry — Acts 9:15-16
• Representative of Christ for the establishment of Christianity
4-What a great responsibility!!

II. GOD'S MESSAGE (1:1d-2a):
Gospel = Good News
* In eternity — PLANNED
* In time — PREACHED

A.-Its Presentation:
1-"According to (lit., "FOR") the faith of God's Elect"
2-For the presenting of the FACTS of this faith
--It is a body of truth
--Jude 3--"...it was needful for me to write

According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, thru the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory + virtue"

unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for **the faith** which was once delivered unto the saints."

2 Pet. 1:3 ← 3

- It is **God's truth**
- It contains **all needed** for faith, life & godliness
- This "**FAITH**" is **to be believed** to accept the Savior
- Paul's ministry was to present & to confirm **faith**
- **Loose doctrine** makes for **loose living**

3-For the **establishing** of **believers** in this faith

"But grow in grace, + in the knowledge of our Lord + Savior, Jesus Christ", To Him be glory both now + forever"

- Much ministry in **preaching**
- More ministry in **helping, grounding, counseling** & **follow-up**

* **Col. 1:28-29**--"Christ...Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may **present every man perfect** in Christ Jesus: whereunto I also labor, striving according to His working, which worketh in me mightily."

- That **believers** be **perfected** in their **knowledge** of the Facts as they **GROW**!
- **2 Pet. 3:18**
- Dr. Harlin Roper:--"Comfort the afflicted & Afflict the comfortable"

"And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, + glorified the Word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed."

Acts 13:48

4-**"God's Elect"**

- This is a **prominent feature** in Paul's writings
- Eph. 1:4--"He (God) hath chosen us"
- Jn. 15:16--"Ye have not chosen Me, but I (Christ) have chosen you"
- Eph. 1:5--"Having in love predestinated u
- Eph. 1:6--"He hath made us accepted in the Beloved."
- These statements are **true** of **ALL BELIEVER** for they are **"God's elect"**

Not as believers that they were elected, but as elect ones that they were saved

CALLED, CHOSEN

- J. J. Van OOsterzee--"The doctrine of gracious **election** is not intended to be a stone of stumbling to the unbeliever, who in fact has nothing whatever to do with it, but **for comfort** to the believer, who regards God's free, sovereign, & independent good pleasure as the ground of his highest glory & consolation, in life and in death." (Titus, P. 6)

B.-Its Purpose:

1-"For the **acknowledging** of the **truth** which is after godliness"

NB 2-**Contrast** of the Pastoral epistles

- 1 & 2 **Timothy**; **Godliness** which **declares the truth**
- **Titus**; **Truth** which **leads to godliness**

** 3-"**Acknowledging**" = "**FULL** experiencial knowledge" ἐπίγνωσις

- Not partial
- Not haphazard
- **HAVE YOU** acknowledged **HIM** ?!?

4-**"The truth"**

- Jn. 8:32--"Ye shall know the truth & the truth shall make you free"
- Jn. 8:36--"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed!"
- Jn. 17:17--"Sanctify them thru thy truth: Thy Word is **TRUTH**"

(4)

Truth is the revelation of God as seen in Jesus
Jn. 14:6

Fairbairn - "True Kn. or saving knowledge is thus sharply distinguished from all that is of a merely speculative kind, or is w/o any moral dimension" (P. 257)

5-Truth is designed to LEAD TO godliness
Def: Godliness == "Godlikeness" "piety"
--Gospel must CHANGE LIVES !!!
** --PROOF of a changed heart is seen in a changed life
--Do you show proof?
--This is the purpose of the truth!

DOUBTFUL if you've believed the truth if such belief hasn't produced CHANGE to godliness

C.-Its Promise:

Confident Expectation

1-"In hope of eternal life"
2-Provision is made already
--Reaches BACK to eternal promise
--Reaches FORWARD to the enjoyment of Et. life
3-Hope is of the full possession of eternal life
--Not in doubt at all
--HOPE means "clear EXPECTATION"
--Confidence due to the One Who has promised !
4-Eternal life--Not mere existence
--But enjoyment of God
--Having GOD'S LIFE !
--ILLUS.--Once a woman known as OLD NANNY dwelt in a lonely cottage in the Highlands of Scotland. She was poor & bedridden, but rich in faith.

A young minister was accustomed to visit the old saint, more for what he could learn from her than for anything he was able to communicate. One day, wishing to try her faith, he proposed this startling question: "SUPPOSE, NANNY, AFTER ALL YOUR PRAYING & ALL YOUR TRUSTING, GOD WERE TO CAST YOU OFF AT LAST!.....WHAT THEN?" ?

The old woman raised herself onto her elbow, & looked him in the face, & said: "Why, man, God would be the greater loser. Poor Old Nanny would lose her soul, to be sure; and that would be a large loss indeed, BUT GOD WOULD LOSE HIS CHARACTER. He knows I've just hung up my soul & all my hopes upon His own precious promises; & if they should be broken the whole universe would go to ruin;".....and then, sinking back into her bed, she added....."FOR GOD WOULD BE A LIAR." !!!

5-Promises are secured
--"which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began"
--Bible revelation settles their secureness
--Contrast to deceit of "other gods"
--Contrast to deceit of Cretians
--ILLUS.-God punishes sin !

fresher living
Promise because rooted in the unchangeable, ever-faithful Jehovah

ABSOLUTELY SETTLED !

A mother & her little girl of 5 years were visiting. The little girl misbehaved, & her mother said: "SARAH, YOU MUST NOT DO THAT AGAIN."

Being a little girl, the child soon forgot and repeated her misbehavior. Her mother said: "SARAH, IF YOU DO THAT AGAIN, I WILL PUNISH YOU."

Well.....before long, Sarah did what she had been repeatedly warned about. When it was time to go home, the mother went for her coat, and Sarah was sad for the punishment to come.

The hostess noticed it, & said, "Never mind,

Sarah, I will ask your mother not to spank you."
The little girl replied, "THAT WILL DO NO GOOD:
MY MOTHER NEVER TELLS LIES."
As God is true, He cannot clear the guilty,
so punishment is sure!...BUT SO IS SALVATION

5

D.-Its Product:

1-Product of God's MESSAGE is sound, healthy doctrine
2-Truth believed issues in a God-honoring life
3-ILLUS--Gadarene Demoniac
--Mk. 5:19--"Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, go home to thy friends, and TELL THEM how great things the Lord hath done for thee & hath had compassion on thee
--Lk. 8:39 adds: "AND SHOW"
4-Product of Christ in your heart
- Doctrine---What you believe
- Life-------What you practice.

III. GOD'S METHOD (1:2d--3):

A.-The Promise:

1-"Promised before the world began"
2-New ASB--"Promised long ages ago"
3-No "new" message or promise
4-But the old & faithful promise
5-Gen. 3:15--"And I will put enmity between thee & the woman, & between thy seed & her seed; He shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel."
6-Promise reaches back to the Garden of Eden
7-LITERALLY true.....or not true at all!!

B.-The Preaching:

1-"But hath in due times manifested His word through preaching..."
2-Preaching is God's GENERAL METHOD!
--Rom. 10:17--"How shall they HEAR without a preacher?"
--1 Cor. 1:18--25--THE CROSS
GOOD NEWS is now manifested to all mankind thru the WORD PREACHED
3-Heralds for Christ, preaching the Savior
4-Telling the GOOD NEWS forth
5-God always arranges this AT THE RIGHT TIME to meet heart needs!
6-Thru the sacred office of preaching, spiritual children are born to God---as was Titus, to whom this is written (Jas. 1:18) Of His own will begat He us with the Word of TRUTH, that we should be a kind of first-fruits of His creatures

C.-The Personalization:

1-"Which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Savior"
2-God's method of preaching is personalized, as Paul responds to that commission
3-By Commandment--Gal. 1:15-16--"...it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, & called me by His grace, to reveal His

Son in me, that I might preach Him among the heathen"
--Acts 13:2--"The Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them"
--1 Tim. 1:12--"I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, Who hath enabled me, for that He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry."

(6)

4-Not to be REFUSED, because it is the call of God
5-Not to be UNDERTAKEN, unless it is the call of God
6-Same God Who saves, also calls.....and enables
7-He has claim on us all
--1 Cor. 6:19-20--"What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is IN you, which you HAVE of God, and ye are NOT YOUR OWN? For ye are BOUGHT with a price: therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit which are HIS."

IV. GOD'S MINISTER TO CRETE (1:4):

A.-Titus' Person: (Enlistment)

1-A Gentile; probably a Macedonian (Gal. 2:3) Certainly a Greek. Not partly Jewish as Timothy was
2-"Mine own son"=="my genuine child"; "my legitimately born son"
--Converted thru Paul's preaching
--Tender affection on Paul's part
--Perhaps Titus may also have been comparatively young At least in comparison to Paul's age.
--Precious & close relationship
--1 Cor. 4:15--"For though ye have ten thousand instructers in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers: for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel."
--ILLUS--John Calvin's three children all died in infancy. Of the last he wrote to a friend: "The Lord gave me another son, and the Lord hath taken him away: but have I not thousands of children in the faith of Christ?"
3-Titus' life is not sketched by Luke in Acts, as is Timothy's. Some think it is because he & Luke were relatives (Ramsay), & others that they were brothers (Lockyer).
4-Titus was more self-assertive & independent than Timothy
5-After the "COMMON FAITH"
--Not "common", as though it were unimportant
--But as held in common between them
6-Ordained of God as a PASTOR-TEACHER--Eph. 4:11
--Such is God's local shepherd of the flock
--Man of responsibility--1:5
--Man of authority--2:15; 3:1 2:1

B.-Titus' Equipment:

1-Call of God
- To SALVATION
- To SERVICE

First among equals of Elders.

2-In place of God's appointment
3-Had been an INTERNE under Paul on his journies
--"On the job training"
--Learn by doing under supervision
4-Had been a trusted emissary for Paul (2 Cor. 8:16-19)
5-Spiritual provisions--GRACE-----Source
--MERCY-----Channel (only in 3 Pastorals)
--PEACE-----Result in the heart

omitted in NASB + some texts

C.-Titus' Encouragement:

1-Not from the people only
--That's important & helpful
--ILLUS--As with the standing vote of appreciation for the Pastor's ministry in the Congregational meeting
--But encouragement from people is not always forthcoming — Should be!

2-Sometimes the people's spiritual needs will demand a message which is stinging, and there'll be little comment that's favorable

3-Still, that must be preached, in spite of the fact it will not bring forth "thanks" — TRUE!

4-Encouragement comes from the Father & from the Son!

5-Leader is called to a LONELY WALK, but it is still a WALK WITH GOD!

CONCLUSION:

A.-Authority Of The Epistle:

1-Written by a bondservant & apostle of Christ
2-Official communication; not just personal
--Directed to the PASTOR
--Intended also for the CHURCH
3-According to the COMMANDMENT of God

B.-Contents Of The Gospel:

1-The faith; the body of revealed truth
2-The godly life
3-The eternal life
4-These GO TOGETHER!

SHOWING in our lives!

C.-Method Of The Gospel:

1-PREACHING
2-Committed by God to individuals
3-Some are in public
4-Others in private
5-How about YOU??

D.-Purpose Of The Gospel:

1-Sound doctrine
2-Sound practice
3-These MUST GO TOGETHER
4-Belief has its PRACTICAL OUTWORKINGS
5-Question:
--Do you stand in the "common faith"
--You can, if you trust Jesus Christ as your Savior
--We preach HIM to you
--Won't you respond ???
* Believe the gospel
* Receive the Savior
* LIVE the Christian life.

Westbrae--10/20/68--(1) "Our God, Our Help"----------#465
Calvary Columbus 11/10/74 (2) "The Church's One Foundation"-- 225
OKBC — 4/13/86 (3) "Praise The Savior"---------- 144
Hilltop Baptist Ch, 1/22/95 (1) "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" 403
Hilltop Bapt. Ch— 9/21/08
Bible Center Ch.— 9/3/08

"ORGANIZATION IN THE CHURCH" (2) Titus 1:5
1 Cor. 14:23--15:6

OVERHEAD MADE

INTRO: A. Crete Conscious! (1)

1-Location--Eastern end of Mediteranean Sea
--Most southern island of Europe
--Off Greece & Turkey + West of Cyprus
--140 miles long
Equi-distant to Africa, Asia Minor + Greece

2-History
--Anciently a brilliant & glorious civilization
--Contact with Phoenicians & travelers
--Prominent seat of idol worship, being reputed to have been the birthplace of Jupiter
--Climate causes Hippocrates to send patients there to recover health
--Government & laws excited the admiration of Plato
--Sea ports & shipping

3-Character-LAND
* Many bold mountains
* Beautiful landscape
* Delightful climate

PEOPLE
** Tit. 1:12--"One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said, 'The Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies
** Definite decline from earlier heights to current crudities
* Notorious liars
* Ravenous tempers
* Gluttonous appetites
** "This witness is true" (Tit.1:13

Influenced by the sea-port cities' low moral level

4-Yet such ones as the Cretians are "FAIR GAME" for the good news of Christ, and they can be changed! as can we!

B. Cretian Church:

1-Began (possibly) by Pentecost's converts
2-Acts 2:11--"Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.":
3-Intervening years---UNKNOWN! (Acts 27:7-8
4-Paul probably touched there on his journey to Rome/
5-Paul won many converts AFTER his 1st imprisonment & release in EVANGELISTIC EFFORTS---and some of this may well have been on Crete.
6-Titus served with Paul as an "INTERNE" then
7-Titus was left behind to CONSOLIDATE the work that had been accomplished in winning converts
8-That's why this book to Titus deals with some items of ORGANIZATION in the church

Less advanced state of development than in Ephesus

They need to be organized!

C. Consolidation In Any Church:

1-"A good Minister must be a good administrator in the Church." Homer A. Kent, Sr., "The Pastor And His Work", P. 211
2-Kent lists 5 functions of a Pastor
--Pastoral shepherding (1) — People-care
--Educational teaching (2) — Pulpit ministry

(2)

--Officiative leading (3) Weddings, Funerals, Meetings, Camp, Ordinations
--Representative serving of the church (4) Supervision
--ADMINISTRATIVE RULING (5)
IFCA WEF
* MUCH TIME taken up by it
* MUCH PROFIT in it also

3-Clarence H. Benson--"Why should not the church be as efficiently organized and effectively administrated as any successful business enterprise? Granted that the secret of the church's efficiency is the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, that does not excuse the indifference, indolence and inactivity that prevail among so many of its members. If the work of the church is the largest, the most important, and most permanent business on earth, surely it should receive our closest study, our noblest efforts, & our highest & holiest enthusiasm. No man more highly magnified the work of the Holy Spirit than did D. L. Moody, and yet he firmly believed that there was no better way to wake up a slumbering church than to set its members to work. 'ONE MAN,' he said, 'WILL WAKE UP ANOTHER IN WAKING HIMSELF UP.'" (P. xi, "Techniques Of A Working Church"

BOTH

4-Benson also said: "The church exists for the training of WORKMEN, quite as much as the ACCOMPLISHMENT OF WORK." (P.xi)

5-Therefore
--Essential to organize a work
--Pastor to exercise leadership in the church
--Officers & people to FOLLOW that Divinely ordained leadership, as long as it follows proper & Biblical patterns

6-Organization is GOD'S PLAN !!!
--Examine nature about you
--Orderly arrangement of creation
--Solar system laid out with mathematical precision
--Marvelous arrangement of God's Master-mind

7-So also the local Church
--1 Cor. 14:33--"For God is not the author of confusion, but of Peace, as in all the churches."
--1 Cor. 14:40--"Let all things be done decently and in order."
--General oversight of the church's varied ministries Leader + Supervisor

D.-Let's Look At Our Message:

1-AUTHORITY Given To Pastor Titus
2-DUTIES Given To Pastor Titus
3-PATTERN Given To Pastor Titus
4-Prop: We need --To see the Biblical warrant & pattern for ORGANIZATION in the Church.

I.-AUTHORITY GIVEN TO PASTOR TITUS:

A.-Apostolic Authority: — Non-transmuible; NO Apostolic succession as R.C. teaches

1-Limited to the "twelve" & Paul + Barnabas
--Lk. 9:1--"Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases."
--2 Cor. 10:8--"For though I should boast somewhat more of our authority, which the Lord hath given us for EDIFICATION, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed."

2-Apostles were establishers of Christianity & of the churches of their day EPH. 2:20

3-On occasion Apostles DELEGATED authority to others

3

B-Apostolic Legate:

1-Titus was in this position - IN CRETE

--Close relationship to Paul acc. to 2 Cor. 8:22-23 NB

** Brother
** Companion
** Fellow-laborer

*--Test case on circumcision at Jerusalem (Acts 15)

--Sent by Paul to Crete

EXPERIENCED!

2-Titus had thus served before - Delivered both epistles

--Twice to Corinth

--Took Corinthian collection to Jerusalem

--H. D. M. Spence: "There is no doubt, from the scattered notices in the Epistles of St. Paul, that Titus was one of the most active agents in the promulgation of the gospel story among the peoples that had hitherto sat in darkness and in the shadow of death."

Never mentioned in Acts. 13 times in Paul's letters. 9 times in 2 Cor.

3-ILLUS--Once when Dr. B. H. Carroll of Southwestern Baptist Seminary was to speak in a colored Baptist church in Dallas, he took along 3 students to give their testimonies.

When the colored preacher got up to introduce Dr. Carroll, he said: "We are glad to have Dr. Carroll and his TITUS, his FIRST TIMOTHY, and his SECOND TIMOTHY along with him, in our midst tonight."

(1:5)

4-"For this cause"--SPECIFIC PURPOSE of Titus' commission

5-"In Crete"--------SPECIFIC PLACE of Titus' commission

6-Not ours to question--Place---Geography

OUR ASSIGNMENT

--Position--High or low

--Time it takes to do God's job

--Wisdom of our actions in human eyes.

--End of our labors to be seen by us NOW

--Results in numbers

ALL THAT is in GOD'S HANDS! YES!

NOT LEFT TO CHANCE; SPECIFIC!

*7-But it is OURS TO OBEY

--Jn. 15:10--"If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love..."

--ILLUS--Suppose I say to my girl, "Kathy, I want you to go and bring me a glass of PEPSI."

She replies that "I don't want to go right now. Can I do it later."

I'm likely to reply: "Please go now and get me the glass of something to drink.

She's not too eager, but she gets the point, and leaves for the kitchen. A moment later she returns from the refrigerator, saying: "Here, Daddy, is a beautiful cluster of grapes for you."

"But what about the PEPSI??"

She responds with her sweet innocence: "But won't grapes do just as well? They're so sweet and refreshing!"

"NO," my daughter, "the grapes are not acceptable. I like grapes, but I want my PEPSI.....NOW!

Again she returns, but this time with an

ORANGE as her offering. Almost before she gets out the words: "Will this be acceptable, Daddy?", I respond: "No, no, NO!" I want nothing but the Pepsi I sent you to bring to me.

So it is friends with you and God. If you are to please Him, you must first OBEY HIM!!!

8-That's true if your name is Titus, Paul, Mary, or Ruth!

9-The Big Issue--Not Home missions
--Or Foreign missions
--But SUBMISSION!!
--Submission is God's best way for you---
it is yielding to HIS WAY in your life.

Settle it!! Commandment Oriented Life

II. DUTIES GIVEN TO PASTOR TITUS:

Authority + responsibility must GO TOGETHER

A. Responsibility For Performance:

1-With responsibility must go authority
2-With authority must go expectancy of results
3-These are but opposite sides of the same coin
4-"That thou shouldest"--Moral obligation
--Because of God's mercies
--Rom. 12:1
--For the good of the Cretians
--For good of Pastor & church
--Expectation: HIGH LEVEL!
* Philemon 21--"Having confidence in thy obedience, I wrote unto thee, knowing that thou wilt also do more than I say."
* 3 John 4--"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in the truth."

LEADERSHIP!

5-ILLUS--A Christian workingman, being asked by what means he kept walking in the paths of obedience, replied: "Well, I came to the Savior; He received me; and I never said 'goodbye' to Him."
MANY Have you said "GOODBYE" to Him?

Mean your Commitment!!

6-Responsibilities of the Pastor
--Leading the flock
--Feeding the flock
--Counselling & correcting the flock
--Teaching & exhorting them
--Showing the flock by example
--More of this in Titus 2 & 3

THESE TAKE: TIME EFFORT PRAYER

Harry Truman: "The BUCK stops HERE"

Pastor must do it!!

B. Responsibility For Organizing:

1-"Set in order" (1:5)--This is God's pattern for this age to be according
--Terminology is that of a doctor re-setting dislocated limbs
--CORPORATE counterpart of Gal. 6:1, which is personal
--"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted"
--Setting in order is mighty delicate business!

2-"The things that are wanting"
--No depreciating the past
--But developing the pattern of BIBLICAL church government — Matter of a growing ministry
--ILLUS--Read Acts 14:21-23
--This was done on the SECOND visit to these cities
--Done after need developed & men developed

TURN TO IT

3-"Wanting" ="Lacking"
--Not lacking because men were not available
--But because heretofore not necessary
--Now to be appointed

NB

4-DEF. of Organization--Webster says: "to bring into systematic relation as parts of a whole. To prepare for transaction of business, as a deliberative assembly, by choosing officers, committees, etc."

5-Organization--Is needed
--Is of vital importance to a developing work for God
--IS BIBLICAL ! SCRIPTURAL !!
--ILLUS
- Judges under Moses (Ex. 18)
- Deacons in Jerusalem (Acts 6)
- Dinosaurs were BIG & POWERFUL, but they didn't believe in teamwork. Ants did believe in teamwork.....and notice who survived!!!

This is the way LEADERSHIP is developed

6-Organization is practical
- --More effective use of abilities
- --Puts more to doing the job
- --Christ "organized" the disciples in the feeding of the 5,000

Work closely w/ leaders

Over 200 years ago !

--J. J. Van Oosterzee: "There are not a few in our days, who, most legitately, indeed, insist upon personal faith and repentance, but have very little interest in church life as such, and little or no sense of the importance of good church government.

VERY VITAL VIEW

On the other hand, there are those who lay emphasis, in the regulation of the church, upon organic laws and definite rules, but undervalue the maintenance of doctrine, and would abandon the church of the Lord to all the ravages of an unlimited freedom of teaching. This one-sidedness, in either direction, alike, is emphatically reproved in this chapter.

Church government is, to a certain degree, simply the presentation of a worthy form, in which the life of the church may freely, and at the same time in an orderly way, develop itself. Now the form is of no value, if the spiritual substance is wanting; but, on the other hand, the spirit cannot live without taking on a legitimate , worthy, and adequate form."

7-LOYALTY is needed from ALL believers
--Do our share
--Do our share willingly & joyfully
--Do our share as unto Christ !
--Most churches have 15% who do the work
--One Pastor said 100% of his church were working: 20% with him & 80% against him!

NOT "that church" but "Our Church" !

Not "THOSE PEOPLE" but "WE"

In churches I have pastored less than 50% share in a faithful way in serving in the church (6)

PRIORITY --DO YOU serve because you Love the Lord and His House & testimony??

Pastor should not do the work of the people, but should help them do their tasks.

8-Place welfare in this order:
--(1) Christ Jesus, my Lord
--(2) Church--this includes my own family (1 Tim. 5:8)
--(3) Others + their needs
--(4) Self — LAST !
--What's good for Christ and His Church is good for ME also
--Let's be willing to accept PERSONAL responsibility
--There's room for a place of service to EVERYONE !

NB. I BELIEVE !

C.-Responsibility For Ordaining:
1-"ORDAIN" = Designate with the hand" (1:5)
--Apostles did the choosing at first
--Pastors did the choosing in the origin of a new church
--Often still necessary in new works & on mission fields until a work becomes stabel
--Developed churches CHOSE THEIR OWN — O.T. Pattern
** Ex. 18: with De. 1:13
** Acts 6:2-5 — N.T. Practice (6:1-7)
READ !
--Therefore these PASTORAL epistles to Titus & Timothy detail the qualifications for their being chosen

2-INTERCHANGEABLE TERMS
ELDERS = Presbuteroi
--Emphasis on their maturity — AGE, EXPERIENCE, RAPPORT
BISHOPS = OVERSEERS --Episcopoi
--Emphasis on the office of supervision — Their Duty + Function — OVERSIGHT
Tit. 1:5+7; Acts 20:17+28

3-Spiritual leaders
--Always a plurality of elders
--No number specified for all
--Number to be ordained left to local situation & judgment of Titus
--Elders are always related to one local church — Never OVER Churches
--Always to have a "model life & testimony"
--THE STANDARD of christian manhood — EXAMPLE of the local ch.
--Spiritual leaders over spiritual affairs
* Laymen to meet these qualification
* PASTOR ALSO to meet them (1 Pet. 5:1)

4-Elders' functions --To Rule or govern (1 Tim. 3:4-5; Rom. 12:8)
--To Teach (1 Tim. 3:2g; 1 Pet. 5:2)
--To Shepherd (Acts 20)
--They are always found to be a different office from the DEACON, who is a spiritual man with a physical duty in God's church (1 Tim. 3:1-2, 8)

MORE LATER

5-Work of the local church succeeds or fails with its leaders!

III. PATTERN GIVEN TO PASTOR TITUS:

A-Pattern Not Yet Full-Blown In Crete:

Primary Church Officers

1-Elders were then needed (Acts 14:23; 15:2, 22)
2-Deacons as needed (Acts 6) — Physical Affairs
3-Sunday School + Children's Church
4-Training Hour ministries
5-Prayer Meeting divisions as needed
6-Boy's & Girls work ministries as needed
7-Organization VARIES according to:
--Geographical location; city or country
--Size of the work
--Times of the age in which you live
--Needs of the people which you're trying to meet
--Whether the work is "balanced" or not
--Scope of opportunities to minister for Christ

7

Added as local need warrants

B. Elders In Every City:

GOD'S ORDER

Local Ch. in each city + each w/ elders

1-Men who governed the church
2-ONE church to a city at that time; Christianity still small
3-SELF-GOVERNMENT--Early christian principle
--Puts responsibility where there ought to be the greatest interest
--Places responsibility where the greatest knowledge of LOCAL NEEDS can be found
--No outside denominational control

CONTRAST

Some Baptist view of Elders = Pastors of various churches

Plurality of men as LEADERS of the flock is Biblical

4-Expectation of PERFORMANCE of tasks by those spiritual leaders designated to lead
5-This takes work !!
6-Apostolic directive for the Church--To Titus
--To the local churches
--To all believers

AUTONOMOUS; INDEPENDENT

7-WHY ??--1 Tim. 3:15
--Importance of the church in God's sight !!!
--Essential that it be organized for fruitful operation.

CONCLUSION:

Necessity Of A. Organization In The Church:

First of 3 Themes in Bk-
1. Organization
2. Sound Doctrine
3. Holy Living

1-Ordained by God
2-Pattered by God
3-To be used by Christians in the church
4-D. L. Moody used to say: "It is better to put ten men to work than to do the work of ten men."

BIBLICAL 5-PRINCIPLES:--1 Cor. 14:33--"For God is not the author of confusion, but of Peace, as in all the church
--1 Cor. 14:40--"Let all things be done decently and in order."

B. Values Of Organization In The Church:

1-Aim and purpose are CLARIFIED
2-Doctrine is DEFINED
3-EFFICIENCY is encouraged !!
4-UNITY is maintained
5-Group is PROTECTED from incursions or lack of continuity
6-Group is RESPECTED for its proper functioning

because that which is everybody's business is nobody's business

C. Reactions To Church Organization:

1-Some object--THAT'S WRONG !! Against all organization

--If the organization is for a purpose of glorifying Christ, & it contributes to the doing of the work He's left us to do

** --EVIL is not in the organization, but in the fact that organization can be perverted to unspiritual & unscriptural ends

2-Some support--THAT'S RIGHT !!!

--God expects this of every christian !

--There ought to be no born-again believer who willingly & wilfully keeps himself out of a fundamental church in his community !!!

--Let your influence COUNT on God's side

3-ILLUS--Years ago when beloved Dr. Hall was pastor of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in Pittsburg, a young man approached him after his sermon one Sunday morning and expressed a desire to unite with the church. He said he was a very busy man who wanted to belong to a STYLISH church where he could come on Sundays & listen to good sermons and fine music, ONLY THEY MUST NOT ASK HIM TO DO ANYTHING.

"You are mistaken, young man, in your choice of a church," said Dr. Hall. "This is the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, but if you go up the street a few blocks you'll find the CHURCH OF THE SACRED REST."

There is the fitting expectation in this church that its members should have some obligations and should be held responsible for them. The working church is one that has large expectations of its members & lovingly helps each one to fulfill them."

4-Find God's plan....& then work the plan !

--What's your part in this ?

--Should be a part SOMEWHERE !

--Don't KICK.....Get in and PULL !!!

--There are jobs open..

...and always will be!

5-Find God's NICHE for you...

..and then ask for a job.!

Is this God's choice of a CHURCH HOME for me ? Then JOIN it !

"Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do ?"

10/28/68--Westbrae "Glorious Things Of Thee Are Spoken" 213

Calvary Columbus 11/17/74 "Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken" 352

OKBC - 4/20/86 "Jesus Is The Joy Of Living" 295

Hilltop Baptist Ch. - 1/29/95 + 9/28 + 10/5/08

Harper Heights Bapt. Ch - 2/11/07

"ELDERS IN THE CHURCH" — Read Titus 1:6-9
1 Tim. 3:1-16 & Luke 12:42-46

3 1

INTRO:

A.-Biblical Organization Of The Local Church:

1-Pastor as Undershepherd
- --Leader
- --Teacher
- --Example
- --Expected to be of no less character quality than the other leaders

ΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΣ
ΠΡΕΣΒΥΤΕΡΟΣ
MATURITY

2-Elders--SPIRITUAL LEADERS among the men and over the whole church to handle spiritual matters = BISHOPS = OVERSEERS

Phil. 1:1

3-Deacons--Spiritual men overseeing material & physical details

4-Deaconesses & other organization as needed

5-TRUSTEES — Not Biblical — "certain men crept in unawares" Jd 4

A T Robertson: Sic = "thru" or "by" Kouis = "dust". Therefore so busy serving they stir up the dust in their activity.

"Church government is nothing else than the study of the ordinary means by which Jesus Christ is now at work in this world glorifying Himself in the midst of the lamps and stands." EYRES

BOOKMARK NOTEAR ®

B.-Purposes Of Elders In The Local Church:

Biblical

LEGAL TERM

1-Share leadership
2-Share responsibilities & burdens
3-Cooperative ministry of overseeing, teaching & defense of the faith
4-Prepare for the future
- -Growth of church
- -Change of pastors
- -Training leaders
- -Examples to the flock

5-These Elders are IN, FROM, & OVER the church

C.-Biblical Message On "ELDERS IN THE CHURCH":

1-The Elder's POST
2-The Elder's CHARACTER = PERSON
3-The Elder's MINISTRIES = PERFORMANCE
4-PROP:
- -That we might see the office, the man & the ministry of our Elders in proper biblical perspective
- -That we might continue to choose the right kind of men
- -That we might appreciate & follow those whom God sets in His church

Next Message

OVERHEADS ARE MADE

I.-THE ELDER'S POST: Biblical

The Biblical Terms

A.-Two Terms Used In New Testament:

1-"Elders"--Titus 1:5
- --Term used in singular 6 times of a particular elder
  - * 1 Pet. 5:1--"The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, & a witness of the sufferings of Christ..."
  - ** 3 John 1--"The elder unto the well-beloved Gaius, whom I love in the truth." + 2 John 1 + 1 Tim 5:19
- --Term most frequently used (19 times) in the plural

Total of 67 occurrences in Gk. N.T.

"The apostles were elders extraordinary"

"NOTEAR" ®

** Acts 11:29-30--"Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judea: Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas & Saul."

** Acts 14:23--"And when they had ordained elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed."

** Acts 15:2,4,6,22,23 JERUSALEM COUNCIL

** Acts 20:17--"And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church." (Plurality of elders; single church)

** 1 Pet. 5:1 ——— other side of sheet.

--Origin of the term "ELDERS"

** No N. T. Statement

** Yet, a Biblically authorized church officer

** Background in Judaism as Synagogue leaders

** Acts 22:5--"As also the high priest doth bear me witness, and all the estate of the elders: from whom also I received letters..."

--Meaning of the term "ELDERS" πρεσβυτερος

** Reference to a senior or older man

** Emphasis is on his maturity in spiritual realms

** Term used of leaders IN the local church elected to lead the congregation

--Emphasis of the term "Elder" is on the MAN who shares rulership in God's house

N.T. Terminology + members of Sanhedrin Mt. 16:21, 27:3, Acts 4:5

those who PRESIDED over the assemblies

2. "Bishops" --Titus 1:7

--Term used in singular & plural 6 times

--Relates to the OFFICE

** 1 Tim. 3:1--"This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work."

--Greek term ἐπίσκοπος comes from the same root as SHEPHERD, which has to do with the position of one who leads, feeds, & guards the flock

--Emphasis, therefore, is on the OFFICE in which one serves as an overseer

ἐπίσκοπος

3. Two terms used INTERCHANGEABLY

--Titus 1:5, 7

--Acts 20:17, 28

--1 Tim. 3 where qualifications are also given, as here

MAN marks the office and the OFFICE marks the man

MADE ELDERS by the Holy Spirit — Acts 20:1-28

4. SUBJECTIVE Qualification "Desire the office"

Phil. 1:1 "Paul + Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints which are at Philippi with the bishops and deacons"

B. Biblical Distinctions:

1. Not the same as the DEACON — Spiritual men over the physical affairs of the local church.

2. Deacons & Bishops are listed separately in 1 Tim. 3:1, & 8, Phil. 1:1

3. ALWAYS a plurality of Elders in one local church — Acts 14:23

--Seen thus in the book of Acts

--Perhaps only 2 or 3 in each city for a small church

--Perhaps many in Jerusalem or Antioch

--But ALWAYS 2 or more

4. THUS we can see that the term "Elder" is not just a synonym for the term "PASTOR", for a Biblical church has 2 or more

Elders, but not necessarily 2 or more pastors

NB 5-Pastor ought to meet these qualifications of an Elder, for he serves as ONE OF THE ELDERS + as their LEADER (3)

6-But the Pastor-Teacher is a SEPARATE GIFT of Christ to His Church

7-Eph. 4:11--"And He gave some apostles, and some prophets, and some evangelistst and some pastor-teachers."

8-PCR-"Every PASTOR is an ELDER, but not every ELDER is a PASTOR"

FIRST AMONG EQUALS

C.-THE BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE:

1-"Elder"--Ref. to the MAN and his SPIRITUAL MATURITY

2-"BISHOP"--Ref to the OFFICE and his service of OVERSEEING

** 3-Terms used interchangeably

NB 4-Bishops are always WITHIN a local church; never OVER many congregations in the Bible presentation

5-Separate office from that of the Deacon

6-PLURALITY of Elders in each local church !

7-Now, let's go on to... =

II.-THE ELDER'S PERSON (CHARACTER):

Large stress is not on his duties, but on his qualifications

A.-His Subjective Qualification:

+-1 Tim. 3:1--"This isa true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work"

→ 2-DESIRE of one's heart to serve God is required !

3-Never thrust one into such an office without this heart for God

4-The assumed qualification — SAVED

B.-His Blamelessness In Home Life: (3 Items)

** 1-"BLAMELESS"--Free from all charge against him; Without a handle of reproach (1:6)

--Doesnot mean he is SINLESSLY PERFECT

To live so no one will give credence to slanderous charges against him

--Speaks of a man's HEART ATTITUDE

--ILLUS--Gladys Liner has often said she would do anything or go anywhere that Bill asked, regardless of any personal feelings, because of HIS WALK with the Lord

NB → --EXAMPLE--1 Sam. 12:1-5

--Blamelessness is the FIRST qualification both here & in 1 Timothy 3

--Blamelessness is a "MUST" in the same sense in this as in John 3:7--"Ye must be born again..."

2-"HUSBAND OF ONE WIFE" (1:6)

--Roman Catholicism says "NO WIFE" for its leaders, but according to Scripture it is not so !

=="A one woman sort of man"

--No looking at other women as an alternative

--FORBIDS--Simultaneous polygamy

--Successive polygamy

--Does not fobid--Being single

--Remarriage after death of a partner (Rom. 7:1-3; 1 Cor. 7:8-9)

--Necessary to stipulate mrital status due to looseness

common in society, both then and now
- Epistle to Dognetus (150A.D.) "The Christians marry like all other men and they beget children, but they do not cast away their offspring. They have their meals in common, but not their wives."
- RULES OUT women Elders.....Elizabeth Dundas asked: "How can a woman be the HUSBAND of one wife?"

Marital status is the SECOND qualification here & also in 1 Timothy, because VERY IMPORTANT !!

NB
- Word of caution
  - ** Many are divorced & remarried today
  - ** THEY NEED THE CHURCH for their spiritual health
  - ** God's work needs them, also
  - ** Compassion for their status....
  - ** ...AND FOR THEM AS PERSONS is needed
  - ** But their marital scars do bar them from church leadership offices

3 "HAVING FAITHFUL (Believing) CHILDREN"
- That is, his children must be believers
  - ** Possessors of faith in the Savior
  - ** A N D, living like it
- Definitely makes it necessary for the Elder to be an established Christian, not a novice, for this to be true
- This does not exclude a man whose children may not be old enough to be saved
- The CHILDREN
  - ** Not to be accused of riotous living
  - ** Not to be unruly or insubordinate (=Out of step)
- Family life is THE proving ground for leadership in GOD'S CHURCH

Doug Winn

C.-His Blamelessness In Community Life: (13 Items)

1-"BLAMELESS" (1:6,7)
- Repeated for emphasis
- "Not practicing wrong"
- EXAMPLES
  - 3 John 1-8.....GAIUS
  - 3 John 12....DEMETRIUS
- Godly kind of men as leaders in the church who are respected in their community

2-"STEWARD OF GOD" (1:7)

="A manager under orders"

A key concept + quality
- FAITHFUL in all he does
- Recognizing that A JOB has been committed to him
- Believing that he has this office FROM G O D, though elected to it by his local congregation
- RESPONSIBLE with this trust
- 1 Cor. 4:1-2—"Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful."
- Looks upon his work as an Elder as A HOLY TRUST, knowing he must give an account to God.

3-"NOT SELF-WILLED" (1:7) ="Not dominated by self- interest
--Not unwilling to work with others
--Not unwilling to accept ideas from others
--Not a "RUN or RUIN" philosophy
--Example--3 John 9-11; DIOTROPHES

4-"NOT SOON ANGRY" (1:7)
="Not prone to anger or passion
--Not characterized by a LOW BOILING POINT
** Regarding his tongue
** Regarding his fists
--Rom. 12:18--"If it be possible, so much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."
--YET ** There are times to get ANGRY !
** Angry over SIN !!
** Example: Carl Graef over Ruth Pittman
Anger over doctrinal perversion
** Eph. 4:26--"Be ye angry and sin not..."
--We are known by WHAT we get angry over ** Sin....or
** Selfishness
--Righteous indignation is sometimes appropriate

5-"NOT GIVEN TO WINE" (1:7)
="Not quarrelsome because of spirits influence
-ALCOHOL ** Ruins his testimony immediately
** Ruins his life eventually
** This is LIQUID MADNESS !!
** Absolutely no place in the life of a Christian for alcoholic beverages
** Ruination of his testimony
-Application.....HABITUAL USE OF DRUGS would also be ruled out
--ILLUS--The great Canadian Physician, Sir William Osler, was lecturing one day on alcohol. "IS IT TRUE," asked a student "THAT ALCOHOL MAKES PEOPLE ABLE TO DO THINGS BETTER?"
"NO," replied Sir William, "IT JUST MAKES THEM LESS ASHAMED OF DOING THEM BADLY."
--Prov. 20:1--"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."
--Prov. 23:31-32--"Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder."
--Eph. 5:18
--No room for "MODERATE DRINKING" according to Scriptur
--ILLUS--Judge Ben B. Lindsey was lunching one very hot day when a politician paused beside his table. "Judge", said he, "I see you are drinking COFFEE. That is a heating drink. In this weather, you want to drink iced drinks--SHARP, ICED DRINKS. Did you ever drink gin and ginger ale?"
"No," replied the Judge, smiling, "But I have tried....and sentenced several fellows who have."

6-"NO STRIKER" (1:7) ==Not a brawler; quarrelsome; pugnacious
--Not a labor--management issue at all
--Rather a matter of temper (6)
NOT INTEMPERATE !
--Leaders cannot be ones who "fly off the handle"; Verbal abuse does not "fit"
--His "SELF" must be under Christ's control to be a fit leader of God's Church

7-"NOT GIVEN TO FILTHY LUCRE" (1:7)
==No seeker of base gain;
Not greedy of gain to the point of abandoning his principles to make money
--NOT a condemnation of making money or of having wealth
--BUT God's man must be a man who has scruples about how he gains his living
** HONEST
** HONORABLE
--Example--Marvin Froehner, and his getting out of the POOL TABLE REPAIR BUSINESS
--Money is for USE, NOT for abuse
--God's man does not make a god out of gold; Wealth is not his consuming desire
--Rom. 12:17--"...Provide things honest in the sight of all men."
--A man of scruples !!
--Contrast--Ed Maler, who wanted to get deductions thru the church for his daughter's college bill at Wheaton College.

8-"A LOVER OF HOSPITALITY" (1:8)
--Man who fellowships widely among the brethren
--HOME is a gathering place for Christian activities
--OPEN HOUSE to all, without any partiality or cliques
--Makes much of his home
** For evangelism
** For nurture
** For gracious provision
--A "Good Samaritan" who cares for the needs of others
--Heb. 13:1-2--"Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares"
--Abraham did (Gen. 18)
--Lydia did (Acts 16:15--"And when she was baptized, & her household, se besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there."

9-"A LOVER OF GOOD (Men)" (1:8)
--"Men" is not in the Greek text
--Love "GOOD" in any & all forms
** Good men
** Good women
** Good movements
** Good principles

--STAND WITH those who stand for the good and truth
--Also, STAND AGAINST that which is not good, along with the Pastor.
-Titus 1:15
--Rev. 3:2--"Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found they works perfect before God
Rev. 3:2
--Example of Bill Gilmore in joining Westbrae Bible Ch.
--Phil. 4:8--"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, think on these things."

10-"SOBER"--Obvious meaning is not to be a man of alcoholic indulgence.
(1:8)
--But it goes beyond that reinforcement of "Not given to wine" we've seen earlier
-Idea of DISCREET: Showing MATURITY; Soundness of mind
--Some have translated this term "SERIOUS" or "SELF-CONTROLLED
--Able to stand the stress of leadership and render sound and sensible decisions or judgments
--A sound, sanctified mind.

11-"JUST" (1:8)
=Seeing things according to the PRINCIPLE of righteousness
Seeing things according to the STANDARD of God's Word
-Not ones who say ** "I think"
** "I feel"
-But men who determine WHAT THE BOOK TEACHES
-God's leaders are ones whose actions are righteous in the eyes of men
-1 Tim. 3:7--"..he must have a good report of them which are without"
-ILLUS--Westbrae Elders in their decision on membership for a woman I led to Christ who was an ALCOHOLIC
Their decision was based on, "What would we do with an alcoholic who was already a member of W.B.C? CHURCH DISCIPLINE.
Therefore they concluded that they could not admit her to membership because if she were already a member, they'd have to put her out.

12-"HOLY"="Pious in life, in a good sense.
(1:8)
--This is a word often associated with the character of God
--Not sanctimonious or "holier than thou"
--Operating in the power of the Spirit
--Separated from the world & sin in actions & attitud
--"BE YE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY"
--ILLUS--I remember being in a home during a week of meetings some time back, and the son of the

family often helped his mother with putting food on the dinner table. I heard him once say: "Mother, may I put the bread on the table?"

Her answer was such that it stuck in my mind. She replied: "My son, are your hands clean?"

** → As elders of God's flock, your leaders need to be men whose hands are clean !!

13-"TEMPERATE" = Exercising self control"
(1:8)
--MODERATION is his characteristic
--A balanced man
--Not a radical in any sense, except in his fidelity to truth and faithfulness to God

D.-HIS BLAMELESSNESS SUMMARIZED:

1-Notice the Elder's character
** BLAMELESS in his home life
** BLAMELESS in his community relations
** With a "desire" for the office and opportunity of leadership service

2-Noteworthy that in detailing the qualifications of these sptritual leaders, their qualifications are
++ Not mental acumen
++ But moral excellence
++ HOME life is to be above reproach
++ PUBLIC testimony is to be good

3-Their relationship to their sphere of service for God in His church grows out of their spiritual calibre
* --Begins with what they ARE
* --Moves to what they DO

4-We'll cover in next message
I.-The Elder's Performance
II.-The Elder's Prize

CONCLUSION:

A.-God's Model Man------THE ELDER:

1-Right in his home life
2-Right in his community life
3-Faithful and active in his spiritual ministries

B.-God's Biblical Standards: (Especially for a Bible-believing, fundamental congregation)

1-For our leadership
2-For our followership, so we sense an ability to trust and follow their recommendations & lives
3-For us all --Will of God
--Sons to grow into
--Men to emulate and replicate
--Women to look up to & respect & appreciate
--Young women to use as a YARDSTICK of measurement when they evaluate a proposal of marriage
4-PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS.....ALL of us for all of them

5-These Biblical standards are to be upheld if we expect to gain accreditation for the gospel in this community

(9)

6-Biblical pattern is most likely to attract those enmeshed in unscriptural churches.

Westbrae--11/10/68
Chinese College Camp---9/2/70
Calvary Columbus---12/1 & 8/74
O.K.B.C.--------5/4/86

"Near The Cross" #62
"Channels Only" #387
"I Would Be True" #305

Hilltop Baptist Ch - 2/12/95 - 10/19/08
Harper Heights Bapt. Ch - 2/24/07
Bible Center Ch - 9/10/08

"THE WORK AND WORTH OF ELDERS" (4) Titus 1:9; 1 Tim. 5:19-22; 1 Thess. 5:11-13

(1)

INTRO:

A.-The **Power Of Example:**

Shortly after the close of the Civil War, a Negro entered a fashionable church in Richmond, VA. one Sunday morning while Communion was being served. He walked down the aisle & knelt at the altar. A rustle of shock and anger swept thru the congregation. Sensing the situation, a distinguished layman immediately stood up, stepped forward the the altar and knelt beside his colored brother.

Captured by his spirit, the members of the congregation followed his Christian example. The layman who set the example ----ROBERT E. LEE.

B.-The **Purpose Of Example:**

- 1-"Example is the school of mankind, and they will learn at no other." Edmund Burke
- 2-"Nothing is so infectious as example." Chas. Kingsley
- 3-"Example is not the main thing in influencing others, It is the only thing." Albert Schweitzer
- 4-"Good example has twice the value of good advice." Anon.
- 5-CONTRAST--"What you ARE speaks so loudly I cannot HEAR what you say."
- 6-"Example is always more efficacious than precept." Samuel Johnson.

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord"

C.-The **Persons Of Example:**

1-Jesus---------FIRST AND FOREMOST !!
2-N. T. personalities--Peter, John, Paul
--Timothy & Titus
--Epaphras & Epaphroditus
3-Elders and Deacons in the local church
4-PROP: The elders of the local church are God's pace-setters in the local church so that the church sets their example before the world

I.-THE **ELDERS'** MINISTRY **PERFORMANCE** (Tit. 1:9)

WORK

A.-**Ministry Regarding Himself:** (1:9a)

1-"HOLDING FAST"
--His own stand & position ** SURE + ** SETTLED
--Stable (1 Cor. 15:58)
--ATTACHED TO THE TRUTH !!
** Inseparable from what he knows of God's Word
** Not just HOLDING the truth, but HELD by the Truth

2-"THE FAITHFUL WORD"--Word by which faith comes
--Word to which God has promised to →

be true
Word he has learned to trust thru many years of walking with God
Word which has CHANGED HIM !!
ILLUS--George Whitefield often declared he would rather have a church with ten men if right with God than one with 500 at whom the world laughs behind t[illegible] backs

BOTH formal & "on the job" training

3-"AS HE HATH BEEN TAUGHT"
--God uses schooling---STUDY & TIME---to develop men into leaders
--2 Tim. 2:2 "And the things thou has heard among many witnesses, the same commit to faithful men who shall be able to teach others also."
--2 Tim. 2:15 "Study to show thyself approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth."
--Rules out the new believer for "NOT A NOVICE" is an important qualification
--Some are privileged to attend Bible College or Seminary for "formal training" Ken Lilly
--Some learn in other ways Tim Dillon
--ILLUS---L. E. Thomas----"I went to the school of KNEEOLOGY"

4-Above everything else, God's man
--Preacher
--And laymen as Elders
--Are expected to be MEN OF THE BOOK !
--Governed by the truth
--Should not be any other kind who are placed in leadership roles

B. Ministry Regarding The Saints:

1-Elders are expected
-TO KNOW sound doctrine
-TO IMPART sound doctrine
-TO HAVE A MINISTRY to others

2-Ministry of exhortation to fellow-believers (Tit. 1:9 b)
=="To excite to action"
--Stirring up saints everywhere they go
--Stirring up whoever they meet
-HOW??- ** BY TEACHING
++ 1 Pet. 5:2 "Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;"
++ 1 Tim. 3:2 "APT TO TEACH"
++ Teachable spirit "Those things which ye have both learned, + received, + heard, + seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you"
++ A ministry of teaching others the truth
++ A word in season for all
++ David Wood who preached when I had chest pains
++ Dale Ensminger who taught S.S. when Jim Highman was late due to a snow-storm

(a) ** BY EXAMPLE ++ 1 Pet. 5:3 Neither as being God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock
++ Phil. 4:9
++ ILLUS--When Benjamin Franklin wished to interest the people of Philadelphia in street lighting, he didn't try to persuade them by talking about it. Instead, he hung a beautiful lantern on a long bracket before his own door. Then he kept the glass brightly polished & carefully lit the wick every evening at the approach of dusk

= INFLUENCE

It wasn't long before Franklin's neighbors began placing lights in brackets before their homes, and soon the entire city of Philadelphia awake to the value of street lighting and took up the matter with interest and enthusiasm.

VISION (3)

(b) ** BY RULING

++ Elders are expected to exert LEADERSHIP

++ Gifted by God for their positions with spiritual gifts from the ascended Christ

++ Elected by the congregation to give guidance to God's flock

++ 1 Tim. 3:4-6

++ ILLUS--John Robinson gave this charge in 1620 to the pilgrims as they were about to board the Mayflower for America;

"I charge you before God that you follow me no further than you have seen me follow the Lord Jesus Christ. If God reveals anything to you by any other instrument of His, be as ready to receive it as you were to receive any truth by my ministry, for I am persuaded that the Lord hath more truth yet to break out ot His Holy Word."

(c) **BY SHEPHERDING

"Take heed unto your selves, + to all the flock over the flock over the which He hath made you overseers, to flock of God hath made you overseers

++ Acts 20:28

++ Move among the people to know their needs & then to help them with their problems

3-TO WHOM ??--To individuals

--To groups

--To the entire congregation

4-ILLUS--Advice of a gardener: "If you want the soil to produce plentifully, STIR IT UP A LITTLE."

--Elders need to do the same with the saints. Move among God's people and stir them up for God and righteousness.

C. Ministry Regarding Sinners: (Tit. 1:9 c)

1-"CONVINCE THE GAINSAYERS"

* = "Show the true character of"

--Truth of Christ is to be set forth convincingly

--Ministry to those who contradict the deep needs of their own souls

2-A PERSONAL WORKER------witnessing with lips and life

3-Make the truth clear; Hammer it home....GENTLY, as the Spirit of God works in hearts

4-Leave the results with "THE GREAT CONVINCER"

--John 16:7-11

--But we must EXHORT and ENCOURAGE folks to face up to the necessary decisions for Christ

--Not the work of PASTORS ONLY, but of all the Elders of the local church !!

5-ILLUS--R.A. Torrey told the story of the conversion of a Jewish man. He was full of love to Christ, as Jews generally are when they are converted.

This converted Jew went to the place where he worked

--a well known business establishment in Chicago--and he commenced talking of JESUS CHRIST to the other employees. Some of them did not like it, so they went to the MANAGER & said: "Mr. Cohen is constantly talking to us about Christ. WE DO NOT LIKE IT."

The Manager called Brother Cohen aside, & said to him, "We have no objection to Christianity; no objection to your being a Christian. In fact, we think that is a good thing, but YOU MUST NOT TALK ABOUT IT HERE in this establishment.

Cohen immediately replied, "Very well, I will not work in a place where I cannot take Christ with me and talk for my Lord." Though he was newly converted, and knowing that he really needed that job, he would not give up his loyalty to Jesus Christ.

"Very well", replied the Manager, "then you'll have to give up your position here." Cohen replied: "I'd rather leave than be disloyal to my Savior."

Cohen went back to work, expecting every day to receive notice of his dismissal. At the end of the week he received a letter from the Manager. "Here is my dismissal", he thought as he opened the letter.

Reading the contents he was dismayed to find that the OWNER OF THE COMPANY had directed: "We have a larger place of responsibility for you than the one you now occupy, with a larger salary. WE LIKE YOUR LOYALTY, and think you are just the the man for the position, and now offer it to you."

WHY ?? WHY ?? WHY??

Because they saw that he could be trusted. Business is looking for faithful men.....and so is God!

II.-THE ELDERS' MINISTRY PRIZE: WORTH

A.-Fulfillment Of Personal Desire: (1 Tim. 3:1)

1-The man must WANT to serve as a leader in God's local church

2-NEVER -Draft a man
-Force a man

3-Better--To serve short-handed for awhile
--Wait for men to develop → and work w/ them to develop

4-ASPIRATION to serve as an Elder

5-Accomplishment of a "GOOD WORK"

B.-Fulfillment Of Personal Service: (1 Tim. 5:17-22)

1-PRICE PAID (1 Tim. 5:17-18)

--"Double honor"

** Not double pay in money
** Though probably worth it
** Honor from God
** Honor from the people
** 1 Thess. 5:11-13
++ "KNOW"="Esteem, respect, honor"
++ Why ??? For their works sake
++ PEACE in the family of God as Elders & other leaders are given this "PRICE"

- "Laboring in the Word and doctrine"
  - * Spiritual ministry is the sphere of an Elder's activities
    - ++ Not just sitting and deciding issues
    - * Ministering the Word
    - ++ Teaching doctrine
  - ** It is LABOR (== hard, agonizing work)
  - ** ILLUS---Seen in 5:18

2- PROTECTED REPUTATION (1 Tim. 5:19)

- --"Benefit of doubt" is the world's attitude
- * --"Benefit of trust needs to characterize Christians
- --REFUSE to listen to gossip
- --STOP the gossiper, unless he or she has eyewitnesses to corroborate the issue
- ** --DOCUMENTED PROOF, or no hearing !
- --Innuendoes cut short !!
- --This is part of the "honor" due an elder, and we must protect their reputations.

3- PURITY IN THE CHURCH 5:20

- --Sad, but true that there have been offenders among church leaders
  - * Sex
  - * Power
  - * Money
  - * Pride
- --When guilt is proven beyond doubt, then..
  - * Dismiss from office because of violation of trust
  - * Limited to habitual sin, not an isolated case of poor judgment
  - ** Rebuke publicly so as to protect the purity of the whole assembly
  - ** OTHERS need warning that sin will not be tolerated, and a healthy FEAR OF THE LORD cultivated
  - ** Example---Gal. 2:11-21 — Paul to Peter

4- PARTIALITY REJECTED (1 Tim. 5:21-22)

- --No place for preferential treatment in Church
  - ** Not for the wealty
  - ** Not for the powerful
  - ** Not for the well-dressed
  - ** Not for the well-connected
- --Prejudice is to be rejected
  - --Pride of FACE
  - --Pride of RACE
  - --Pride of GRACE
  - --Pride of PLACE
  - --"The ground is level at the foot of the cross"
- --Precipitous actions warned against
  - ** By a solemn charge
    - ++ Before Jesus Christ
    - ++ Bfore elect angels
    - ++ Before the Church
  - ** By avoiding partiality
    - ++ In ordaining elders
    - ++ In restoring offenders
    - ++ Let each earn his trust and be worthy of it

C.-Fulfillment Of Personal Reward: (1 Pet. 5:1-4)

1-"CROWN OF GLORY"--Available to elders
--Reward for faithful service

2-Imagry in contrast to Olympic games
--FADING CROWNS ** Celery wreath
** Oak leaf garlands
** Honors with very fleeting importance
--UNFADING CROWNS as rewards
** For right motives-------as unto Christ
** For right manner--------as an example
** For right ministry------as an overseeer of the flock of God
--ILLUS--In Olympic races the athletes are not rewarded right below the stadium, but are called up to the center stage for reward.

In our service for the Savior, we are rarely and partially rewarded on earth, but will be fully honored at the BEMA Seat.

3-Poem------"God's Pay"

"Who does God's work will get God's pay,
However long may seem the day,
However weary be the way;
Though powers and princes thunder "NAY",
Who does God's work will get God's pay.
He does not pay as others pay
In gold or land or raiment gay;
In goods that vanish and decay
But God in wisdom knows a way
And that is sure, let come what may
Who does God's work will get God's pay." SELECTED

4-"The greatest use of a life is to spend it for something that outlasts it." William James

5-Serving Christ as His Servant and as an ELDER in His church will produce rewards that last.... throughout eternity

CONCLUSION:

LAYMAN OR PASTOR

A.-Reviews:

1-Elders' ministry performance--Regarding himself
--Regarding the saints
--Regarding sinners

2-Elders' ministry prize:
--Fulfillment of personal desire
--Fulfillment of personal service
--Fulfillment of personal reward

B.-Reinforcement:

It is related that Elizabeth I of England once commissioned a rich merchant prince of her empire to go on an important mission for the crown, promising him rich rewards for his services. The merchant sought to decline the appointment on the grounds that his business would suffer during his absence,

but his Queen assured him: YOU GO AND LOOK AFTER MY BUSINESS, AND I WILL LOOK AFTER YOURS."

On his return, he found that hisQueen had kept her promise: he was a richer man than he was before.

C.-Request(=Entreaty):

1-To the Elders----------Faithful Service:
2-To the Congregation------Faithful following and praying
3-To the young men---------Faithful emulation of their example

D.-Reminders

1-A man who wants to lead the orchestra must TURN HIS BACK ON THE CROWDS

2=A man who wants to Serve Christ turns to serve the crowds for Jesus' sake.

3-Such a man is the ELDER of the local Church, for he is the pace-setter in the church to set their example before the world.

Westbrae----11/10/68 ~~"Near The Cross" #62~~
Chinese College Camp 9/2/70 ~~"Channels Only" #387~~
Calvary Columbus 12/8/74 ~~""I Would Be True" #305~~
O.K.B.C.--5/25/86 ~~"In The Service Of The King" #293~~
Hilltop Bapt. Ch - 3/12/95 "Like A River Glorious" 485
Harper Heights Bapt. Ch - 2/24/07 "To The Work" 401
Bible Center Ch. 9/17/08 "Work For The Night Is Coming" 410
11/9/08 - Men's S.S.

OFFENDERS IN THE CHURCH — Titus 1:10-16
Mk. 7:1-23; Mt. 7:20-23

INTRO:

A. Orderly church:
1-God's NORM
--Pastor
--Elders & Deacons
--Other organization as needed
Ladies (1) S.S. AWANA W&L.
2-Biblical principles
--1 Cor. 14:33--"For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints."
--1 Cor. 14:40--"Let all things be done decently and in order.
3-O.T. ILLUS--Camp of Israel in the wilderness
--Center was for the tent of witness
--Each tribe had an appointed location
--Each levite had an appointed service
--ORDER prevailed in it all!!
God ordained this!

B. Provision In Case Of Disorder:
1-Offences must come
2-1 Cor. 11:19--"For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you.
Significant Verse
3-Offenders are everywhere
• Morals • Criminals • Politics
• Home • School • Work • Family • Neighbors
4-Offenders in terms of the ABSOLUTE STANDARD of God's Word, which they desire to "break"
5-God gives specific warnings
--Warnings to believers
--Warnings to offenders
--Instructions as to how to deal with these
--IMPLIED in Command for correction of error in Tit. 1:9
"Holding fast the faithful Word as he hath been taught that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort + to convince the gainsayers."

C. Our Message:
1-Corrupters in the church
2-Correction in the church
3-PROP:
BOTH
--That we be aware of this problem, so we are not caught napping — Prepared in advance
--That we be instructed as to God's solution to the problem of offenders in the churches.
Know what to do when it surfaces

I. CORRUPTERS IN THE CHURCH:

A. Corruptors Presence (1:10):
1-Indicated in 1:10--Many in number
--Unruly in character
--Talkative in practice
--Vain, or empty of value in their contribution to the well-being of the churches
"For there are many unruly + vain talkers + deceivers, specially they of the circumcision"
Always have some comment on everything.
First Century 2-Jas. 1:26--"If any man among you seem to be religous, & bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain."
21st Century
--Confirmed in experience today
--Religionists in the church
--Occupying both the pulpit & the pew

4-This is to be EXPECTED.....a sign of our age!!
5-But it is NOT to be TOLERATED
6-FROM WHENCE ??
- From without — UNSAVED
  - Acts. 20:29--"For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock."
- From within — SAVED, but CARNAL
  - Acts 20:30--"Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them." (WOMEN ALSO)

VERY IMPORTANT or NO ONE

7-NOTHING should be allowed which disturbs the spiritual welfare of the church !!!

8-ILLUS-A motel manager received a letter asking whether he would allow a dog in his motel. He wrote the following reply:
"I have been in this business for 15 years. Never have I had to call upon the police to eject a disorderly dog. Never has a dog set fire to a bed with a cigarette. Never have I found a motel blanket or a towel in a dog's suitcase, nor has a dog ever left a whiskey ring on the dresser. Sure, the dog is welcome! (If he will vouch for you, you may come too"

9-POINT--We need to be very careful about receiving offenders who are under discipline from other churches.
- Problem persons in one place aren't likely to change with just a change of geography. --THEY are problems looking for a place to happen!

The
B. Corruptors Perversity: (1:10-12, 16):

1-Called "DECEIVERS"
- Praters of privilege without responsibility
- Glory in physical forms (Baptism, etc.
- Neglect real spiritual realities
- Major on "EXPERIENCE" + Tongues "The Lord led me"
- Know, or care, little about a "Thus saith the Lord" approach of the BIBLE

CULTIC doctrine

2-They subvert faith
- Whole households will follow if not stopped
- "Overthrow" whole households
- Upset the unstable
- Undermine the Biblical pattern
- Teach untrue & unwarranted things
- Speak with innuendo & questions
- Pervert the truth
- POISONOUS TEACHINGS & INFLUENCE

Rarely do they confront the ones they are attacking.

3-ILLUSTRATIONS
- Moral deviations; Homosexual Churches
- Theological deviations
  - Seminaries gone liberal or compromising % of 10
  - "Christian" colleges where the FAITH is denied
- Organizational "Separates" from the church
  - "Gideons, which takes money from unsaved & allows members to remain in liberal churches---SIPHONS, but not BUILDERS !

LINFIELD Teacher

Wyclife Bible Translators
Campus Crusade

4-All this for "filthy lucre's sake" = "for base gain"
- Money for their "causes"
- Scalps for their belt
- Reputations for themselves
- This is a building for time, not for eternity
- This is man-glorifying, not God-glorifying

Jimmy Swaggert, Oral Roberts, Jim Bakker — Charismatics

ARMSTRONG, Radio Church of God

5-Substitution of fables & human commandments instead of the WORD OF GOD

(3)

6-ILLUS--A strange enemy has invaded the fields of North & South Carolina. Known in South Africa as the little red flower, this unwelcome visitor is a "delicate, bright green plant that grows to be 9-10 inches high. It is a pretty plant, with gay red & orange flowers shaped like violets."

Never before has it been found in the Western Hemisphere; it is now known as WITCHWEED in the U.S. Witchweed has a way of life which is one of the strangest in nature. The plants produce vast numbers of barely visible seeds, sometimes as many as ½million from a single plant. The seeds fall to the ground & mix with the soil, where they can lie for 20 years without losing vitality.

A seed does not normally germinate until the rootlet of a suitable plant creeps close to it thru the soil. Influenced by a mysterious substance that the root secretes, the seed wakes up. Out of it pokes a root that snakes thru the soil, attaches itself to the host, and thrusts sucking tubes into its juicy tissues.

THEN LIFE BEGINS for the PARASITE. It quickly geneates a network of roots & underground stems. Sometimes hundreds of witchweeds compete to strangle a single host plant

HOW LIKE the work of perversion of truth on the part of false teachers within the church, strangling both the church & its members from its spiritual nurture in the Word.

7-A Knowing Evaluation

"One of themselves, even a prophet of their own, said "The Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies."

--1:12

--Written by Epimenides; 600 B.C.,

** A knowledgeable man about Cretians, for he was one

** Able to know them, but unlikely to slander them beyond the facts

** An unimpeachable witness to their character

--"Always liars, evil beasts (ravenous & cruel), slow bellies (idle gluttons)"

--1:13a "This witness is true". Paul's view!

** Paul endorses this severe judgment!

** Unsaved nature is glaring thru

The C-Corruptors Profession (1:16):

1-"They profess that they Know God;"

--LIP testimony

--Without LIFE testimony } INCONSISTENT

--Rom. 2:17--"Behold, thou art called a Jew, & restest in the law, and makest thy boast in God

--What is our Lord's evaluation ??

Mt. 7:21-23 (READ)

2-"..But in works they deny Him, being abominable, & disobedient, & unto every good work reprobate."

--They deny any true knowledge of God

--They are abominable

--They are disobedient

--They are reprobate == "Not standing the test"

STRONG WORDS

3-God says that works SHOW faith

--Mt. 7:21--"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord

Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven."

Eph. 2:10--"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

James 2:26--"For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."

NB

4-LEARN WELL!--BITTER ENEMIES often come in the guise of FRIENDS--
- Sanballat & Tobiah in Nehemiah 4
- Della Bauer & Isla Maier at Spring Branch
- Bob Nellis at Westbrae --Dora Luxford
- Ezek. 33:31--"And they come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as my people, and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they shew much love, but their heart goeth after their covetousness"
- 2 Pet. 2:19-21--"While they promise them liberty, they themselves are servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he broughtin bondage. For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world thru the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn (back) from the holy commandment delivered unto them."

The

D. Corruptors Punishment (1:11, 13):

1-"Whose mouths must be stopped (=muzzled)"

--By men who know the truth
- Gracefully, but forcefully
- Ministry of the Elders & Pastor
- ** Not the place of the women !!!!

WOMEN Not biblically to exercise leadership in the Church

--We are not left an option!

** Deviants from the truth MUST be stopped
- ** Lest they lead away & astray the weak
- ** Too harsh?
- ** Not in accord with the "gentle Jesus" ?

Mt. 22

- Mt. 27:23-34 for a case of Jesus' handling
- ** Col. 4:6--"Let your speech be always with grace seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man."

2-Publicly rebuked--Correct the error --WARNED

--Show them up for false teachers

--This may not sound "LOVING", but it is required if the error is to be stopped!

- Correction is to be SHARP & STINGING enough to get their attention
- Word used here is a concept of a surgeon's knife cutting away the diseased & dying flesh in order for healing to take place --This HURTS but has to be!
- Even so must God's men be incisive in their dealing with error.

Use the Rapier not a club

3-Some complain that this makes the ministry of the church "TOO NEGATIVE"

4-Granted, there are those who go overboard on any thing, but we dare not neglect the negative --BALANCE needed--

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

5-ILLUS--Ernie Pickering's illustration on needing both a positive and a negative pole on a car battery to make the auto start.

--So also the gospel makes us FOR Christ, the church, and the truth, and at the same time AGAINST sin, false doctrine, and perversity in the church.

II. CORRECTION IN THE CHURCH:

Get the FACTS!

A.-BE KNOWLEDGEABLE--Know the Situation:

1-What the truth is

2-What the source of the problem is

--Mind; mental defilement

--Conscience; moral corruption

--These are not "well meaning dupes," But wilfully erring distractors from the truth

--State of the HEART is at issue

--Mark 7:15, 20-23 (read)

3-ILLUS--I always believed it could happen. In London artist Pierre de Villiers, who failed to sell a picture for 8 straight years at the open air art show on the banks of the Thames, easily sold for $147.00 an abstract expressionist painting by his 3 year old son Romany.

This reminds me of the story of an uncultured rural man gazing at a modern painting. He did not understand it, so his friend explained: "You see, the painting depicts not merely the things the artist saw, but the state of his mind."

The ignorant farmer retorted, "If I had a mind that looked like that, I'd never expose it."

4-Know the errors

--Mormonism
--Unity
--Christian Science
--Rosicrucianism
--Jehovah's witnesses
--All kinds of liberalism

Hare Krishna
Unification Ch.
Romanism
ISLAM

5-Know the evils

--License instead of liberty
--Flesh instead of spirit
--Commandments of men, instead of God
--Lies instead of truth
--Fables instead of facts
--Filthiness instead of purity

We dare not be "NEUTRAL" toward error + evil

6-Protection

--Pure mind
--Clean heart
--Titus 1:15
--Phs. 4:8--"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, if their be any praise, think on these things

--Know the BOOK
--Ps. 119:9, 11
--ILLUS--T-Men in the U.S. Treasury Dept. who are taught what GENUINE MONEY looks like, so they can always spot the counterfeits by their deviations from the standard of the genuine.

B. BE RESPONSIBLE — Corrective Rebuke: 1:13

1-Not rebuke for sake of rebuke — Not punitive
— But remedial !

2-Rebuke for sake of
- Correction of offense
- Restoration of those who've strayed
- Salvation of those who're deluded
- Edification of the faithful
- Protection of those not yet effected
- ILLUS - 1 Cor. 5 with 2 Cor. 2:6-8

CHURCH DISCIPLINE

* PURPOSE:

3-"That they may become sound in the faith"
- Bring them all to a healthy spiritual plane
- Emancipation from the devil's bondage enlarges their sphere of testimony
- ILLUS - Several years ago when plans were being laid for my trip to Israel, a member of the congregation asked that a certain minister be used as one of the pulpit supply men in my absence. Now that man is himself a believer, but his associations are still with an apostate denomination from which he refused to separate.

The elders did not want to offend this member, but they had a duty & a trust to be faithful in. Therefore, they advised this woman that no one is welcome into the pulpit of this Bible Church who is organizationally connected with any denomination or agency connected with the NCCC or WCCC or the NAE. We did not know what to expect, but we had to stand on the principle of what is RIGHT.

Would you believe that that dear sister came to us and thanked us for our consistent application of the principles enunciated from the pulpit?.....Well, she did.

4-Otherwise.....there will be SPIRITUAL SHIPWRECKS !! — Always do what is RIGHT

C. BE TEACHABLE — Warnings To Believers About Offenders!

BIBLICAL

1-"Mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned" Rom. 16:17

2-"Try the spirits whether they are of God" 1 Jn. 4:1

3-"Avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ," Rom. 16:17-18

4-"If there come any unto you and bring not this doctrine, receive him not." 2 John 10

5-"Withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly" 2 Thess. 3:6

6-"From such turn away" 2 Tim. 3:5

7-"Rebuke them sharply" Titus 1:13

8-"A man that is an heretic after the first and second admonition, reject" Titus 3:10

9-"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate" 2 Cor. 6:17

10-These are BIBLICAL requirements for obedient believers

D. BE UNMOVEABLE — No equivocation at all!

1-Not be friends
2-Not by family
3-Not by social or financial considerations
4-Not by pressure groups of any kind
5-Walk in honest, open response to the truth of God

CONCLUSION!

A.-Offenders In The Church!

1-To be **expected**
2-To be **rebuked**
3-To be **prepared against**

BE VIGILANT!

-Elders strong in the faith
-Pastor strong in the truth
-People **taught** in the Scriptures

+ OBEDIENT!

4-**Not allow offenders to ruin** a pure & good testimony for our Lord

-As a case of **immorality** was tolerated by the Elders in a church in Meeker, Colorado, because those men were **unwilling** to deal with **adultery** as SIN

Case of DISCORD among brethren by former Pastor in Columbus

Unwilling to discipline

-As a case of a **gossiping**, defaming woman in Lincoln, Calif., where the woman's **husband's money** meant more to the church leaders than did the **purity** of the church before God

5-**REBUKE to sin** is necessary if we are to have **PURITY !!**

6-ILLUS--Rev. Warner. Rebuke of choir members over their starting of a rumor of "AN AFFAIR" with the organist because she left her organ shoes in his office.
--When he heard of it, **he went to the person** bringing him word of it. He **insisted** that **she go with him** to the person who had told her. They went with an ever **increasing crowd** all over town til they came to the **malicious gossipper** who began the whole "mess".
--He **demanded** that she **make a public apology** in the Sunday Morning worship service, for her **sin of gossip** in **defaming** the name of a pure woman, and for her bringing **reproach** upon the name and ministry of a man of God.
-She was **not willing**.....but she **became willing** when the **Elders Board stood with the Pastor** in demanding a **PUBLIC REPUDIATION** of the **lies** she had begun.

End Result

B.-Problems In The Church!

1-**In Crete** 1900 years ago--Formalism
--Legalism
--Perversion of the truth
--Subversion of the faith of the trusting
--Merchandise of religion
--Superficial solutions without a change of heart

ALSO found

2-In **our church today**
3-The **problems** are **pretty much the same** — Only the people's names change.
4-**Solution** concerning **CORRUPTORS** IN THE CHURCH
-Their presence
-Their perversity
-Their profession
-Their punishment

5-**What** shall **we do??**
--BE **KNOWLEDGEABLE** of the facts
--BE **RESPONSIBLE** before God
--BE **TEACHABLE** of the truth
--BE **UNMOVABLE** in our stand

"All Hail The Power" 237

Westbrae--12/1/68--"To God Be The Glory"----------227

6/15/96 - OKBC "Once For All"----------112

2/25/07 - Harper Hights Baptist Ch. "The Way Of The Cross Leads Home"--68

9/24/08 Bible Center Church

11/23/08 - Hilltop Bapt. Ch - Men 12/7/08

THE PASTOR--HIS LIFE, MINISTRY & AUTHORITY Tit. 2:1,7-9, 15
2 Cor. 11:1-31; 1 Tim. 4:11-16

THE PASTOR OF GOD'S CHURCH — (6) 2 Kings 4:1-17

INTRO: A.--The Pastor:

1-Someone has written: "A good pastor must have (1)
The strength of an ox
The tenacity of a bulldog
The daring of a lion,
The wisdom of an owl
The harmlessness of a dove
The industry of a beaver,
The gentleness of a sheep
The versatility of a chameleon
The vision of an eagle
The hide of a rhinoceros
The perspective of a giraffe
The disposition of an angel
The endurance of a camel
The bounce of a kangaroo
The stomach of a horse
The loyalty of an apostle
The faithfulness of a Prophet
The tenderness of a shepherd
The fervency of an evangelist
The devotion of a mother,
AND THEN, he would not please everybody!"

2-TRUE...but he is not intended to PLEASE people.

3-Pastor's task --To serve God
--To be available to men
--To be balanced in the truth

4-And let God keep a majority happy with that ministry committed to the Pastor.

B.-The Message:

1-The Pastor's MINISTRIES
2-The Pastor's LIFE
3-The Pastor's AUTHORITY
4-Prop. To become knowledgeable and appreciative of the Pastor's work we need so we can more effectively join in a cooperative ministry!

I. MINISTRIES OF THE PASTOR (Tit. 2:1): — WHAT A PASTOR DOES

A.-Organization:—Covered in Titus 1:5-9

B.-Rebuke of False Teachers:—Covered in Titus 1:10-16

Considerable

C.-Evangelism: (Define)

1-Not specifically mentioned in Titus
2-Clearly implied in Titus
3-2 Tim. 4:5--"But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry."
4-Not necessarily outstandingly gifted in this
5-Nonetheless to labor unless to this end. — Regularly & faithfully

5-ILLUS--In Wales some years ago, a preacher--known for his uncompromising stand against sin & his unwavering proclamation of the gospel--went to be with his Lord. It was a mining town, and hundreds of the miners, many of whom were ungodly men & had not attended preaching services, came to the funeral, for there had never been a man so highly esteemed in the community.

At the graveside, the officiating Pastor turned to the townsmen and said, "Friends, the greatest obstacle between you and hell has been removed. TAKE HEED."

6-So it is, that the faithful Pastor will be a warner of the wrath to come. Evangelizing the LOST

D.-Instruction Of Believers: (Tit. 2:1)

1-This is the subject of MUCH of the Pastor's labor

2-As he moves among the flock--Preaching, --Teaching (PUBLICLY); --Counselling, --Visiting (PRIVATELY)

3-Detail dealt with in Titus 2 & 3 • MEN • WOMEN • WORKERS

4-W. Graham Scroggie

- "The preacher's job is EXPOSITION, not IMPOSITION of what is not in the text"
- "It is much easier to POUND the Bible, than to EXPOUND it, but not so profitable"!

5-Pastor is to impart SOUND DOCTRINE

- Healthy in terms of Scriptural content
- Healthy in terms of Scriptural balance
- PURPOSE--to produce "sound" christians, who are spiritually healthy

NB

6-To do this, the Pastor must be IN THE BOOK ...and... WITH THE PEOPLE — BOTH are necessary.

7-ILLUS--George Truett got his start among the frontier people, down in Texas range country, and was somewhat swept off his feet when, arriving at a small hamlet a crowd of about 50 met him at the railroad depot. The group traveled several miles by horse & buggy into rough cow-country before they stopped to eat at a small settlement.

News that a "NEW PARSON" had come was soon noised around, and a considerable crowd gathered after the bountiful meal was spread. Truett, famished from the long journey, gorged himself on the fine food.

A cowhand spoke up: "Folks, it ain't hardly never a Reverend gits out this way. I move we have a sermon here and now. My dried up soul could sure use one."

His suggestion met with spontaneous agreement.

"CAN'T WE MAKE IT A BIT LATER?" Truett asked

"What's the sense?" the spokesman asked. "You're here, and we're here. Let's have a sermon.". And the crowd roared their approval.

Embarassed, Truett said, "BUT I'M AFRAID I'M TOO FULL TO PREACH. I.... I ATE TOOMUCH!"

The cowboy walked up to Truett; looked him square in the eye, and said: "REVEREND. IF YOU CAN'T SHOOT QUICK--full or empty--I reckon you don't belong in this kind of country."

George Truett PREACHED !... and learned a lesson

8-Preachers' ministries (major) — Organization
— Rebuke of false teaching
— Evangelism
— Instruction of believers
— But these are not his only responsibilities....

ALSO

E.-Exhortation And Shepherding:

1-Seen in Titus 2:1-10 — Aged men — 2:2
— Aged women — 2:3
— Young women — 2:4
— Young men — 2:6
— Servants — 2:9
— Masters

2-Christianity has a message — Tangent to life
— Relates to all people
— Meets both spiritual, social & personal needs
— God's Word has THE ANSWER to ALL human problems

3-Pastor is to deliver God's Word & exhort a congregation on these "PRACTICAL" matters

NB 4-Pastor will answer to God if these "expected results" are not accomplished in the lives of his parishoners

5-Heb. 13:17--"Obey them that have the rule over you, & submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."

6-ILLUS--D. L. Moody told that he was once preaching in Scotland. When he got to the Church on a Sunday morning, it was so cold he could see his breath freezing in the air.

Moody said to the Custodian: "Aren't you going to have any heat in this building?"

The Custodian replied: "We don't even have a stove or heater in the building anywhere."

Moody was perplexed, so he inquired: "Well, now HOW DO YOU EXPECT THE PEOPLE TO GET WARM?"

"Oh," said the custodian, "We expect the men in THE PULPIT to warm us up!"

II.-LIFE OF THE PASTOR: — WHAT A PASTOR IS

A.-Pattern Of Good Works: (Tit. 2:7-8)

1-In all things

2-Full of good works for God

3-Pastor's works are to be GOOD works

4-One "bad apple" in his barrel of works can spoil the rest in the eyes of a church & a community

5-CLEAR CUT TESTIMONY — An absolute necessity!

6-2 Kings 4:9--"And she said unto her husband, 'Behold now, I perceive that this is an holy man of God, which passeth by us continually."

7-Walk betrays who he is & Who he serves

8-"Shewing thyself a pattern" (2:7)
- Others need an example
- Christianity in "LIVE FORM"
- Others will follow you
- Pastor has a right to expect them to follow
- ILLUS-Prayer expressions show up in others prayer life. etc.
- NEVER lowering the Biblical standards for the christian life
- Keep the "flag" at the TOP of the mast

9-ILLUS-
Sometimes by ONE TRAGIC TRANSGRESSION the minister of the gospel will forsake and betray his calling, but more often his spiritual decline will be GRADUAL !!!

When the King of Egypt came to Jerusalem & captured & sacked the city, he stripped the walls of Solomon's beautiful House in the Wood of its golden shields & carried them down to Egypt for adornment for heathen temples. Instead of mustering his army & marching after the invaders & winning back those stolen shields of gold at the point of the sword, REHOBOAM, King of Israel made shields of brass & hung them on the walls as adornment.

Is this not the tragedy which on occasion overtakes a minister of God? He becomes satisfied with second best....or even third best. He sinks into secularity, sloth or indifference.

Compare-present conditions with past conditions. Is it DEGENERATION or is it IMPROVEMENT as the man of God's calling walks along? ? ?

10-The same question needs to be faced by each one within the flock of God over which the Pastor labors.....

HOW IS IT WITH YOU ? ? ?

Just as for you as

B.-Doctrinally Sound: (2:1)

3-Not a blind leader of the blind

4-Rather-Without any corruption
- No "trimming corners" on content--NEO-EVANGEL
- No compromise with methods which are contrary God's Word, as with ECUMENICAL EVANGELISM
- No willingness to settle for "tickling of ear

1-Well trained
- Biblically-STUDY
- Practically-EXPERIENCE
- Personally-People oriented
- 2 Tim. 2:2-"And the things that thou ha heard of me among many witnesses, the sa commit thou to faithful men, who shall b able to teach others also."

2-Well prepared-"Prepare your message as though everyth depends upon yourself. Then set it asi and pray as though everything depended God." ANONYMOUS

5-A Pattern in gravity-Seriousness
- Undue levity detracts
- Undue familiarity undermines

6-A Pattern in sincerity-Attitude shows through
- Pastor must be serious & sincer
- Can't show ourselves to be great

and at the same time convince others that Jesus is wonderful and pre-eminent!

--ILLUS--When Evangelist George Whitefield was getting people in Edinburg out of their beds at 5:00 o'clock in the morning to hear his preaching on their way to their jobs, a man on his way to the tabernacle met DAVID HUME, the Scottish philosopher and skeptic. Surprised at seeing him on his way to hear Whitefuled preach, the believer said: "I thought you did not believe in the gospel."

Hume replied: "I DON'T, BUT WHITEFIELD DOES, and that makes him worth hearing."

C. Of Sound Speech:

1-Titus 2:8

2-Not subject to condemnation

3-Designed to STOP THE MOUTHS --of pagans = HEALTHY doctrine
--of false teachers

4-So that rejectors may be ashamed

5-So that the Name of Christ is not blasphemed

6-Dr. Broadus: "A minister should so speak in all times so that nobody would take him for a minister, but if the people should find out differently, nobody would be surprised." !!!

Col. 4:6

(7)

(2:8b)

D. Expect Siftings:

1-Lk. 22:31-32--And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted (=turned back), strengthen thy brethren."

2-Pressures, persecutions & problems are related to life.

3-Pastors are not exempt

4-ADDED DIVIDEND now for the pastor

5-Mark 10:30--"But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions..."

6-Sifting may not often be seen by others..... BUT sifting is nonetheless real

7-WHY ??--Used of God to strengthen his servants !
--Used of God to draw us nearer to Him
--Used of God to make us rely upon Divine power
--Used of God to MAKE US TO BE MEN OF GOD

NB

8-Sifting often comes from people who ought to be helpers & co-workers & supporters in the work

9-ILLUS-Harry H. Ford, retired Pastor from Michigan had an experience in his ministry. It was discovered that a substantial theft of church monies had occurred. It had been so cleverly done that no one knew the identity of the thief, so some folks naturally thought it must have been the Pastor who was at fault.

In the course of a sermon one night, in which he strongly stressed the need for confession of sin and forsaking of sin for any who wanted to walk righteously

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

with God, Ford picked up a SONGBOOK, held it in a throwing position and exclaimed: "I'm going to throw this AT THE GUILTY PARTY."

He then pretended to throw it toward the congregation, although he did not release it from his hand. However, one man ducked his head, thinking the book would be thrown, and that man subsequently confessed to the crime.

III-AUTHORITY OF THE PASTOR: (Titus 2:15):

WHY DOES THE PASTOR STAND IN THIS POSITION?

A-He Is Not Self-Called:

1-World considers the ministry a "profession"
2-Many worldlings go into the ministry
3-True Call-Must come from God
- Heb. 5:4--"And no man taketh this honor unto himself, but he that is called of God..."
- Must come to an obedient child of God
- ILLUS--When Dr. M. R. De Haan, founder of the Radio Bible Class, learned that his son Richard had decided to enter the ministry, he said: "Dick, don't go into the ministry if you can possibly stay out of it." "But, Dad," Richard answered, somewhat taken aback, "I can't stay out of the ministry." Gripping his son's hand, DeHaan told him, "That's what I hoped you would say, Son. I just wanted to be sure of your call."

4-When a man has the call of God upon his soul
- He can stand the pressures
- He is able to speak with AUTHORITY FROM GOD
- Judges 3:20--"...And Ehud said, I have a message from God unto thee." — A man under God's Commando

B. His Authority Is Derived From God:

1-Eph. 4:11--"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets, and some evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers."
2-Called of God-
- To a specific place
- To a specific ministry
- For a specific time
- For a specific task

Message comes from divine revelation

3-ILLUS-Ahimaaz in 2 Sam. 18:19-33 was able to make a good public display in that he ran with news of the battle, but he had no word, no message of hope, for David concerning the state of his beloved son, Absalom.
- Oh, that all would know that the man of God must be one COMMISSIONED OF GOD with a message of HOPE for a lost world — That gives him God's authority!

C. His Areas Of Authority:

1-Titus 2:15
2-"THESE THINGS"--His area
- Matters of spiritual concern
- Not a political prognosticator
- Not a social schemer
- Not a racial revolutionary

(7)

Illus.

Lay down your pencils, Gentlemen. "JFW"

3-When **ON** the revealed Word--Isa. 8:20
4-When **OFF** the revealed Word--**only** his **personal opinion**
- **NOT authoritative**

5-Told to "**SPEAK**"--==**present** the truth ——— **Declaration**
"**EXHORT**" ==pound & **press home** the truth — **URGE**
"**REBUKE**" ==**call to account** those who do not measure up to God's standards

HOW?
--"With all **authority**"
--As THE **ORACLE OF GOD** to the people entrusted to his care
--"**Thus saith the Lord**"
--Occasionally someone says: "Well **I don't agree with your interpretation**"
--**Henry Hawkins:** "Then **why** did God give you to your Pastor as a parishoner, and **why** did God give **your Pastor to your church**, if it was not that **he is to be IN AUTHORITY** over your faith as the Word commands?"
--Very pertinent question !!

7-**Not to allow** anyone **to despise him**
- For his **youth**
- For his **life**
--Because: "Now then we are **ambassadors** for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." 2 Cor. 5:20

CONCLUSION:

A. The Ministry Of A Pastor:
1-High calling
2-Great **responsibility**
3-Varied ministries
4-**Authoritative** place in God's economy

B. The Man Who Is The Pastor:
1-This is his **accreditation**
2-This **wins** him the **right to be heard**
3-Not because he is **PERFECT**, **but** because he is **CONSISTENT**!
4-**Martin Luther** gave the following qualifications for a true minister of God:
(1) He should be able to teach plainly and in order.
(2) He should have a good head
(3) He should have good power of language.
(4) A good voice
(5) A good memory
(6) He should know when to stop
(7) He should be sure of what he means to say.
(8) He should be ready to stake body and soul, goods & reputation, on the truth of what he says.
(9) He should study diligently
(10) He should suffer himself to be vexed and criticized by everyone.
5-**INDEED**, it will **take GOD'S MAN** to even approximate these qualifications.

C.--The Challenge From The Pastor:

Phil Davis (8)

1-How about you??

--Is God calling you to the ministry??

--Is God calling you to re-align your life with HIS STANDARDS ??

--Remember, there are no "double standards" in Scripture ! AMEN

--Is God calling you to a re-appraisal of your attitude toward the minister.....and toward your own responsibilities? ?

2-Are you "ATTACHED" to a local church so your life and ministry can really "count for God" ?? — COMMITED ?

3-Closing Pastoral advice--Read in unison 2 Tim. 2:1-4

4-May God have used His WORD to clarify our mutual thinking because ...

PROP We need to become more Knowledgeable and appreciative of the Pastor's work so we can more effectively join in a cooperative ministry.

Westbrae--12/8/68--#358--Through The Love Of God Our Savior (1)
Calvary Columbus 1/12/75--#368--O Jesus, I Have Promised (2)
OKBC-7/20/86 --#359--More Like The Master. (3)
Hilltop Baptist Ch-3/26/95
Bible Center Chr 10/1/08

THE PASTOR AND THE MEN — 2 Tim 4:1-5 — (7) Titus 2:1-2, 6, 9-10 — (1)

INTRO: **A.-Conservatives!**

1-Regardless of what political persuasion one may be, a true christian cannot help but admire the manly, courageous speech of **SENATOR Richard B. Russell** of Georgia some years ago in the U. S. Senate.

"In some quarters," he said, "it is old fashioned to believe in **a balanced budget** & that it makes sense not to spend more money than the government takes in. **I PLEAD GUILTY TO BEING A CONSERVATIVE.** That has become a label bearing great odium, but **I wear it without shame.**"

2-In many religious circles today the **term "FUNDAMENTALIST"** has become **odious** to many. How many of God's people are still willing to bear that name? **The label** is still a glorious one, marking its possesser as a contender for the faith. Some contemporary christians are sporting new labels now--**"Evangelical," "Constructionist", "New-orthodox"**, and **"Neo-evangelical"**--in order **to escape the offense of the cross** borne by those who unashamedly confess themselves.

3-**VOICE** magazine editorial; Nov. **1968** -attached

4-We have a **FUNDAMENTAL** church **here**, for we **stand for** all the basic doctrines of the Bible and of historic, Biblical christianity

claim to **

5-**"Badge of distinction"** these days; **wear it with honor**

6-True to God's Word--in doctrine
- --in life
- --in testimony
- --in attitude of heart
- --In the light of modern defections from the truth & God's admonitions (Tit. 1:10-2:10, **the Pastor is to constantly impress** upon the people of all ages their **moral duties.**

NB →

7-**Scripture** deals with all areas of **REAL LIFE**
- --Older men
- --Older women
- --Young women
- --Young men
- --Slaves and employees
- --**Each** with **special instructions** for their situations in life
- **Pastor** is to be as **active in teaching** the truth for each of these needy areas, as the **heretics** are in teaching error.
- Pastor is not only to teach sound doctrine, but also to bring it to bear upon all classes of Christians + upon every condition of life

B.-Content Of Messages:

1-Next message--THE PASTOR AND THE WOMEN

2-This message--**The Pastor And The Men**
- --Aged Men
- --Young men

NB → 3-**PROP**-Men of all ages need the ministry of the Pastor-Teacher to teach them + to encourage their spiritual growth

I. THE AGED MEN—(Titus 2:1-2):

Philemon 9 — "Paul the aged"

A. In Their Persons:

1. "Aged Men"—1 Tim. 5:1—"Rebuke not an elder, but intreat him as a father, & the younger men as brethren"
   - Not ELDERS, as an office or official sense
   - But all of the older men — Illus — Zacharias in Lk. 1:18
   - Not called "OLD"
   - How old ???—Old enough to accept a man's responsibilities & fulfill them
   - ILLUS.—One dark night in 1944, Admiral "BULL" Halsey's blacked out task force was on the prowl in the Pacific. Things were tense on the bridge, & the Admiral sent one of his Junior officers to get him a cup of coffee.

Several minutes later the officer came bumping & teetering back to the bridge in the dark, carefully balancing a mug of coffee. He peered around in the gloom, finally approaching the officer of the deck, and said: "Well, now that I got his bloody coffee for him, where is the OLD GOAT?"

From the far corner of the bridge came the admiral's growl: "I DON'T LIKE THAT WORD 'OLD'."

   - Ps. 92:14-15—"They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing; to shew that the LORD is upright: he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him."
   - Who are these that flourish in old age?
   - Ps. 92:13—"Those that be planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God."

Also used of ELDERS in 1 Tim. 3:2

2. "Sober" = "Mature, balanced, temperate, Discreet, Vigilant, Complete self mastery" — Lit. "Abstaining entirely from wine" — Of sound mind — Always in RV — "SOBERMINDED"
3. "Grave" = Serious & concerned, Dignity of those who are serious-minded; Sense of gravity + dignity combined; Of serious purpose
4. "Temperate" = "Moderate, not flighty" = BALANCED
5. Thus.....A MAN OF SETTLED CONVICTIONS AND ACTIONS — "Respect-worthy"
6. ILLUS.—As we come to the time of political changes, and as the President's cabinet has just been named, a parallel from history may be helpful.

In 1957 the much-criticized Mr. John Foster Dulles was quoted as saying that as U. S. Secretary of State, "...he would rather be RIGHT, than be POPULAR."

Mr. Dulles went on to say: "There is a difference between being RESPECTED and being LIKED. We do not run the foreign policy of the United States with a view to winning a popularity contest. We have to do some things which we know are not going to be popular. But we have not done, in my opinion, anything for which we are not respected."

7. Such needs to be the attitude of spiritual men of God as regards their persons.

B. In Their Principles:

Pastor is to preach that which is agreeable to sound Doctrine.

1. "...sound in faith, in charity, in patience."
2. "Sound" = "HEALTHY", Wholesome
   - This is the proper result of the ministry of the faithful Pastor, that the spiritual character of God's men be HEALTHY!!

Not frivolous or of human invention — Distinct from fables & commandments of men.

3-Sound in their FAITH
--Literally, THE faith — definite article *
--Faith of the Bible
--Faith toward God — How we RELATE to God
VERTICAL--How is YOUR relationship toward the true faith ??

4-Sound in LOVE--Greek word is agapē — THE LOVE
--Love toward God--------UPreach
--Love toward believers---INreach
--Love toward unsaved-----OUTREACH
How we RELATE to God's Commandments

5-Sound in PATIENCE — THE PATIENCE
--Able to wait God's time
--Able to wait patiently
"remaining under", not frustrated by circumstances
--Able to wait with a consistent life while waiting
Isa. 40:29-31 (read) — How we relate to circumstances.

This trilogy of VIRTUES is becoming in all of Christ's disciples, but is especially the crown of the AGED MEN — these are the sum of Christian maturity

I heard of a father who had a fine son. One day he came home to find him so ill he was at the very gates of death. His wife was weeping, & she said: "Our boy is dying; he has had a change for the worse. I wish you would go in and see him."

The father went into the room and placed his hand upon the brow of his dying son, and could feel the cold, damp sweat that was gathering there; the icy hand of death that was feeling for the chords of life.

"Do you know that you are DYING, my son?" asked the father.

"Am I? Is this death? Do you really think I am dying?" asked the boy.

"Yes, my son, your end on earth is near."

"And will I be with Jesus tonight, father?"

both his eyes and in his voice,

will soon be with the Savior."

for when I get to heaven,

Tell Him that you have been living

LEAD ME TO HIM.

two children, and I would

lead them to Jesus, than to have

this world!!

FAIRBAIRN (P. 271)

"The exhortation is, that they should not only possess those Christian graces, but have them in a healthy condition, so that the exercise of them might be free, natural, regular and consistent — much every way as might be expected from persons living under a felt apprehension of the great realities of the Gospel."

Healthy lives are the outgrowth of healthy doctrine.

Life:

matter of PRACTICE of their faith

daily life TRUTH is the foundation for LIFE

the character spoken of by Paul to

!!

showing what OUGHT TO BE

4-This is expected of EVERY CHRISTIAN--not just of a few

5-ILLUS--I remember in 1949 visiting aboard a British BATTLESHIP, and seeing on the bridge a notice for all to see, which reads:

"REMEMBER THE NEXT ASTERN"

It was intended to be a constant reminder to the Captain as he issued his orders, not to do anything which would be likely to throw the next ship into difficulties.

** → We MATURE MEN would do well to make this our motto. There may well be some other person "following in our wake", and a single false move on our part could mean SHIPWRECK

for that one..... "REMEMBER THE NEXT ASTERN" * (4)

6-That reminds me of a poem:

'Twas a sheep, not a lamb, that strayed away
In the parable Jesus told;
A grown-up sheep that had gone astray
From the ninety and nine in the fold,
Out on the hillside, out in the cold,
'Twas a sheep the good shepherd sought;
And back from the cold, safe in the fold,
'Twas a sheep the good shepherd brought.

And why for the sheep should we earnestly long,
And as earnestly hope and pray?
Because there is danger; if they go wrong,
They will lead the lambs astray.
For the lambs will follow the sheep, you know
Wherever the sheep may stray
When the sheep go wrong, it will not be long,
Till the lambs are as wrong as they.

And so with the sheep we earnestly plead,
For the sake of the lambs today;
If the sheep are lost, what a terrible cost
Some lambs will have to pay. (ALICE V. HERRON)

II. YOUNG MEN (Titus 2:6):

A. Youth's Pastor — "Likewise":

1-Pastor has a responsibility here too

NB → 2-Just as much "THEIR PASTOR", as he is over the older men

3-There is a standard HERE TOO

4-Not an "off limits" area of the church to the Pastor's ministry, as it was at Church of the Open Door in Tulsa when Bob Kelso arrived, and was told not to mention anything of the sin he saw among the youth

5-"EXHORT" = "I beg of you", "I urge you"
- Not high-handed or brusk, but with tender concern and care
- LOVING AND KIND.....but firm!

If you want to keep young, work with young people. If you want to grow old try to keep up w/ them.

B. Youth's Precept — "Be Soberminded"

1-Notice well the repetition of the term "SOBER" (σωφρονεω)
- 1:8 Elders
- 2:2 Aged men
- 2:4 Aged women
- 2:6 Young men
- 2:12 All the saved
- A subject so important, it is repeated for ALL BELIEVERS

!!!

2-Single item presented to young men---"BE SOBER"
- Perhaps because so contrary to nature
- Perhaps if this is gained, all other problems will fall in line

-Redefine "SOBER" = "Mature", "Balanced", "Temperate", "Discreet", "Vigilant", "COMPLETE", SELF MASTERY" Not subject to fads + Peer Pressure

Wise is the youth who does not employ his first years so as to make the last years miserable!

5

--ILLUS--At moving time your Pastor re-read some of his old letters from "Young manhood" days, and sees now that above all else what was needed then as my spiritual need was....

..MATURING, according to God's Word as my standard of both faith and practice

--So, I believe, it is also with all young men.

--ANTIDOTE to youth's problems is a MATURE MIND controlling the believer whose "CODE" is the Word of God — SEE THIS in the Pastor.

The Extension + relationships

3-"Sober minded" — Mature in christian truth

4-WARNINGS: The

--Relates both to doctrine & practice

--To the mature not to forever judge a young man by what he did, said, and was in his youth, without re-evaluating him in his manhood—Don't hold your previous views inflexibly

--To the young men...to become mature, & not be "satisfied" where they are.

--Double-barreled warning includes us all

FAIRBAIRN
"...a habit of mind which, when really formed, saves the young from many a vicious indulgence and foolish extravagance."
(P. 274)

C.-Youth's Patterns:

1-Their Pastor---2:7-8 KEY ROLE MODEL

Become what your Pastor already is

KEEP GROWING
1 Cor. 4:16; 11:1

2-Their spiritual leaders

*--Own fathers

--Elders and Deacons must "set the pace"

--Leaders must "BE" as well as "LEAD"

3-Their elders in general

--This is where much of the problem is to be found in its "fountainhead"

X--Juvenile delinquency is generally rooted in PARENTAL DELINQUENCY!!!

--Leniency and inconsistency

--POOR EXAMPLE set.....and then followed

--ILLUS--Two silent questions occasionally flashed on the T.V. Screen at 11:00 p.m.

Don't say that modern youth is wild. Just exercise forbearance. The faults within each problem child may come from problem parents.

(1) "Do you know where your children are? It's 11:00 p.m."

(2) "Do you know where your parents are? It's 11:00 p.m." !!

4-Youth need high and holy goals and examples.

5-ILLUS--We have all heard of Gypsy Smith, the evangelist. Before he and Mrs. Smith left for a campaign at Cambridge once, his aged father went to see him.

At the moment of parting, "Gypsy" said: "Dad; will you present me at the Throne of grace every day?"

The aged saint of God, with a twinkle in his eyes replied: "No, MY SON. I did that many years ago, and I have never taken you away from the Throne of grace, but I will KEEP YOU THERE in your absence."

Said Gypsy Smith in reply: "With a Father like that, the Lord God has got to do mighty things through me."

6-THE WORD itself is a part of our pattern too, as it shows us both the principles and the Person of our Savior.

7-ILLUS: Van Cliburn was a 23 year old American pianist when he became winner of Moscow's Tchaikovsky Piano Competition, and the "wonder" of American musical circles. (6)

He gallantly stated as he set out on an intensive program of playing: "WHEN YOU HAVE ONLY ONE LIFE, YOU MAY AS WELL BURN IT OUT," and he has been doing that with over 100 concerts a year for the past 10 years.

Only one life! Then, what are YOU going to do with yours?

Face the question NOW, for one day you will have to render account of that one life and the way you have spent your time, your talents, and your treasures.

Only one life. And it is fleeting past. NOW is the time to decide and to prepare to use it for God.

"NOW LET ME BURN OUT FOR GOD" Let that be your cry as it was Henry Martyn's as he sailed for India.

BIG QUESTION

CONCLUSION:

A. At The Cost Of Sacrifice:

1-In 2 Sam. 24:24 David enunciates "...neither will I offer burnt-offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing."

2-Principle:---DEDICATION COST A PRICE !!

3-Illus--Willing to adorn the doctrine of [illegible] at any cost

--WHAT ARE WE WILLING TO DO to "adorn the doctrine of God our Savior?"

--Some are using Scriptural methods for godless ends.

--What are we doing? — or going to do? ... beginning Now? Which?

B. At The Consecration Of Servants:

1-Mature men--Living for God

OR

----------Living for SELF

"Choose ye this day whom ye will serve"

2-Young men--set your sails for the goal of maturity in Christ and a pleasing, useful life of serving Him

3-Doctrine and Practice go together, and BOTH must be "sound" or "healthy"

4-Let us not hold back with anything short of "TOTAL COMMITMENT"

5-Let's "SHOW AND TELL" Whose side we are on

--Home

--School

--Job

--"in all things"

6-The aim of the gospel is the transformation of our lives.

7-No transformation ??????

8-Are you sure you are saved ?

9-Pastor's calling is to "stir you up"

C. - Reminder:

"Men of all ages need the ministry of the PASTOR-TEACHER to instruct them and to encourage their spiritual growth."

Westbrae – 12/15/68
Calvary Columbus - 1/19/75
OKBC - 7/27/86
Hilltop Bapt. Ch. - 4/9/95 – + 12/28/08 - Men
Lookout Bapt. Ch. 9/30/2000
Bible Center Ch - 10/8/08

"Wonderful"
"Holy Bible, Book Divine"
"At Calvary"

BOOR

THE PASTOR AND THE WOMEN (8) Titus 2:3-5, 10
Read 1 Timothy 2; 8-12
Proverbs 31:10-31 (1)

INTRO:

A.-The Pastor And Doctrine:

1-Realm of **theology** — What we teach
2-Realm of **practice** — What we do
3-**BOTH** are **DOCTRINE**, as seen in the divisions of such books as Ephesians & Romans
4-Both theology & practice
- Are **to be Taught** from **the Word** — EXPOSITORY
  - ** Verse by verse
  - ** Topically
  - ** Character studies — EXAMPLE
  - ** Doctrinal themes — PRECEPT
- Are to be **Exhorted** upon the people
- Are to be **Applied** to life for christians

5-Pastor is concerned with **Orthodoxy** and with **Orthopraxy**

B.-The Pastor And People:

1-The Pastor and the **MEN**--already preached
2-The Pastor and the **WOMEN**--This message
3-The Pastor and the **EMPLOYED**--Coming next
4-**Special Words** for each — TARGETED
5-**Authoritative** instructions to the people and to the Pastor — BOTH!
6-**PROP**--To see God's Word on the special subject of **the Women** in the church, as they relate to the Pastor's responibility.
--Let us have **both** the Pastor & the women ready to **be obedient** to God's Word!

I.-THE AGED WOMEN (Tit. 2:3):

Could be a Jr. High or Senior High w/a younger girl — OR a mother w/a daughter

A.-Their Persons:

1-They are **"Aged"**
--Not called old by Paul
--**Mature** in age and in their salvation
--But not **beyond** their years of **productivity** spiritually
--Ps. 92:13--"They shall **still** bring forth fruit in old age..."

2-They are women — The ground is LEVEL before God
- **Fellow heirs** in God's family right along with the men — NOT second class Christians!
- Status **raised radically** from that of women in paganism--- CHATTELS
- **Status** raised **above Judaism** (Only men could be circumcised) for they can share equally in their sign of faith--**BAPTISM**

IMPORTANT TO KNOW!

3-There is **no class** of people, nor no problem of life for which there is not **a specific word** from God to meet the need !!

B.-Their Behavior: — FOUR ISSUES 2:3 — Demeanor expressed in dignified carriage.

1-"As becometh holiness" == "in keeping with a holy character"
--This is **the MAINSPRING** of a

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Clement of Alexander: "The Christian must live as if all of life were a sacred assembly."

godly woman's life; that she might exhibit the holiness of her God in her life

--BEHAVIOR is what we are, turned inside out so that what is really us, shows to everyone else

--HOLY CHARACTER
- ** in speech
- ** in deportment
- ** in thoughtfulness
- ** in attitude
- ** in dress
- ** as expressed in every facet of life

Parallel → 1 Tim. 2:9-11--"In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works. Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection."

VITAL QUESTION; CRUCIAL TEST:---"Does it Contribute to expressing my HOLY CHARACTER?

"Not false accusers"=="diabolos"=="she-devils"=="slanderers"

--Leave that diabolical work to the Devil!

--Rev. 12:10--"...the accuser of our brethren"

--slander is his character, not yours!

--No room for GOSSIP in their mouths

--Patrick Fairbairn--"Old women, who usually have little to do, and with the garrulity, are not infrequently visited with the complaining, of advanced age, have special need to be warned against this tendency; it is a fine exhibition of Christian love and contentment when they can rise above it, even though there may be many things in their circumstances which are fitted to nourish it."

Not slanderous used of deaconesses in 1 Tim. 3:11

CALVIN: "Talkativeness is a disease of women, + it is increased by old age."

--And he wrote that before the advent of the TELEPHONE, which makes older women able to get in touch to become slanderers, just that much easier.

--Some women will insist on either RULING or upon RUINING, and they'll accomplish it by being "false accusers"

--Dr. M. D. Hoge told of 2 christian women who fell out with one another. One heard that the other was talking ill about her, and went to her face-to-face.

"Will you be kind enough to tell me my faults to my face, that I may profit by your Christian candor, and try to be rid of them?"

"Yes, I'd be pleased to," said the other!

They went aside and the first lady said: "Before you commence to tell me what you think wrong in me, may we please bow down and pray over it with me, that my eyes may be opened to see my faults as you will tell them?---YOU LEAD IN PRAYER, PLEASE."

They prayed, and when the prayer was over, the woman who had sought the interview said: "NOW PROCEED with what you have to complain of in me."

3

But the other now replied, "AFTER PRAYING OVER IT, it looks so small that it is not worth talking about. The truth is, I feel now that in going around talking about you, I've been serving the devil. I have need that YOU PRAY FOR ME and forgive me for the wrong I've done."

THAT'S THE PROPER END FOR GOSSIP
--The ONLY proper end for it
--Saints of God use their voices for better things than for serving the Devil

AND Spurgeon was right when he said that a tale HEARER was as bad as a tale BEARER

3. "Not given to wine"
--Not in wine's slavery — ABSTINANCE is biblical
--Not using it in any amount or for any purpose whatsoever
--Occasionally some comment made either in favor of, or opposed to my presentation on alcoholic imbibing. My answer always is--"THAT'S WHAT GOD'S WORD SAYS!"
--Seems that addiction to wine is especially distasteful to God, because the reclamation of female drinkers is almost impossible
--ILLUS--A year or two ago a BREWER was addressing a state farmer's convention in the corn-belt of our country, and was laying stress upon how much grain the brewers & distillers bought from the farmers. At the height of his flight of oratory he cried: "What would you farmers do with your surplus corn if we brewers did not buy it?"
A great hush came over the gathering; there seemed to be no answer to the startling question. But a little woman arose in the back of the hall and suggested: "Well, we might make it up into cornstarch to stiffen men's backbones".
--Perhaps you wonder what happens in the family of a woman "given to wine".
--Recently the papers carried this report: "A burglar married an alcoholic woman. In the first generation, their children included one murderer, 1 burglar, 1 sneak thief, 1 common drunkard, and 4 abandoned women. In the second generation: 2 murderers, 4 burglars, 6 sneak thieves, 2 drunkards, & 6 abandoned women. In the third generation: 5 drundards, 10 thieves, 11 idiots, &12 women of bad character---for a total of 74 defective decendants in all---and at least HALF OF THE PROBLEM stemmed from a woman who drank.

CONTRAST

4. "But teachers of good things"
="Mistresses of honor" BERA
--Teaching ** By their examples
** By their precepts
** BUT NOT in a class of adults of mixed sexes — That's a MAN'S task!
** 1 Tim. 2:12--"But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence."

Not in a public & official way before all the church NOT PASTORS!

--ILLUS--Mother of Paul Harvey, the nation-wide ABC Radio news commentator. She stayed with her son in spite of widow-hood from an unrepentant husband, rearing him in the fear of the Lord, and today he is open in acknowledging her influence, & Christ as his Savior & Lord on nation-wide radio broadcasts.

↑-How desperately the young need to WATCH the older, mature saints, and LEARN from them!

(4)

C.-Their Ministry:

Not self-indulgent or judgmental of the young, but showing them the way.

1-"That they may teach the young women"
- --Homemaking skills
- --Spiritual truths
- -Proper home government & order

By Precept
By Example

2-But, the concept is more than teaching, but of "TRAINING, SCHOOLING, INDOCTRINATING"

3-Communication is by being----This is, perhaps, more "caught" than "taught" — Role Model

4-Some considerable measure of success in this field must have been achieved in the early church, for their lives elicited a Royal Decree.

5-During Rome's persecution of christians, Licinius (307 A.D.) decreed: (1) Men and woman could not worship together; (2) Women were not to enter places of worship; and (3) Women were to be taught religion by women only, and not by bishops (elders).

NB

6-These seem to indicate that the Emperor considered that one of the strongholds of christianity was its women. (Eusebius, Life of Constantine, I, liii)

7-ILLUS--A Christian woman who was engaged in work with the poor and degraded was once spoken to by one who was well acquainted with both the worker, and those of the home she sought to reach for Christ.

"It does seem wonderful that you do such work. You sit beside these people and help them just because they need it, and not looking at the places and backgrounds they come from."

Her Christian friend's reply was: "Well, I suppose they are dreadful people. But, if the Lord Jesus were here now on earth, are they not the very people HE would strive to reach? WOULD HE FEEL HIMSELF TOO GOOD to go among them? Am I better than my Master?"

A poor, illiterate person who overheard the conversation ended it well by earnestly asking: "That's what I always thought a Christian woman would want to do. ISN'T IT?"

8-No matter how aged--No discharge from their life-ministry while they have life.

No matter how "AGED" a woman becomes.

D.-Their Concern To The Pastor:

No right to leave off serving the Lord + yield to younger ones.

Commands
- 1-Likewise--To be instructed
- -To be exhorted
- -Titus 2:1, 15
- -Objects of a godly Pastor's concern

PUBLICLY, but the personal + intimate instruction should be given by the aged + godly women

2-1 Tim. 5:2--"The elder women (intreat) as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity."

3-Gentleness of approach, and gentlemanliness

4-ILLUS--Years ago I knew of a case of a young pastor just "fresh" out of school, who had all the answers. He had a very difficult woman in his congregation, who was always undermining his ministry, subverting the young people from their parents, entering into unscriptural alliances, and generally upsetting the applecart. Finally, when he had about had his

(5)

fill of this, he called the woman and her husband, and all of the Church Officers, and demanded that they be present in the mid-week Prayer Meeting-------where this young Pastor really "read out" this older woman.

- RIGHT in the rebuke, for it was surely deserved!
- WRONG in the manner in which it was delivered, and that cost him greatly with his people for a considerable time

HOW THEN?

- 2 Tim. 2:24-26--"And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all, apt to teach, patient, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; and that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will."
  - Remember David's testimony--"..thy right hand hath holden me up, and thy gentleness hath made me great" (Ps. 18:35)
  - Pastors must show the same considerateness for the flock that the Lord does!

II.-YOUNG WOMEN-(Tit. 2:4-5):

A.-Their Persons:

1-"Young women"
- No specific age delineated
- Term used in secular Greek for the newly married, or the "about to be married" young women

2-These are those who have the high and holy privilege of some contact with the gospel, christian homes, and the aged women

3-These are very much advantaged in preparation both for life and for godliness !!!

B.-Their Training:

1-By the older women of the congregation NB.

2-By the Pastor as a part of the congregation, but not in intimate and personal matters

3-Best led by those in whom these young women can see the maturity of the graces which they need in themselves

NB older

4-Women will show them SCRIPTURAL STANDARDS
- Prov. 31:10-31
- From the Word
- In their lives

5-Prepared for a life of godliness

6-Schooled and admonished to this end by the aged women

7-Titus 2 - Samuel, Pearson + Lois Reiter.

C.-Their Character:

1-"Sober"--as also all other believers (Tit. 1:8; 2:2,4,6,12)

2-"Loving"
- Of their husbands
- Of their children
- = "to be attached to", φίλεω

N.B. Note the order of married love

Note — Keep love of these in their proper order!

- Chrysostom--"This is the chief point of all that is good in a household"

FAMILY

3-"Discrete" = Self controlled

4-"Chaste"
- Moral purity
- In actions & in appearance
- Morally pure & modest (as in dress)
- Prov. 12:4--"A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones."

Clothing that covers + not revealing.

Pure from every fault + immodesty

D.-Their Spiritual Life:

1-That they be **strong in the Lord** themselves
2-That they be able **to train** their **own children**
3-That they be able **to serve God** - **NOW** - and **LATER** ... **BOTH**
4-That their **husbands** be **attracted**, not **repelled**, by the things of the Lord in their **homes** & **lives**-1 Pet. 3:1-5
5-That the **Word** of God & the **Work** of God be **not blasphemed** through their actions or attitudes.

E. Their Home Life:

1-"**Keepers at home**" = Marg. "**Diligent** at home"; "**Workers** at home"

--**Keep AT** home & **Keep UP** the home

Idleness is not conducive to holiness

Contrast 1 Tim. 5:13--"And withall they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not."

--The **emancipation out of the home** is **not** something which has God's approval for the married woman

ILLUS--Rev. F. O. Seamans, after trying repeatedly to find a certain woman at home, and failing, left his card & wrote on it these words from **Jer. 2:36**: "**WHY GADDEST THOU ABOUT SO MUCH?**"

--The **homemaking facet** of a woman's ministry is to be **indellibly imprinted** on their families.

Must be THERE in the home, for this to be the case!

--How many times I've heard children say, as they came **home** from school **to an empty house**--"It's **just not "HOME"** if Mom isn't **there** when I arrive"

1 Thess. 4:11
NASB - "... and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life + attend to your own business + work with your own hands, just as we commanded you."

2-"**Good**" = "**KIND**"; Beneficial in her effect

--Added as a **balancing word**

--For the woman who **spends her lifetime** for her **home, husband,** and **family** That's how she gains her sense of worth & value

--She needs to bear in mind that **husband** and **children** have responsibilities **outside** the home, so she needs to **exercise kindness** in her expectation level of them at home

--Let her guidance of a godly household be in such kindness as to make "**HOME**" into **a HEAVEN-LIKE HAVEN**

Middle Voice participle = "SUBJECTING YOURSELVES"!

3-"**Obedient to their own husbands**"

--Subjection of the wife to the husband is the pattern of Scripture

GOD made it thus!

--**Eph. 5:20-24**

--In the very nature of the man-wife relationship

--**Gen. 3:16**--"Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee."

--Husband is to be **LORD**, or **MASTER**, to the lovingly subject wife

--1 Pet. 3:6--"Even as Sara **obeyed** Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well..."

Only EXCEPTIONS
** Something illegal
** Something immoral
** Something **contrary** to true **Scriptural teaching** and principles

4-The **FIRST DUTY** of the christian wife is to **show her conversion** to be genuine **HERE**, in her home!

5-The **insistent contrast** between Christian and pagan women is the most prominent and oft-repeated strain in the writings of the Apologists of the 2nd century. The **higher standards** and **stricter conduct** in relation to Christian women is constantly used as an **apologetic for the truth** of the Christian message.

Justin Martyr (110?--164?) accuses the Greeks of indulging "as a common practice in wicked and insane **fornication**," and his words clearly imply that it is precisely **because of religious beliefs that such practices abound** among them.

Tatian (110--180) also sweepingly condemns the heathen saying: "You behave yourselves **unbecomingly** in what relates to woman."

The contrast of Christian women is the argument of **Athenagoras** in 176 or 177 A.D.: "But we are so **far from practicing promiscuous intercourse**, that it is not lawful among us to indulge even a lustful look. 'For,' saith He, 'he that looketh on a woman to lust after her, hath committed adultery in his heart!....On behalf of those, then, to whom we apply the names of **brothers** and **sisters**, and other designations of relationship, **we exercise the greatest care** that their bodies should remain **undefiled** and **uncorrupted**."

NB 6-SUCH, indeed, is **the standard of the Word** of God, and the **pattern of life** for the **godly woman**--whether aged or young. — Being a Christian ought to make a woman A BETTER WIFE!

F.-Their Concern To The Pastor:

1-**1 Tim. 5:2**--"The **elder women** (**intreat**) as mothers; the younger as sisters, with **all purity**."

PASTORAL 2-**Concern**
--For their lives
--For their homes
--For their testimony
--For their ministries
--So that the Lord is **never reproachfully spoken of** because of them

3-**Hofman**--"Gute Hausfrauen will der Apostel haben" is a fitting summary of the **Pastor's heart** for all godly women

* 4-**JOY** to see the thankfulness of **the few** who heed such advice, and **STAY HOME** with their children and concentrate on God's will for themselves and their families

5-**ILLUS.**--**Ruth Kittle** in her relationship to **Royce** & their **7 children** & her home

BUT This is not always feasible
- WIDOWS
- SCHOOLING
- JOB LOSS
- ILLNESS
- DIVORCE

6-**Tomorrow** may be **TOO LATE**
--**To recover** your own children
--**To have the ministries** for eternal values in your own life and in the lives of others

CONCLUSION:

A. The Woman's Goal:

1. Adorning the doctrine of God in all things (2:10)
   - In daily life
   - In spiritual life
   - In home relationships with husband & children
   - In personal conduct
   - In attitude
   - In service to the Lord
   - IN EVERYTHING !!
   - Col. 3:17, 23--"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the Name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him....And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not to men."
   - N. L. D. White (Expositors)--"The practical worth of a religion is not unfairly estimated by its effects on the lives of those who profess it. If the observed effect of the Gospel were to make women worse wives, it would not commend it to the heathen."
2. We might well adapt the words of old Chrysostom: "...for the Greeks (~~or the Christians~~) judge not of doctrines by the doctrine itself, but they make the life and conduct the test of the doctrines."
3. NO EXEMPTIONS ----- EVER .... OR --
   - Testimony marred
   - God blasphemed
   - Souls endangered
   - Joy diminished
   - Effectiveness impared

B. The Responsibilities Are Apparent:

1. Pastor - Tell them the facts, Biblically — Preach it / Teach them
   Apply the truth to daily life — Make Truth PRACTICAL!
2. Aged Women - Hear the Word
   - Mould their lives by God's truth
   - Train the young women in it
   - Minister faithfully in the House of God
3. Young women - Meet Scriptural standards
   - Hear openly the admonitions of the aged & godly "mothers" in the faith
   - Minister for Jesus Christ
     - ** in their homes
     - ** in their neighborhoods
     - ** in their local churches — but do not take on too much
   - ADORN the doctrine of God along with the aged women. — "Make look good"
4. ILLUS. - Miss Dann of the AIZU Christian Fellowship tells that they had been working in a hitherto unreached town of 10 thousand in Japan. The people there had never heard the gospel. They got an old broken-down photographer's house. They cleaned for 6 weeks with their sleeves rolled up, & big aprons around them, the mud running down to their elbows. As they scrubbed & cleaned, the people of the town came around. Not knowing that the missionaries spoke their language, their

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remarks were overheard--both rude, and puzzled.
"Look", they said. "Americans working. We thought Americans never worked. We thought you always had Japanese servants to do your scrubbing." Well the ladies went on with scrubbing and cleaning.

Then one day, some of the Japanese women called, & said "SHOW US YOUR HANDS."

For once in their lives, American women were proud of their rough, dirty, red hands. Those dear Japanese women stroked the missionaries hands, as they said: "YOU UNDERSTAND US. YOU WORK AT HOME WITH YOUR HANDS AS WE DO."

NB →

And so.....as they compared callouses, their hearts were knit together, and an opening was made for the gospel.

5- So---Women, Aged women, and girls
---What is your life?** Before the Lord?
** Before the members of your own home circle?
** Before those who know you?

Q--- Are YOU "adorning the doctrine of God"?

investing what you are & know in those younger than you?

6- And men----

"In the world's broad field of battle
In the bivouac of life.
You will find the Christian soldier
Represented by his wife."

Let it NOT be so!

7- May we all be obedient to the instructions of God's Word to us

- Male or female
- Aged or young

because sound doctrine is to be brought to bear upon every class of Christians ... and upon every condition of life.

Westbrae--12/29/68--Who Is On The Lord's Side #186 (2)
Calvary Columbus 2/9/75 Stand Up For Jesus #180 (3)
OKBC - 8/17/86 "Blessed Be The Name" #5 (1)
Hilltop Baptist Ch - 4/16/95 + 1/4/09 to men + Women - 5.5,
Bible Center Ch - 10/15/08

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"THE PASTOR AND THE WORKING FOLKS" Tit. 2:9-10
1 Tim. 6:1-2; Eph. 5:18--6:9

(1) (9)

INTRO: A.-Accreditation To Others:

1-Special characteristics of God-approved servants in different ages
--Performing miracles (Moses, Elijah, et
--Proclaiming the truth
--Predicting the future

2-Some were men of much schooling
--Moses
--Acts 7:22--"And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds"

3-Some were men snatched from other pursuits
--Amos, the herdsman of Tekoa
--Amos 7:14-16

4-We've come today to a strange credential
--ACADEMIC DEGREES
--Evidence of time put in
--Evidence of curriculum covered
--Evidence of teachers satisfied
--Evidence of grades received
--SO, a degree is a KEY to open the door of opportunity
* --BUT one must still produce, or the degree is a sham and a mockery

5-BETTER ACCREDITATION for today
--Not miracles today, for man has hammered out significant advances, & with the modern "ego" of materialism some would say: "We can explain it; give us the time."
--Not predictions, for they'd be labeled prognostications; mere calculated guesses
* --But HOLY LIVING as the characteristic evidence of the approval of God upon the witnesses to divine truth
--ILLUS--A young woman from my Bible class when I was in Seminary, only converted a short time, was called in to the President's office where she was employed. He told her the firm was so pleased with the skillfulness of her work that they wished to let her know of their appreciation; he said that he was interested in knowing why anyone would put so much of themselves into the work as she did.

She saw the opportunity to witness for her Lord, so she quickly said: "Sir, a few months ago I accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my Savior, and my Lord. I want everything about me to tell for Him."

6-Paul spoke of this HOLY LIVING for all classes (Tit. 2:1-9)--"...that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things."(2:10)

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

B.-Areas To Show HOLY LIVING:

1-In the HOME--Aged men--Tit. 2:2
--Aged women--2:3
--Young women--2:4-5
--Young men--2:6

2-At work--As SERVANTS
--As MASTERS

3-Show in the home and at work, and your holy living will begin to show EVERYWHERE !!!

4-ILLUS--Two sisters had been living in different cities. They each came home on a visit. While away from home, one of the girls had become a Christian.

After a few days the other girl said: "I don't know what causes it, but you are a great deal easier to live with than you used to be."

When Jesus comes in....it ought to make a difference-----a BIG difference!

5-Consistent living in these HARDEST SPHERES will make it easier to "live Christ" in the lesser areas of problem

6-Regardless of where "at work" is for you

--Over a lathe	--Digging ditches
--Business manager	--Salesman
--Clerk	--Supervisor
--Typist	--Gardener
--Teacher	--Machinist
--Student	--Carpenter --

—OR, even in the HOME

7-THERE is where God has put you to accredit Christ to your fellow-workers by YOUR holy life !

C.-Message For Today:

1-WHO Were These Servants And Masters ?
2-WHAT Was Expected Of These Servants ?
3-Modern Applications To Ancient Truths
4-Prop: --So that we may know what's expected of us by God on our jobs
--So that we may accredit Christ to those with whom we work

I.-WHO WERE THESE SERVANTS AND MASTERS ?:

A.-Terminology:

1-Not a Labor-Management balance as we know it today
2-"Servants" = "Slaves", "Bondmen"
--Ones who were owned outright
--Large percentage of the population were slaves
--City of Rome--with more freemen than any other city--had 5 slaves for every 2 free men
3-"Masters" = "Total rulers", "Despots"
--Held not only the body & service of their slaves, but their lives also.
4-Not an endorsement of slavery as a social institution
5-Rather, Christianity has been the most potent force for the abolition of slavery of any in the countries where it has held sway
6-Not by social or political revolution, but by the change of society thru changing men's hearts.

7-What Paul is seeking to show is that when one is a FREE MAN in Christ, then one's working situation will not just be tolerable, but actually enjoyable !!

WWW (3)

B.-Relation Of Women To This:

1-Many women--Either actually slaves then (In Roman Empire)
--Or virtually slaves, at least

2-Very few personal or property rights for women

3-So these words included the women then also

4-BUT there is no free-woman today in the business world if she is married and possessed of home & family responsibilities * — She gave up freedom for marriage.

5-Enough work at home for them to be "WORKING WIVES"

6- ??? ??? Amen ????

7-That's God's place for the godly woman according to Titus 2:3-5 (of preferred service) ∠MARRIED

8-My wife's favorite definition of housework: "Housework is like stringing beads without putting a knot on the end of the string."

9-God's Standard--Prov. 31:23a--"Her husband is known in the gates," (of small children)

10-It is an EMANCIPATION DOWNWARD for the mothers of our land to put themselves back into the slavery of the work-a-day world when they are needed to guide the home, the children, and to make a heaven-like haven for their husbands.

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EXCEPTIONS:
1 Mutual consent of husband + wife
2 Incapacitated husband
3 Divorced
+ No children yet
+ Children grown + gone
+ Husband unemployed temporarily

II.-WHAT WAS EXPECTED OF THESE SERVANTS ??:

A.-Proper Actions: (Tit. 2:9)

1-"To be obedient" — See 2:5 also
--To their own boss
--But not to those not in authority over them
--Know WHOM to take orders from, and THEN TAKE THEM !!!
--On the job to the "boss" — Chain of COMMAND!
--Both on & off the job to God's authoritative standards

2-"To please them well"
--Lit. "To give satisfaction" w/ legal + moral limits
--Well & fully
--In all things
Not just in the easy things
--Not just in some things
--But in EVERY POSSIBLE WAY !
--Col. 3:22-24 (read)

B.-Proper Attitudes: (Tit. 2:9-10)

1-"Not answering again"
"Not argumentative" (NASB)
--Not arguing
--Not self-justifying
--Not sounding off
--Always pleasant & straightforward
w/ a SMILE!

2-"Not purloining"="Not pilfering" Eph. 4:28 (4)
--NO STEALING
--Whether of stamps or of cadillacs.
--ILLUS.-Reynolds M. Knight, Editor of "Behind the Scenes in American Business", states: "About half the business bankruptcies in the United States last year could be attributed to employee thefts."
Not all employee thefts involve money. Other principle losses are in stolen time and stolen merchandise. These thefts involve almost 3 out of every 4 employees in the U.S., according to Mr. Knight. In manufacturing plants, disappearance of "perishable tools" is a major factor.
--Call it what you like; such pilfering in business is the SIN OF STEALING !!!
--Christian laborer is to be trustworthy in little things as well as in large
3-"But showing all good fidelity"
--SHOW your honesty !!
--Make it good !!
--Be faithful to your tasks in every circumstance
--Loyal & true employee--DO YOUR JOB....DO IT WELL!
--Integrity & trustworthiness in the little details of service will glorify the ONE whose bondmen we really are

C.-Purpose Of Actions And Attitudes:
1-"...that they may ADORN the doctrine of God our Savior in all things."
2-Whether as servants or as masters, we are to add honor & distinction to the teachings of the gospel of Christ by the character of our lives--------BY HOLY LIVING !!
3-"ADORN"="To add beauty to something already beautiful"
="To enhance the lovliness of what is already glorious"
HOW?
--They were to ADORN the doctrine of God our Savior by being OBEDIENT to their masters, PLEASING them, & being FAITHFUL to them
--Not enough to hold orthodox doctrine
--Not enough to profess true faith
--We must adorn and beautify it with a GODLY LIFE
4-ILLUS--Both Paul and Peter use this same word of a woman adorning herself in modest apparrel, and with a meek and quiet spirit
--Not only is the wild, reckless & sinful life to be shunned, but the life of the christian adorns his faith as it is bedecked with the fruits and flowers of the Spirit.
5-Henry Drummond--"The best evidence of Christianity is a christian"
6-John Greenleaf Whittier="The dear Lord's best interpreters are humble human souls."
7-WHY this adorning? ? ?----Because WE LOVE Him !!!
8-ILLUS--The distinguished French artist, Gustave Dore' was traveling once in the interior of Switzerland. He was arrested as a dangerous character by the local police of a small villiage; and when he was not able to show his passport, he was threatened with detention. He told them his name, and they looked suspiciously at him. Finally, they said that if he were Dore', he could easily

prove it by drawing a picture worthy of Dore'.

He at once took out his pencil and sketched a group of peasants standing near, with such simple and striking touches of life and character that they said there could be no doubt that he was the genuine Dore'.

(5)

It is thus that we should PROVE our high calling as the children of God. Let our lives talk. Let our works bear witness of us. And let the world think better of the name of Christians because we have worn it.

The life of LIVINGSTONE in central Africa made every tribe thru which he passed even once think kindly of the white man. His life was a passport for all his race.

SO LET US "adorn" the doctrine of God our Savior

9-To what extent????---In ALL THINGS
--At work
--At play
--At school
--At church
--At ease
--IN ALL
--Col. 3:17, 23 "Whatsoever"

10-ILLUS--A young doctor said a terrible thing a few years ago when someone was talking with him about trusting Jesus Christ as his Savior.

He remarked: "I think I might have become a Christian if I had not met so many people who said they were Christians."

The tragedy is that so often our lives deny our profession; our low standards, our compromises, bickerings, impatience, irritability, censoriousness, ill-temper, and selfishness belie our profession. We need to pray: "CREATE A NEW HEART IN ME".

D.-Principle For Servants:

1-Eph. 6:5-8

2-Recurring theme--"As unto Christ"------6:5
--"As the servants of Christ"--6:6
--"As to the Lord"-------6:7

3-Not as servants merely of men

4-Higher principle than that

5-Knowledge of a Savior to serve and a reward to receive lift labor above drudgery because of our LIBERTY in Christ

6-ILLUS--This week (some time ago) in dealing with a man about his own spiritual need, I rejoiced to convey my own happy contentment in the Lord and in His service. This man asked if I'd change jobs if I could. I replied that if I were independently wealthy, so as to never need to work again, it would make no changes in the pattern of my employment

7-Same Principle for "masters"
--Eph. 6:9
--They also have a Master in heaven to whom they are responsible
--No one is "free" without any responsibility to someone, no matter how "big" he may be !!

III.-MODERN APPLICATIONS OF ANCIENT TRUTHS:

A.-Solution To Industrial Problems:

1-In former days management was exploitive of labor
2-Rise of Labor Unions in the 20th century
3-Pendulum has swung & labor wields undue power today
4-SELF-INTEREST pits one against the other
--Employers are often overbearing & not forebearing
--Employees are often careless & indifferent
--NOT SO if living so as to adorn the doctrine of God
5-ILLUS--Ruth 2:4--"And, behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem, and said unto the reapers, 'THE LORD BE WITH YOU.' And they answered him, 'THE LORD BLESS THEE.'"
6-Is there any such attitude where you work ??
7-Why not have it begin with you?

B.-Purpose Of Life:

1-Ask many folks of THEIR PURPOSE in life & get varied answers--Home & family
--Educational development
--Good job & security for the future
--Enjoyment now and soon retirement
2-With many-----"MY JOB is MY LIFE"
3-But for a Christian-----"CHRIST IS MY LIFE"
4-A job is merely a means of supporting ones self and family while whole-heartedly serving the Lord
--On the job
--In the home
--In the community
--In God's church
5-Do you follow the principle "as unto Christ?"
6-ILLUS--Henry M. Stanley found Livingstone in Africa & lived with him for some time. Here is his testimony: "I went to Africa as prejudiced as the biggest atheist in London. But there came for me a long time for reflection. I saw this solitary old man there & asked myself, "How on earth does he stop here--is he cracked, or what? What is it that inspires him?'

"For months after we met, I found myself wondering at the old man carrying out all that was said in the BIBLE--'LEAVE ALL THINGS AND FOLLOW ME'. But little by little his sympathy for others became contagious; my sympathy was aroused; seeing his piety, his gentleness, his zeal, his earnestness, and how he went about his business, I WAS CONVERTED BY HIM, although he had not appeared to have tried to do it."

Phil. 1:21 "For to me to live is Christ"

GOOD TERM to use

C.-Varied Reactions:

1-Some are drawn to Christ by your consistent witness
2-Some are violently repelled
--They reject Christ
--Because of wilful love of sin
--Because of the odious comparison of their lives with yours
--Because of false issues in their own minds
3-Some continue watching
4-ILLUS--It has been well said that "God has great & wonderful things to display if he finds suitable showcases." ARE YOU a showcase for the Lord Jesus in your working for a living ??

5-What do others see.....when they see you???
--Good work ??
--Cheerful disposition ??
--"Extra-mile" attitude ??
--ADORNING of the doctrine ??

7

CONCLUSION:

A.-Pastor's Relationship To Workers:

Also a WORKER himself

1-One of them; not a shirker
2-ONE with them in heart and concern
3-Parishoners are like "his family" over whom he exercises concern & care
4-AVAILABLE and APPROACHABLE
5-Not separated from the people in his "ivory tower"

B.-Pastor's Responsibilities To Workers:

A TRUTH EXPLAINER + APPLIER.

A TRUTH LIVER

1 Tim 6:1-2

1-PREACH the truth STRAIGHT as it is in the Book
2-Be an EXAMPLE --In labor
--In integrity
--In attitude
--In example of every kind
3-ADORNING the doctrine in his life, so as to LEAD the sheep as well as FEED the sheep
4-ILLUS-"Adorn" is a work used of the "setting" for a jewel. The beauty is not primarily in the setting, but in the jewel. So it is in our lives..

**...EXEMPLARY LIVING, even on the part of humble working folk---enhances the beauty of the gospel, by giving the GEM of JESUS a fitting setting.

5-If God wanted to use you as a "select specimen" of the Christian life in your place of employment.....
.....would you be an adornment to the truth ???

QUESTION

Jim Saunders 1/12/09 told of a man divorced whom he led to faith in Christ. Led to reconciliation w/wife + her attending Church + being saved. He discipled both + both are bringing co-workers to Church because of the radical changes in the lives of each. That is as it should be!

"Why Should He Love Me So?" 90 (1)
Westbrae--1/5/69--"I Owe Everything To Jesus" ----355 (3)
Calvary Columbus 7/16/75 "A Charge To Keep"---------- 63
OKBC - 8/24/86 "Living For Jesus"----------354 (2)
Hilltop Bapt. Ch - 4/30/95 "Must Jesus Bear The Cross Alone?"--365
1/25/09 - Men's S.S. Class
Bible Center Ch 10/22/08 (25)
Let The Beauty Of Jesus Be Seen In Me - SOLO

GRACE UPON GRACE UPON GRACE

INTRO "THE THREE-FOLD GRACE OF GOD" Titus 2:11-15

10 1

A.-Grace Described In Life:

1-Two hundred years ago JOHN NEWTON had plumbed the depths of depravity, living as the slave of a prostitute. Into that situation God came with His love and mercy. HIS GRACE was applied to the heart of a wretched sinner, and John Newton was marvellously saved

2-Some years later he wrote:

"AMAZING GRACE--how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see."

3-These are HARD WORDS for men to sing with any conviction in these days

4-Moving in an aura of respectability, comparing themselves with many who are less fortunate, basking in the sophistication of this day of scientific achievement, & feeling very secure in a time of national affluence, many appear to feel they are doing God a favor if they condescend to attend church at all.

5-ILLUS--A business man recently asked another if he was saved. He admitted he was not. When asked how he could be saved--by grace or by works, he replied: "BY GRACE"

"How do you get grace?"he was asked. "BY WORKING for it", was the reply.

5-HOW TYPICAL of the thinking of many today. We hear folks talking much about "GOD'S GRACE", and many seem to think that they can earn and merit salvation by being and doing good. Many feel that WE MUST have some part to play in our own redemption, provided we are even willing to admit we are sinners.

6-GRACE CANNOT BE EARNED. It is God's free mercy conferred on unworthy sinners because of an exercise of faith in what God's Son has done for us.

7-We need an ABRUPT AWAKENING to the fact that there is NOTHING we can do to merit God's grace. All we can do is to ACCEPT it as His gift of love on the basis of Christ's atoning work on Calvary. — Grace is already provided!

B.-Grace Defined In Bible:

1-ILLUS--John Wesley, upon seeing a condemned murder being "carted" through London's streets on the way to the gallows, fell to his knews and dried aloud, "THERE, BUT FOR THE GRACE OF GOD, GOES John Wesley."

2-Grace is the basis of all Biblical appeals
- -Salvation from sin
- -Separation from ungodliness
- -Sanctification unto the Lord
- -Service for God
- -Not what we can do for God, but what God has ALREADY DONE for us through Christ

3-Man is unstable and insecure

4-God is not fluctuating or "fly-by-night", and neither is His grace

5-Let's look at "THE THREE-FOLD GRACE OF GOD"

2:11 --Grace in the PAST-----SALVATION
2:12 --Grace in the PRESENT--SANCTIFICATION
2:13-15--Grace in the FUTURE---EXPECTATION

6-PROP: --To define grace by usage as "unmerited favor; a favor freely done without claim or expectation of return."
--ARISTOTLE used this Greek word (CHARIS) as favor bestowed on a FRIEND!
N.B. ** --N. T. takes an infinite leap forward, for God extends grace to a race that HATED HIM
To His ENEMIES!!

I.-GRACE IN THE PAST---------SALVATION: (Titus 2:11)

A.-God's Grace Appeared:
1-It is God's grace; a grace to enemies
2-"Hath appeared"
--This is a historical fact
--PAST tense; Aorist verb
--In the INCARNATION of Christ
--Epiphanero (επιφανερω)="a shining in"
--Lk. 1:79--"To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death..."
3-This grace of God appeared in the person of the SON OF GOD

B.-God's Grace Brought Salvation:
1-This was THE PURPOSE of the first coming of Christ
2-He brought salvation to mankind.....Only "BY GRACE"
--Mt. 1:21--Thou shalt call His name JESUS: for He shall save His people from their sins
--Lk. 2:11--"For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a SAVIOR, which is Christ the Lord."
--Rom. 3:24--"Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."
--2 Cor. 8:9--"For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, yet for our sakes He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be made rich."
--Eph. 2:8-9 (For by grace are ye saved through grace; + that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works lest any man should boast.")
3-Wonderful truth of the purpose of His coming to the manger & going to the cross.....TO BRING SALVATION!!

C.-God's Grace To All Men:
1-Provisionally available to all mankind!!!
2-"ALL" is emphatic in the Greek
--No class or rank outside the saving influence of God's grace
--John 1:9--"That was the True Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world."
--Jn. 3:16
--1 John 2:2--"And He is the propitiation for our sins: and not for our's only, but also for the sins of the whole world."
--So, this grace of salvation has been PROVIDED for all men UNLIMITED ATONEMENT.
SUFFICIENT for all mankind, EFFICIENT for those who believe 1 Tim. 2:4-6 Rom. 3:21-22
3-APPROPRIATION of what God has provided is conditioned upon "believing"----This requires an ACT OF THE WILL

4-ILLUS--A single Japanese word "mokusatsu" may have changed many lives. It has two meanings: ① to ignore, & ② to refrain from comment.

The Emperor was ready to end the war in July 1945 when the Allies issued the Potsdam ultimatum. The cabinet issued a press release announcing a press release announcing policy of "MOKUSATSU", with the second meaning of "No Comment". The press sent the dispatch with the translation announcing that the cabinet would IGNORE the ultimatum. To recall the dispatch would have been a "loss of face", so the matter was allowed to stand.

As a result the war was prolonged, the Russians came into Manchuria, atomic bombs fell on Japanese cities, and the Korean treaty drew a line which made the Korean war inevitable---------all for ONE WORD misinterpreted.

NB There is a greater word now sent out into the world----GRACE. Will you bow before the Word of God and accept His grace????----

- To REFUSE is to trample that grace under foot & bring judgment upon your self.
- To BELIEVE is to enter into the salvation that is purchased by Christ's provided grace.

5-YOU are part of that "all men" for whom the grace of God was provided by the grace of God which appeared in the Person of Jesus Christ - SAVING FOR SINNERS (2:11)

THE POINT

II.-GRACE IN THE PRESENT----------SANCTIFICATION:

(Titus 2:12-13)

2:11-13

A.-Grace Teaches Us Now:

1-Teach = "Discipline" "disciplining us now"

2-Time for discipline is NOW (Present Participle)

3-Tomorrow may be too late

4-Today the world is perishing for want of the knowledge of the Savior

5-Need is for DISCIPLINED SOLDIERS of Christ

6-ILLUS--What are we willing to do without? ? ?

That is a searching question posed by an advertisement I saw recently. John Howard, the noted philanthropist once said: "WE must learn to give up our own luxuries to supply the comforts of others; our comforts to supply their necessities and even our necessities to supply their extremities."

* Christian----What are you willing, to do without? Dare we offer to the Lord that which costs us nothing? Are we willing to do without extra luxuries that others may travel to glory with us? Are we willing to forgo fancy garments so that others will be clothed with the garments of salvation? Are we willing to do without the frequent dining out, so that others may have the Bread of life?

7-This is being DISCIPLINED BY GRACE !!!

8-Not a legalism of "do's" and "don'ts", but a life that honors our relationship to the Savior Whose grace has saved us.

focused dedicated + disciplined

9-"No steam or gas ever driven anything until it is confined + pressured. No Niagra is ever turned into light + power until it is tunneled. No life ever grows until it is

B.-Grace Teaches Us To RENOUNCE WRONG: — NEGATIVE (4)

1-"Denying" = "SAYING NO to", "RENOUNCING" — What NOT to do

--This is a moral obligation, not a legalism

2-"Ungodliness" --Practical atheism — living as though God did not exist.

--Prayerlessness

--Desecration of the Lord's Day

--Profanity

--ANYTHING contrary to God in our lives!

--All such is to be RENOUNCED as WRONG!

--1 Pet. 2:1--"Wherefore laying aside all malice and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings..."

3-"Worldly lusts" = Natural impulses of the old nature

--Sensuality; non-moral life

--Selfishness

--Pride

--Ambition for self

--1 Pet. 2:11-12--"Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that whereas they speak against you as evil-doers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation."

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, + the lust of the eyes + the pride of life is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away + the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever."

1 Jn. 2:15-17

converted!

please Him

ness for

DON'T KNOW WHERE TO DRAW THE LINE," she said to her Pastor. "There are certain kinds of worldly pleasures that other Christian young people seem to think are all right. I don't want to go any place where I cannot take my Lord."

The Pastor understanding and sympathetic, replied, "Elizabeth, Christ is now your companion. Will your going to questionable places strengthen your daily walk with Him? Can you invite Him to accompany you and take part in these things? If Jesus should return when you are in some questionable place, would you be ashamed to be there?"

"Thank you, Pastor," said Elizabeth. "When I am in doubt of anything, I will give Jesus the benefit of the doubt---and seek to please Him in all that I do."

4-Most of us have many things to UNLEARN from our former life before salvation

5-These things of the world are to be categorically denied by every Christian by the power of the grace of God

6-REASON--They mar our testimony for Christ

--They cloud our life so that it looks like we are still a worldling

--Remember, "When the Lord's sheep become dirty gray it makes all the black sheep feel more comfortable."

--ILLUS--I read once of a man going down into a coal mine as a visitor. On the side of the gangway grew a plant that was perfectly white. The visitors were all astonished to find it there, where the black dust of the coal was continually in the air, and they all wondered how it could be so clean.

A miner who was with them took a handful of

(5)

black coal dust & then threw it on the plant----but not a particle adhered. There was a wonderful enamel on the plant, to which no finest fleck would cling. Living there, amid clouds of dust, nothing could stain its snowy whiteness

What a pattern for what a Christian should be. Unholy influences breathe incessantly about us, and upon us. But it is our mission to be PURE amid all this vileness; UNDEFILED among the dark spots of the world.

As the plant has a DIVINE PROVISION so that no dust can stain its whiteness, so God makes His provision of grace so that our lives need not bear the stain of sin when He has transformed us into "His very own"

C.-Grace Teaches Us That We Must CHART A RIGHT COURSE: POSITIVE

1-This is done in every-day living-----EVERY DAY !

2-Christians "should live..."

--This is their moral obligation = What to do

--J. M. Bernard--"The final cause of the Revelation in Christ is not creed, but character."

--The grace of God makes this possible

3-"Soberly"--"Wisely, temperately"

--Spiritual maturity in evidence

4-"Righteously"--So as to practice every principle of righteousness in daily walk

--This is a showing of due regard for our neighbors & friends

5-"Godly"--"So as to honor God in every though & action

--Living in the presence of the Eternal God, so as to both please Him, and adequately represent Him

--Most of us have much to now learn of the new life of the christian in holiness

--This is to be "Disciplined by grace"

6-"In this present world (age)"

--NOW is the time; not manna

--Sanctification of our lives

--Requres BOTH ASPECTS

- Negative (RENOUNCE WRONG) (1)
- Positive (CHART RIGHT COURSE) (2)

--This must be done NOW, in the present course of our everyday life, if we are to maintain a life pleasing to the Lord.

7-ILLUS--At the foot of a cliff under the windows of the CASTLE AT MIRAMAR, at a depth of 80 feet below the surface of the clear waters of the Adriatic, is a cage fashioned by divers in the face of the rock. In that cage are some of the most magnificent pearls in existence. They belong to the Arch-Duchess Ranier.

The gems had become "SICK" and had been losing their color; and experts were unanimous in declaring that the only way to restore their original brilliance was to submit them to a prolonged immersion in the depths of the sea. They lay there for a number of years; and, when I last read of them, they were gradually regaining their former unrivaled glory

Although the children of God are not "of the world" they are IN THE WORLD; and the constant tendency of the influence

to which the children of God are exposed here is to possibly make them lose touch with the UNSEEN AND THE ETERNAL.

The consequence is that the fine brilliance is apt to become dimmed and the Christian life robbed of its fragrance and bloom. To counteract this tendency it is essential to have your life as a channel for the discipline of God teaching you what to renounce and what to do positively !!!

8-If we are not "DISCIPLINED BY GRACE", is it any wonder if people will doubt the profession we make that we are "SAVED BY GRACE"???????? → SCHOOLING FOR SAINTS (2:12-13)

III.-GRACE IN THE FUTURE----------EXPECTATION: (Tit. 2:14)

POINT

A.-Blessed Hope Is Christ:

1-NOT JUST--Glory by & by
--Reward in heaven
--Deliverance from sin
--Reunion

Looking for HIM !

2-BUT the "Blessed hope" is.....HIM !!!

3-A present looking with keen anticipation and joy for an event----HIS COMING AGAIN---in the near future

4-He is--The great God
--Our Savior
--Jesus Christ, and His glory will be on display

5-ILLUS--In 1959 General Douglas Mac Arthur returned once again to the Philippines for the 15th anniversary of the islands independence. To the Filipinos he is a "HERO WITHOUT FLAW". "I SHALL RETURN", promised Mac Arthur when in retreat before the Japanese in the dark days of 1942; and he kept his promise when U. S. troops stormed back into the Philippines in 1944.

There is a true "HERO WITHOUT FLAW", who has also promised to return. "I will come again", pledged the Lord Jesus before He left His disciples, and The great God and our Savior Jesus Christ will come again-----That's the "Blessed hope" of His Church

B.-Glorious Appearing Of Christ:

1-He came in the past, historically, in humbleness; being born in a manger

2-He will come again--FOR US.....at the Rapture
--WITH US.....at the Revelation

3-Lk. 12:40--"Be ye ready, therefore, also, for the Son of Man cometh at an hour when ye think not."

4-ILLUS--The thing that brought Gladys Liner to a saving experience of trusting Jesus as Savior was the painting of the return of the Lord which hung on the wall of the front of the little Southern Baptist Church where she attended as a girl. Eventually the combination of DESIRE to be saved, and FEAR of being omited when He'd come again was used of God to bring her to be ready to meet Him NOW as well as AT HIS COMING.

NB 5-Vital question:---Are you ready to meet Him in glory?

- Blessed because saved
- Glorious because ready

C.-Purposes Of Christ's Appearings:

1-Our REDEMPTION--Heb. 9:26--"Now, once in the end of the age hath He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself."

POINT --Col. 2:13--"You...hath He quickened together with Him, having forgiven you ALL trespasses."

Looking for Him!

2-Our separation from the world — God's "peculiar" people.

3-Our sanctification in the world

4-Our service toward God. SEPARATING FOR SERVERS

5-Personal appointment w/Jesus. (2:14 "Called")

(Titus 2:15)

IV.-OUR AUTHORIZATION:

A.-Not By HUMAN Authority:

1- Inherent in the man who is Pastor

2- Included in the organization which is the Church

B.-But As God's Messengers:

1-Tit. 2:15

2-"Speak these things"---Of doctrine
--Of practice
} Authoritatively as "under orders"

3-"Exhort these things"="Excite to action"
--GOOD WORKS are to characterize

4-"Rebuke"="Show the wrong of a fault"
--WRONG LIVES to be told where they are wrong
--Any whose life is not in agreement with & & evidencing a practice of what the Bible teaches

5-PASTOR is to hold up both GRACE and DUTY before his people as being inseparably united

6-ILLUS--We have in my lifetime seen the passing of a phenomena of the American scene. I read that the last of our Railroad PULMAN CARS had been removed from service.

I think of all the little-appreciated people in the world, Pulman porters must have been near the top of the list. The Pulman porter's duty was to arouse passengers who were in no mood to be awakened.....and that is a THANKLESS JOB.'

the task of the PASTOR who faces

But the task of the Pulman Porter at 6:00 a.m. has not been too greatly different from many people who sit in Churches on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m.-------with the expression on their faces that says "DO NOT DISTURB"!

7-The preacher who jests and jokes with his people all week will soon find that he cannot stand in his pulpit on Sunday with power to reprove, rebuke, and exhort. He may be the life of the party, but it will be the death of the prophet!

8-A true Pastor must not only feed the flock, he must also warn the flock. He must not only be zealous, but jealous for them

NB

CONCLUSION:

POINT → SPEAKING FOR THE SAVIOR (2:15)

A.-What Kind Of People Are Christians?:

1-Told in Titus 2:14
--PURCHASED people
--PURIFIED people
--PASSIONATE people
--WHY ???? ?

2-Because we have a Savior Who--IN GRACE--became our Substitute; ------He paid the RANSOM
--He set me FREE
--He gave Himself as a VOLUNTARY SACRIFICE

3-That's the greatest gift that ever was given.....
.....AND....it is "FOR US"

4-So that we could be "a peculiar people" —"a people for His possession"

5-As with Israel--Ex. 19:5--"Ye shall be mine own possession"

6-Have we responded to His GRACE...
...As "HIS POSSESSIONS" ??

Question!

B. What Kind Of Response From Christians?:

1-Grace not deserved--Gives us Salvation
--Gives us Sanctification
--Gives us the Hope of His coming

2-But that grace is FREELY GIVEN, even though we DON'T deserve it

3-HAVE YOU freely received???

4-Obedient life is expected if you are SAVED BY GRACE....

5-Then you're to also be "DISCIPLINED BY GRACE"

6-While you wait for His gracious appearing.

7-How is it with YOU?

- Saved by grace thru Christ?
- Sanctified by grace, so that holy + disciplined life is the result?
- Expectant by grace awaiting the Savior whom you are involvedly serving until He comes again?

Grace upon Grace upon Grace

Westbrae--1/12/69--"Christ Liveth In Me" 512 (2) 207
--"Grace Greater Than All Our Sins" 416 (1) 469
--"Amazing Grace" 385 (3) 487
213
158

~~I Know Whom I Have Believed~~

Chinese Gospel Mission (Redlands) 1/26/69
Calvary Columbus 3/2/75 Hallelujah, What A Savior
Bell Cr. Bapt. Ch, Dixie, WV. 10/1/78 GROWTH IN GRACE—#556
ABC staff — 5/19/81
Petture Bapt Ch. — 5/24/81
Gum Springs Bapt. Ch — 5/24/81
OKBC — 8/31/86
Hilltop Baptist Church — 5/7/95 + 9/25/05 — 2/1/09 — Men's S.S.
Bible Center Church — 10/29/08
Putney Memorial Church — ~~1/24/~~ 3/8/09

"MANIFESTING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE" Titus 3:1-2
Read 1 Pet. 2:13-17; Romans 13:1-14

I
II

INTRO: **A.-The Christian And Public Life:**

1-**Varying views** in the past
--Book "In His Steps" asks the question: "WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?"
--Good question.....
--But you can get **different answers** from different people
--**ALL** of these replies will be **SUBJECTIVE** or personal

2-Schools of thought
*--Some have jumped in with the idea of changing the whole world through their influence; **LIBERALS**
*--Some have tried to wed the church & the state together---EUROPEAN NATIONS + R.C.Ch.
*--Some have tried to retreat from any civic responsibilities outside their group--AMISH, COVENANTERS, BRETHREN

3-There is a **sane, balanced, biblical** position
*--Christian must not plead heavenly citizenship in order to free himself from his responsibilities as an earthly citizen
--Mk. 12:17--"Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's."
- Realistic responsibilities toward BOTH

B.-How Many Are REAL Christians?:

1-Recent US Census of Religion
--35,000 homes questioned
*--91.9 % claimed to be "Christian" in faith
*--Only 2.7 % claimed to have "no religion"
●--HIGH church membership numbers today
●--Yet little to indicate more than mass atheism

RAPE MURDER ARSON BURGLARY AIDS DRUGS AIDS HERPES

2-Highest crime rate ever----AND GOING UP
3-Prov. 14:34--"Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."
4-NOT 91.9 % that are real Christians, but MANY LESS
5-PROP: 6-HOW should the REAL christians respond to Divinely imposed responsibilities in manifesting the Christian life??????
--Seen in the **FAMILY** LIFE (2:1-10)
--Seen now in the **WORLD** (3:1-2) ----READ
I ** Sphere of the **STATE**
II ** Sphere of the **CITIZENS**

PROP
Let's find our answer about God's requirements from God's Word

I.-REGARDING THE STATE--------(Tit. 3:1):

"BE SUBJECT... OBEY"

A."Put Them In Mind To Be Subject":

1"Put them in mind" = "Cause them to know, to remember"
2-**Powers that be** are ordained of God
--Dan. 4:17--"...The Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will, and setteth up over it the basest of men."

--Rom. 13:1--"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers, for there is no power, but of God: The powers that be are ordained of God."

3-We are **to be SUBJECT** to the state in which we are placed !!!

--Voluntarily and willingly subject

--God has sovereignly **PUT you** in your nation

** Not too hard to accept as an American

** Equally true for German, Russian, Chinese !

Same word as Eph. 5:21-22

--Rom. 13:2-3--"Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation (judgment by the magistrate). For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? Do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:

--Government & its officers are **not a TERROR** to the lawful citizen who does good

--Rather, they stand "...the minister (διάκονος) of God to thee for good."

BE-SUBJECT--** For wrath (to be avoided) sake

** For conscience sake

** Either, or both, are adequate reasons for the true believer to be "SUBJECT"

4-ILLUS--An elderly lady from Council Bluffs, Iowa, entered the office of the Traffic Bureau in Omaha, Nebraska, and announced she had come to pay a traffic fine.

The officer on duty asked for her ticket, and blinked uncertainly when she declared, "I DON'T HAVE ONE. **NO ONE SAW ME BREAK THE LAW.**"

She explained that earlier in the week she'd driven thru an Omaha red light. "I'm a christian, and my conscience has been giving me fits."

She left behind $35.00 for her fine, an over-awed police officer, and **a new respect** for christian honesty and law-abiding character--------as evidenced by the fact that the story was carried all over the country on the U/ P. Wire services

5-Whether--STOP signs

--Speed LIMITs

--Or **any other laws** of men, **we are to OBEY** !!!!

this week in preparing for this message — Drivers License was expired. Grace period almost expired. HAD to get it renewed before I could preach to YOU

--ILLUS--P.C.R. with the Christian Police Officer in Dallas during Seminary days

--These things help us to learn to OBEY THE LAWS !!

WHOM

6-We are **to obey**--"Principalities, powers and magistrates"

="Rulers, authorities, & judges" (Tit. 3:1)

--ALL duly constituted authorities in civil realms, even though we live in **an age** of **DISREGARD** for constituted authorities

NB! --Written when Rome & Paul & Crete were under the dominance of IMPERIAL ROME

--Obedient to **rule**, implies obedience to **RULES**!

NB! --Doesn't forbid working lawfully for good government, but it does forbid disobeying even bad government

** --One organization is urging Young People of College age to be **REVOLUTIONARIES FOR CHRIST**, but the Bible never does

(3)

Prov. 24:21--"My son, fear thou the Lord and the King: and meddle not with them that are given to change."

--REDUNDANCY of Tit. 3:1 to exclude all possibility of evasion

-"Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,"

--CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE is plain lawlessness, and in God's Word we are taught that "lawlessness is SIN"

--Regardless of whether the instigation comes from campus revolutionaries, or from clergymen, disobedience of law is OUT for the serious christian

7-REPEAT::::"A christian must not plead heavenly citizenship as a means to free himself from earthly responsibilities of being a good citizen"

::::""Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's." Mk. 12:17

8-AUGUSTINE could boast that when JULIAN asked christians to sacrifice and offer incense to the gods they, at all hazards, sternly refused; but when he summoned them to fight for the empire, they rushed to the front. "They distinguished between their Eternal Lord and their earthly ruler, and yet they yielded obedience to their earthly ruler for the sake of their Eternal Lord."

9-ILLUS--I recall a middle-aged man in my first congregation who was a very young Christian. He had found in the Word that God commands Christians to "obey every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake" (1 Pet. 2:13).

Rushing to a business appointment that involved catching a ferry boat, he found himself late----and tempted to drive 70 in a 50 mile zone.

He said to himself as he slowed down to the legal limit, "Lord, you wrote the Book; I didn't. I am going to obey, even if it costs my appointment."

He thought he would have to wait half an hour for the next ferry, but to his utter amazement, the ferry had been delayed ten minutes, and HE MADE IT. That business man said he had never known that ferry to be off schedule before.

HE THANKED the Lord Who wrote the Book, and learned afresh that all circumstances are held in an OMNIPOTENT HAND--------and thanked the Lord that he had been given a heart to obey the truth.

B.-Are There Exceptions To Expected Obedience?

1-Obedience is expected to all "law and order"

2-Biblical examples of "HIGHER LAW" when there is involved violations of life or of spiritual liberty

--Ex. 1:16-17--Midwives who kept boy babies alive

--Daniel 3--Refusal of 3 Hebrew men to worship the image of King Nebuchadnezzar

--Daniel 6--Edict forbidding prayer to other than the King, & Daniel continued steadfast in his daily devotions

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

--Acts.4:18-22--Forbidden to preach in Jesus' Name

PRINCIPLE --Acts 5:29--"We ought to obey God rather than men"

3-MAKE SURE your "exception" fits such a pattern, and not just your personal prejudices or preferences.!!!'

C.-Put Them In Mind To Be Ready:

1-"To do every good work" --Jury duty
--Posse duty
--Military service
--Public office
--Public servant; Teacher, Fireman, Policeman
--OR ANY CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY you can fulfill in behalf of your community's good — VOTING

Committees of Commissions

2-Plenty that isn't good
--AVOID THIS
--Don't let the "good" be the enemy of the "BEST" in your life

3-That which is "good" is to be done--- "as unto the Lord"

4-As ready to do others a "good turn" as you would to "Preach, pray or die" on a moment's notice

5-Church and state are both ordained of God, but they are not to be united...

D.-How To Accomplish These "READINESSES":

1-Intercede for your country

PRAY

--1 Tim. 2:1-2--"I exhort therefore, that, first of all supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority: that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty."

--ILLUS--Abraham interceding for Sodom & Lot's family who lived there

2-Do our duties as citizens

--Rom. 13:7--"Render therefore to all their dues; tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor"
--Obey laws
--Pay taxes
--Honor leaders — As with PRESIDENT, Congressmen, etc.
--Defend country in time of emergencies — HONORABLE to be in Army, Navy or Air Force
--Be helpful to fellow countrymen

3-Make your personal contribution--To good government
--To public morality
--To eliminate crime & corruption
--To advance nation's well-being
--To uphold righteousness
--Consider yourself responsible as a "Committee of ONE"
--Paul instructs Titus to inform the Cretians that a true christian ought to be known as a GOOD CITIZEN and a DEVOTED PATRIOT
--Not just "Let George do it"

YOUR PART

4-ILLUS.-Sitting on the portico of the Hotel at Long Branch, Admiral Farragut once asked a friend: "Would you like to know how I was enabled to serve my country?"

"It was all owing to a resolution I formed when I was 10 years of age. My father was sent down to New Orleans with the little Navy the United States had then to look after the treason of Burr. I accompanied him as a cabin boy. I had some qualities that I thought made a man of me. I could swear like an old salt, could drink a stiff glass of whiskey as if I had doubled the Horn, and could smoke like a locomotive. I was great at cards and was fond of gambling in every shape."

At the end of dinner one day, my father turned everybody out of the cabin, locked the door, and said to me: "DAVID, WHAT DO YOU MEAN TO BE?"

"I mean to follow the sea," I said

"Follow the sea! Yes, be a poor, miserable, drunken sailor before the mast, kicked and cuffed about the world, and die in some fever hospital in a foreign clime."

"NO", I said. "I'LL TREAD THE QUARTER-DECK AS YOU DO, AND BE A HERO OF MY COUNTRY."

"No, David, my boy," said the father. No one ever trod the quarter-deck with principles such as you have, and such habits as you exhibit. You'll have to change your whole course of life if you ever become a man of honor."

Admiral Farragut went on to tell that his father left him in his quarters and went on deck. "I was stunned by the rebuke, and overwhelmed with mortification. 'A POOR, MISERABLE, DRUNKEN SAILOR BEFORE THE MAST, KICKED & CUFFED ABOUT THE WORLD, & TO DIE IN SOME FEVER HOSPITAL.' ....That's my fate is it?.....I'LL CHANGE my life, and change it at once. I will never utter another oath, never drink another drop of intoxicating liquors; I'll never gamble again."

"And God is my witness. I have kept those three vows to this hour. Shortly after I became a Christian. That act settled my temporal destiny as it settled my eternal destiny -----

-----And thus, Admiral Farragut was set on the path of making his PERSONAL CONTRIBUTION to the welfare both of himself, and his country.

II.-REGARDING THE CITIZENS------(Titus 3:2):

A.-Proving Ground:

1-State-serving is nebulous; hard to pin down
2-Serve INDIVIDUALS--Thus you'll advance the state
--AND, you'll ADORN the doctrine of God in your life
3-Show forth your Christianity in SHOE LEATHER
4-No separation between secular and spiritual for the Xn.
--Dare not neglact your spiritual life
--Dare not neglect your community responsibilities

--When done "heartily as unto the Lord" (Col. 3:23)
--When done for the good of the people

B.-Christian And Those In His World:

1-"To speak evil of no man"
--Example in Jesus Christ
--1 Pet. 2:23--"Who, when He was reviled, reviled not again"
--Slander seems to have been a common fault of these Cretians
AMEN --Believers ought not to slander any
--Most of all, other believers
--Guard the reputation of others "in the family"
--Regardless of provocation
--On no occasion to speak evil
Is it true necessary kind ? 3 TESTS
--Mt. 5:43-44--"Ye have heard that it hath been said, 'Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy.' But I say unto you, 'Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;"
--Maintain a GUARD on your lips
--Greatest sin in the church today relates to LOOSE TONGUES
--Mouth is made for testimony of God's goodness

2-"To be no brawlers"
--Not starters of contentions
--Not participators in contentions
--Not upsetting things by undermining of established order & structure
--REVOLUTION is not our job !!
--Winning the lost is, and that can't be done if we're caught up in battles on lesser issues.
--Better to be GENTLE in voice and attitude, and thus win a hearing
--MILD, but not BLAND

Rom. 12:18 "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men"

3-"Gentle"=="Ethical, Sweetly reasonable"
--This, along with meekness, is an inwrought grace of the Spirit in the soul of a believer

4-"Shewing all meekness"=="Showing kindly forebearance"
--At all times
--To all men
--YIELDING ATTITUDE to others
--Any exceptions will hurt the cause of Christ
--Any exceptions will mar your testimony irreparably
--People remember your FAULTS, and they forget the GOOD
--"The evil that men do lives after them, and the good is oft' interred with their bones." (Mark Antony)
--SO.....Give them only GOOD to remember, as a MEEK servant of Jesus Christ

5
STAND - On doctrine - On practice
BE GRACIOUS - As to men & women - As regards their motives
BE SEPARATE * The person * The practice

6-To show such a christian attitude toward our unsaved neighbors is easier when we remember that we were once like them in character, and would be now like them, if it were not for the GRACE OF GOD operating in us.

CONCLUSION:

A.-Our Spheres:

VERY IMPORTANT for Christians

1-We are **IN** the world
2-We are **NOT OF** the world
3-Our standards of Biblical righteousness cannot be legislatively imposed on the general citizenry
4-Don't expect CHRISTIAN LIFE from those who are not possessed of Christ as Savior

B.-Our Ministries:

Everywhere!

1-We are to **MANIFEST THE CHRISTIAN LIFE**
- --In relation to government
- --In relation to fellow-citizens
- --In all of this we can show **CHRIST ALIVE in us** and in our actions

2-By taking lawful part in the affairs of life which are your opportunity, and using this as a **PLATFORM**, or--**"PULPIT"**---if you prefer
3-From such an opportunity you and I may **preach Christ** and reach others with His life
4-When people see the difference Christ makes in your life then they'll be drawn to...
..**WANT WHAT YOU HAVE !!!**
5-We need to be "**honey**" to draw folks
6-Not "**vinegar**" to repell them
7-Believers must be **WITH PEOPLE** for them to see us, and to See Christ in us----Can't crawl in a hole away from people
** --Must have CONTACT in order to "influencing" "have IMPACT"
8-THEREFORE--Not ~~conforming~~ the whole world (LIBERALISM)
--Not withdrawing from the world (Amish, etc)
--Not a uniting of church & state (Romanism)
OUR TASK --**BUT,** manifesting the life of Christ
** In relation to our country
** In relation to our government
** In relation to fellow-citizens
9-Perhaps it is well summed up in **WESLEY'S SEVEN RULES:**

"Do all the good you can
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.".....After all, isn't that what YOU'D **expect** from a **christian** ???

AMEN

Westbrae--1/19/69--#349 – "I Would Be Like Jesus" (2)
Calvary Columbus 3/9/75 #345 – "Higher Ground" (3)
OKBC – 9/2/86 #27 – Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (1)
TURANGI, NZ – 6/14/92
Bible Center Ch– 11/05/08
Hilltop Bapt. Ch. – 2/15/09 +3/1/09

"THE MASTERPIECE OF GOD" Titus 3:3-8 (12) (1)
John 3:1-3; Titus 3:1-15

INTRO:--A.-Comparison:

1-LONGFELLOW could take a worthless sheet of paper; write a poem on it, and make it worth $60,000. That is TALENT

2-ROCKEFELLER could sign his name to a piece of paper and make it worth millions. That is CAPITAL.

3-[illegible] !!

MONEY.

4-A MERCHANT can take an article he purchases, and sell it off his counter for $1.00, though it only cost him 80 cents. This is BUSINESS.

5-A MECHANIC can take material worth $5.00 and make it into an article worth $50.00. That is SKILL.

6

BUT GOD can take a worthless, sinful life; wash it, cleanse it, and make it a blessing to humanity. That is SALVATION.....

....And that is THE MASTERPIECE OF GOD !

7-Salvation is seen to be properly important, when it is realized to be ESSENTIAL !

B.-Progression In "The Masterpiece Of God":

1-The NEED for this life----------3:3
2-The ORIGIN of this life----------3:4
3-The MEASURE of this life---------3:5a, b
4-The MEDIUM of this life----------3:5c
5-The BASIS of this life----------3:6
6-The RESULT of this life----------3:7
7-The ACTIVITY of this life---------3:8
8-PROP:--To see that this LIFE which is in Christ Jesus is THE Masterpiece of God and
--To know that this life can be yours "!

I.-THE NEED FOR THIS LIFE (3:3):

A.-The State Of Man In General:

1-Descriptive terms used in 3:3

--"Foolish"=="Without understanding of spiritual things
--Eph. 4:18--"Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God thru ignorance..."

--"Disobedient"--UNYIELDING to the righteous demands of the Holy God

--"Deceived"--Not just in a passive sense
--Positively erring; going astray
--"Wandering in error"
--Result of man's sinful nature

--"Serving divers lusts"
** Servants of sin & sins
** Not all serving the same sins
** Not all guilty of the same sins

→ **BUT, ALL GUILTY of non-subjection; of self-will, of living in disobedience
--"And pleasures"=Pleasure-loving & lust-indulging
--Gratification of self
--Sins related to the body
--"Living in malice & envy, hateful & hating one another"
** Attitude of mind & heart
** Corrupt nature is SHOWING
** Life controlled by an evil disposition

2-Very DARK and PITIABLE picture of the natural state of man
--Degradation is evident
--Oh, how such ones need Christ to CHANGE their lives

B.-Hope In This Dark State Of Affairs:

1-"For we ourselves also were sometimes.."
--This describes EVERY MAN !
--Cretians aren't to feel as if they are being singled out for a special blast
-This described US, TOO, before salvation
2-Such were we ourselves before we came to know the love of God
3-NONE are so helpless & hopeless that they cannot be reclaimed
4-We are living proof--Paul, Titus, Cretians, You..& me !
5-Need for this life is made abundantly clear
6-We aren't to think of ourselves as any BETTER than others now that we've been redeemed
7-ILLUS --A man came to a mission station and asked to become a Christian. When he was questioned, he replied that he had never heard the gospel preached. He also said that he could not read. When he was asked how he knew about the gospel, he said that HE HAD SEEN IT.! Although his village was far removed from any preaching center, he explained, there lived a man who had long been known as a worthless opium addict, and a lazy, good-for-nothing. The man had journied to a far-away town & had returned absolutely transformed.! P.T.L.!
He uprooted the poppies in his garden, repaired his house, planted & tended his crops, provided for his family as a decent man should. The former good-for-nothing said that the gospel of Christ had CHANGED HIS LIFE. His neighbor, hearing about it had come all the way to the mission station to become a christian!
The outworkings of the Christian life explained to that neighbor, more potently than any arguments could, THE NEED which he had for the Savior.

This verse shows OUR PAST ! 3:3

II.-ORIGIN OF THIS LIFE (3:4):

OUR PRESENT 3:4-6 !

A.-Divine Intervention:

1-State of man was humanly HOPELESS--Can't save himself
2-"BUT" indicates God breaking in to human experience
3-"After"--This intervention had a time of beginning
-Happened in the Person & time of God's Son coming to earth.

• INVASION from outer space

B.-Divine Provision:

1-"**Kindness**" -- God's own character of benevolence
- -Graciousness expressed in this
- --We don't want our "Just deserts"
- --We need GRACE & MERCY
- --ILLUS --Woman came to Napoleon to plead for the life of her son, who was scheduled to be executed. Napoleon said to her: "HE DOESN'T DESERVE MERCY". She immediately replied: "No one does! I'm not asking for JUSTICE, I am pleading for MERCY."

2-"Love" -- "Kindness" shows God's tender dealing w/ us
- --"Philanthropy", "compassion for mankind"
- --Grows out of God's nature
- --John 3:16
- --Rom. 5:5 "Hope maketh not ashamed because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."
- NB --Doing for us what we cannot do for ourselves, & do not deserve to have done
- --Out of the BOUNDLESS RESERVOIR of God's love.

3-"Of God our Savior" -- Ref. is to the FATHER
- --Architect of our salvation
- --ONLY SOURCE of eternal life

4-"Toward man" -- WE're the ones in need !!
- --So, we're the ones He intended to help
- --So very different from the usual unkindness of man to other men

5-"Appeared" -- Originates with the Father
- -Expressed in the INCARNATION

Coming down to meet our need / grace

6-THEREFORE, there is no ground for self-exaltation, no excuse for haughtiness toward others, for what we are now is solely because our new life was given to us freely by God !!

III.-MEASURE OF THIS LIFE (3:5a, b):

A.-What This Life Is NOT Measured By:

1-"NOT" -- Key word
- --Shows immediate denial of human measure

2-"By works of righteousness, which we have done"
- --We DO have works, all of us
- --Some works are of righteousness
- --BUT, they are of HUMAN righteousness; the efforts of the unsaved to merit salvation
- --This cannot be denied
- --But, human righteousness does not pass as the "Current coin" in the kingdom of God
- IMP --Human righteousness has NO SAVING VALUE !
- --"Not the labors of my hands can fulfill THY law's demands"
- --[1 Tim. 1:9] -"Knowing this, that the law is not made for the righteous man, but for the lawless & disobedient, for the ungodly & for sinners, for unholy & profane, for murderers.
- --SAD EXPERIENCE, more forcibly than any theological argument, has demonstrated to us all, the utter impossibility of any of us, even the holiest, ever, even for 1 day, doing the works of righteousness of a purely holy & righteous man.

--THUS, the human righteousness is NOT a measure of the "LIFE" as it is in Christ Jesus.

(4)

B.-What This Life IS Measured By:

1-"BUT"--Adversative which turns our eyes to GOD'S MEASURE

2-"According to HIS mercy"

* ==="In virtue of His mercy"

* --Mercy is that characteristic in God which responds to the dire need of man

** Grace is receiving what we don't deserve

** Mercy is NOT RECEIVING what we DO deserve

--Mercy centers the measure of this New Life in God Himself

--Mercy shows HIS CONCERN for us

*** He can't accept any cooperation from us in salvation, but must LAVISH mercy to do us good

--As deep as His mercy.....So deep is our need !

IMP--SO, God's mercy is the MEASURE of our salvation

3-"HE SAVED US"--ALL of God !

--Jonah 2:9--"Salvation is of the Lord."

--Jn. 3:3-7--"Anothen"== "From above" "born again"

--Agency of faith is not in view here, as the UNABASHED FACT is declared

--If you are saved, He did it !!

4-ILLUS--Young lady at Hume Lake Conference several years ago, who had tried to commit SUICIDE before she came to camp, but God had spared her life.

Saved at H. S. Camp, and then at the Fagot Service. she testified that since the Lord had saved her soul & preserved her life, she was giving her life fully back to the Lord again to direct as He would desire.

IV.-MEDIUM OF THIS LIFE (3:5c):

A.-The ACT of Salvation:

1-"By the washing"=="Laver", "bathing", "Performing of a complete ablution"

NB --Nothing of water baptism is in view here

--SPIRITUAL BATH of the NEW BIRTH

--Spirit baptism is in view

--Not a DROP of water here

* --Not ritual, but reality

--ILLUS--Exodus 29:1-4--Washing of Priests at their consecration to service

2-"Of regeneration"

--NEW BIRTH (Jn. 3)

--Work of GOD for man / HIS ACT

* --Hayner--"You always enter God's hospital as a CHARITY CASE. You can't pay your own way !!"

--Onee for all action of BIRTH into the family

--This is not RENNOVATION

--Rennovation takes place AFTER salvation / and it is a PROCESS

! --Regeneration is an ACT OF GOD in a moment.

3-Work of the Spirit to impart life as a spiritual reality just as physical life was imparted in the Garden of Eden

4-Christ uses the word λελουμένος in Jn. 13:10--"He that has been completely bathed with the present result that he is bathed"

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5

(Perf. Tense) "needeth not save to wash (NIPTW) his feet."

5-ILLUS --Those who are clever enough to invent thing usually refine & improve their product constantly. This is true, no matter what the product may be.

One of the old established BREAKFAST CEREAL companies recently came out with a new advertising campaign, heralding a NEW ATTRACTIVE BOX for their cereal. The simple "sales-pitch" was that since they had a product so good, it could no longer be improved upon------SO, they put it in a BETTER BOX.

While that philosophy may work for a cereal it has no place in our spiritual lives. Religious systems seek to refine & cultivate the EXTERIOR of man, failing at the same time to meet his real heart-needs. Reformation of the OUTSIDE is thus made to appear synonymous with regeneration of the INSIDE.

To be BORN AGAIN means that all things are become new,....not just a reformed exterior. This is to become a partaker of the salvation which is received by an ACT of faith in response to the ACT of salvation being made available.

B.-The PROCESS Of Salvation:

1-"And renewing"--"Making new", "Making over from scratch

NB --This is a PROCESS, & it takes TIME!

--This occurs after salvation

--It is sufficient to observe here that much of the controversy about regeneration might have been avoided had men kept before them the analogy of natural birth, followed as it is immediately, NOT by vigourous manhood, BUT by INFANCY and childhood & youth

NB

--Rom. 12:2--"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, .."

--2 Cor. 4:16--"For which cause we faint not; but tho our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day."

YES! --"It takes time for the sluffing off of the old life." H. A. IRONSIDE

--This "sluffing off" is the PROCESS of salvation becoming experiencial by the renewing of the Holy Ghost

2-"And of the Holy Ghost"

--HE is the Person who applies salvation

--HE is the Person who activates sanctification

--HE is both the OBSTETRICIAN and the PEDIATRICIAN

--The washing secures us a claim on the Spirit for the "renewing" as surely as birth gives a child claim upon its parents for shelter & food.

V.-THE BASIS OF THIS LIFE (3:6):

"And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you Another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever" (6)

A.-The Father's Part:

1-"Holy Ghost which He shed on us abundantly" -- All of the saved ones

2-FATHER is the source--Allusion to Joel 3 & Acts 2

--Answer to Christ's prayer (Jn.14:16)

--"Which" refers to the Spirit, & so should read "WHOM"

3-Once the Spirit was given, He is NOT RETRACTED !!! !!! AT Pentecost

4-Capable of fulfillment after the cross & Pentecost

5-Shedding His upon US,,,,,,BELIEVERS

Until the Rapture

B.-The Spirit's Part:

1-"Abundantly"--reminds us of the provision for our spiritual life

--Jn. 3:34 for Christ

--Rom. 5:5 for us

The need

2-Problem is not to get more of the Spirit, but for the Spirit to get more of you,,,,of me,,,of us

C.-The Son's Part:

1-"Through Jesus Christ"--As God is the ARCHITECT of salv.

--So Christ is the BUILDER of salv.

--All gifts are administered by the Holy Spirit

--But their SOURCE is from Christ

--Eph. 4:8--"Wherefore He saith, When He ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and He gave gifts unto men."

"And hope maketh not ashamed because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."

2-"Our Savior"--THE ONE Who made it all effective by the sacrifice of Himself

NB → 3-THUS, this LIFE--the "Masterpiece of God"--is on the basis of the work of the Triune God ! --OUR PRESENT REALITY

VI.-THE RESULTS OF THIS LIFE (3:7): --OUR POSITION IN CHRIST

A.-Justification:

1-"Being"--"Having been" (Past tense)

--Already accomplished at the cross

2-"JUSTIFIED"--"Declared righteous"

="Freed from the future punishment & consequences of sin and received into the favor & friendship of God"

Both (--NEGATIVELY;;;;;Cleared of all guilt

--POSITIVELY;;;;;Invested with all the righteousness of Christ

--Justification is an outworking, a result, of salvation

3-"By His grace"--Modus operandi of salvation is GRACE

XX --This is ALL OF GOD

--Tit. 2:11 "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men."

--Mercy works by grace thru faith

--Rom. 3:24, 26--"Being justified freely by His grace thru the redemption that is in Christ Jesus...To declare at this time His righteouness: that he might be just, & the

Justifier of him which believeth in Jesus."
4-This justification is FOR NOW !!! Declared righteous ! (7)

B.-Heirship:
1-"...We should be made HEIRS"
2-Highest attainment in life
3-Heavenly position is in view
4-Rom. 8:17--"And if children, then heirs: heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together
5-1 Jn. 3:2--"Beloved NOW are we the sons of God..."
6-Share EQUALLY with Christ
7-WHAT HIGH PRIVILEGE is ours as children of our Heavenly Father
8-This heirship is MINE....and YOURS !!! Now!
OUR POSITION

C.-Hope:
1-"...according to the hope of eternal life"
2-Not in doubt as though: "I HOPE SO"
3-But with FULL, settled assurance
4-Hope is of eternal life as a present possession & reality
5-EXPERIENCING--Help for today
--Bright HOPE for tomorrow
6-Present possession into which we continue to find an enlarging fulness!
7-I HAVE eternal life now in a dying body, but one day body, soul, and spirit will be conformed to the image of God's Son and that will be LIFE INDEED !!!

VII.-ACTIVITY OF THIS LIFE (3:8):
OUR PRACTICE

A.-Summary Of 3:3-7:
1-Summary is found in 3:8
2-Belief in God is not a matter of THEORY or of SPECULATION, but of PRACTICE !!
3-Belief must be accompanied by steady performance of good works as its commanded duties. True faith practically unites the beautiful & the profitable
4-"This is a faithful saying"
--That is, 3:3-7
--Message of God's reaching out to man in man's need

B.-The Activity Explained:
1-"And these things I will that thou affirm constantly"
--Not just to be said ONCE
YES --But to be strenuously & often affirmed
--Woven into a tapestry of our faith + FAITHFULNESS
2-"That they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works"
--Good works DON'T SAVE
--But the saved are to WORK
But they do ADORN the doctrine of God-2:10
--"Saved by faith alone, but not by a faith that is alone." CALVIN

--It is significantly suggestive that the Apostle held that **good works** were most certainly assured by a theology which gives **special prominence** to FREE UNMERITED **GRACE** of God

3-"**These things** are **good** and **profitable** unto men"

--**ACTIVITY** of the life which is the Masterpiece of God, is the activity of **GOOD WORKS** in PRACTICE

--Many people **TALK**

--**The godly** ones **ALSO PRODUCE** !

--Good and profitable ** To the saved
** To their observers
** To their God
** Christianity is a **PRACTICAL FAITH** & it shows in good works.

--**ILLUS**--Lk. 19:8 "And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken anything from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold."
--Acts 19:18-20

--Principle of Prov. 20:11--"Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure and whether it be right."

4-**ARE YOU** so known as --A genereus person
--A public spirited person
--A self-sacrificing believer for the good of others?

-Each believer should be!

CONDLUSION:

A.-The Masterpiece Of God---THE SAVED MAN:

1-ILLUS--Before the last Olympic games the contestants who represented the U.S.A. were **chosen** by certain **rules**. Anyone in the whole nation could have run up & down in the vicinity of the stadium. Before entering the stadium, many visitors might have **confused** such a person with **the real** members of the team. But **none** of the **IMITATORS** would have been **allowed** by the Judges **to compete** in the events, & therefore, none of them would have been eligible for the prizes.

It is precisely **the same** in the race of Christian life. Many people are running around in "**CHRISTIAN UNIFORM**", drawing the gaze of the casual onlooker who does not know the "**MARKS**" of a true Christian, & who does not realize that all **Gentiles** are **NOT christians**, & that many thousands of **church members do not possess** the supernatural **life of Christ**.

2-**WHO DOES** have that life???

--Ones who recognize their NEED for this life
--Those who understand the ORIGIN of this life
--Persons who have properly MEASURED this life
--Ones accepting the MEDIUM of this life as thru the Spirit
--Believers experiencing the BASIS of this life thru the ministry of Father, Son & Spirit
--Those who adually enjoy the RESULTS of this life NOW
--AND...**Who lives** in the ACTIVITY of the life that expresses his salvation in good works

3-How this kind of man is needed in our day !!!

B.-Applications:

1-Are you such a person ??

2-Think **what you're missing** if you don't **experience** what God has prepared as "The Masterpiece" for you

3-**Don't stop short** of victory

4-Prov. 16:3--"Commit thy works unto the Lord, & thy thought shall be established."

5-ILLUS --On one occasion Dr. E. Schyler English told the story of his wife driving out into Pennsylvania's Lancaster County & **purchasing** an antique mantle for a fireplace that was being built in their home.

When the mantle was delivered, marred by age & wear, and old paints of many colors that were now dried out & peeling, Dr. English looked it over with considerable misgivings Not knowing how to express himself in a way that would avoid being offensive to his wife's taste, he finally said: **"It surely looks old enough."**

In due course the 150 year old Mantle was **sanded** & **repaired**, and once again it was a thing of beauty. Neither Dr. English nor the contractor **could conceive** what it would look like when it was completed. But Mrs. English had **visualized** that **finished product** from the start.

HOW LIKE what our Lord sees in us----"The Masterpiece of God"

.....but not yet having received the "finishing touches"

Westbrae---2/2/69 "Go To The Deeps Of God's Promise"--330 (3)
Calvary Columbus 3/16/75 "He Ransomed Me" 322 (1)
OKBC - 9/21/86 "Verily, Verily" 205 (2)
Hilltop Baptist Ch - 5/14/95 - 3/22/09 - Men's Class + 4/5/09

"WORKS AS GOD SEES THEM" Titus 3:8
Eph. 2:1-22; Rom. 4:4-5

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INTRO: **A.-Principle Of Works:**

1-Let us read together Ecclesiastes 12:1, 13-14
--12:1--Remember NOW...in the days of thy YOUTH
--WHY ??
--12:13-14 says that "...God shall bring every work into judgment"
--There is a day ahead of AN AUDIT OF GOD's BOOKS regarding each one !!

2-HOW WILL GOD JUDGE ??.....on what PRINCIPLES ?
--Rom. 2:2--"acc. to truth" "IMPARTIALITY"
--Rom. 2:5-6--"acc. to deeds" "MY GOSPEL"
--In other words:
** No mistakes will be made
** Your--and my--evaluation will be on the basis of WORKS

3-WHERE will this take place and WHEN ??
--Believers at Bema
--2 Cor. 5:10--"For we must all appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."
--Unbelievers at G. W. T.
--Rev. 20:12-15---Let's read it together

B. Kinds Of Works:

1-Determine KINDS of works as God sees them
--EVIL works
--Dead works
--WICKED works
--Abominable works
--GOOD works

5 Kinds acc to Scr.

2-Determine HOW these works are gotten by a person
--Naturally ??
--Supernaturally ??

3-Determine that I get the right kind of works
4-After all, eternal destiny is at stake
**5-ONLY ONE ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY on this subject, & that is God's Word

C.- PROP:

--Unacceptable works
--Acceptable works
--Good works

It is imperative that we understand how God views WORKS, and that we adjust our actions accordingly.

I.-UNACCEPTABLE WORKS:

A.-Evil or Wicked Works:

1-Various terms used in Scr.
--"Wicked works" - Derived from THE WICKED ONE
Kakos
--Col. 1:21--"..enemies in your minds by wicked works
--Neh. 9:35--"For they have not served the ...neither turned they from their wicked works."
--"Evil works"
--Eccles. 8:11--"Because sentence against an evil work is not speedily execute d, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil

--2 Tim. 4:18--"And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, & will preserve me..."
--James 3:16--"...enemies in your minds by wicked works"
--"Abominable works" (that causes pain) trivial, worthless
--Ps. 14:1--"The fool hath said in his heart, 'There is no God.' They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good."

2-These works may be SECULAR. = Eldest son of Adam + Eve
--ILLUS--Cain Non-bloody offering
--1 Jn. 3:12--"Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous"
3-Works may be RELIGIOUS--Mt. 7:21-23 (READ) πονηρος
4-Problem------No GOOD in any of these works
--Out-and-out rebellious works
--Anti-God in character

B.-Dead Works: νεκρος

1-Two references in Scripture Dead = Unable to produce life
--Heb. 6:1--"Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,"
--Heb. 9:14--"How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God."
--These dead works are "DEAD FORMALISM" in the translation of the Amplified Bible

2-Moralistic attempts by the unsaved to provide life
--Thru reformation
--Thru works
--Thru "turning over new leafs" Not enough Spoil the new as we spoiled the former "leaves"
3-Problem------NO LIFE in thse dead works
4-ILLUS--Lk. 11:24-26 (read)
--Dead works and reformation do not improve the state or status of a man who is possessed of demons
--Neither will they help you on your way to heaven !!

C.-Conclusion Concerning Unacceptable Works:

1-EQUALLY UNABLE to give the gift of LIFE !
2-Titus 1:15-16
3-ILLUS--Example seen in "Moral Re-Armament", "Buchmanism" or "Oxford Group" as it is variously called
--This is SALVATION BY WORKS
--Slogan--"Remaking the world thru humanism principles"
4-ILLUS--A Scotchman was once asked HOW MANY it took to convert him to Christ....."TWO", he replied.
"Two!" How was that?"-----Didn't GOD do it all?"
His answer was, "The Almighty and myself converted me. I did all I could AGAINST it, and the Almighty did all He could FORit.....and He was victorious!"
5-What, then, is the answer to our need that UNACCEPTABLE WORKS will not meet?

(3)

II.-ACCEPTABLE WORKS:

SALVATION is a PERSON!

A.-Person Of Acceptable Works!

1-Acceptable PERSON of God's sinless Son
2-Acceptable PRICE of innocent blood shed on the cross

B.-How Do I Relate To Acceptable Works?!

1-Paul's message--Acts 26:20--"Do works meet for repentance"

2-WHAT WORKS ??--Jn. 6:29--"Jesus answered & said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent."
--Acceptable works, then, are only to be found in the exercise of faith

Jesus' words

3-ILLUS--A boy at sea who was very fond of climing to the masthead, one day climed to the maintruck and could not get down. The sea was very rough, and it was seen that in a little while, the boy would tire of hanging on---fall on the deck, and be dashed to pieces.

His father saw but one way of saving his sons life. Seizing a speaking horn, he cried out, "SON, THE NEXT TIME THE SHIP LURCHES, LET GO---AND FALL INTO THE SEA."

The next time the ship lurched over, the boy looked down---and not liking the way the angry sea looked--he hung on the tighter.! The father saw that his boy's strength would soon fail him, so he took a GUN in hand & cried out:

"SON, IF YOU DO NOT DROP INTO THE SEA THE NEXT TIME THE SHIP ROLLS OVER, I'LL SHOOT YOU."

The boy knew his father meant it, & the next time the ship rolled over, he leaped into the sea. It seemed as if it meant certain destruction, but out went a dozen brawny arms, and HE WAS SAVED.....

The sinner in the midst of the storm of life thinks he must cling to the mast of his works to be saved. Says the Word of God, "LET GO YOUR WORKS.... DROP INTO THE OCEAN OF GOD's LOVE."

"NO," says the sinner, "it is such a long way between me and God's love I must perish if I have only that to rely upon; I must have some OTHER RELIANCE."

IF YOU HAVE ANY OTHER RELIANCE than the love of God, then YOU ARE LOST !!!!.

and the sacrifice of Christ

Then comes the happy moment when the sinner says, "Dear Lord, I give up all my self-dependence, and cast myself on Thee; I take Christ Jesus to be one one object of hope, my full trust, my refuge---THE ONLY REFUGE I have---for my soul."

4-Rom. 4:3-5 Abraham's Example

5-Not assent to dogmas, Not practices of a church, BUT FAITH in the Living God !!!

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

C-Conclusion Concerning Acceptable Works:

1-Believe & receive Christ as Savior
2-Be born again
3-Eph. 2:8-10
4-Confidence can be yours
5-Phs. 1:6--"Being confident of this very thing, that He that hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ

Facts. Person. in what God has planned and Christ has purchased

The place of works - Eph. 2:10

III.-GOOD WORKS:

kalos = That which is intrinsically good, goodly, fair, beautiful

A.-Attention To Basics:

1-Impossible for unsaved to have good works
--Isa. 64:6--"But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags;"
--ILLUS--As a boy I was picking cherries on my mother's small farm to take into the local growers market, to be taken to the cannery. I was just 9 when my father left my mother & we to fend for ourselves, so I had many things to learn for myself, for I had no father to give me guidance as to what was RIGHT, and what was WRONG.

I picked about 12 or 14 lugs of cherries one day to take in for grading and weighing. One lug was not quite full when I finished the last tree of BING CHERRIES.

There was just one other tree on the farm that had cherries on it.....BUT..... it was another kind of cherry---BLACK REPUBLICANS. I thought about it for awhile---not too long---but a while. Then I moved my ladder over to that tree & picked enough to fill up the last lug box. I put the small cherries on the bottom---and covered it all over on top with the large Bings.....And I thought I was very smart !!!

When they were brought to the growers market, I was horrified to see the grader digging very deep into each of the boxes to get a sample from which to jugge their quality.....digging especially into that box that had small ones on the bottom.

When he came up with the wrong kind & size of cherries out of that one box, he looked at me, and said: "UNACCEPTABLE".....He turned to a man standing there ready to truck the cherries away, and he said: "Don't weigh them----Take them out in the alley and DUMP THEM All. We will have no such cherries received here."

All of my pleas---all of my explanations that there were only improper cherries in one box---all of this went in one ear and out the other. He just repeated the one word: "UNACCEPTABLE".....And you can be sure that I've never forgotten the lesson of my boyhood

2-Like to make it clear, WORKS won't be accepted as the means of salvation---"UNACCEPTABLE"
3-Works are EXPECTED as the result of salvation, though
--Tit. 2:14
--Tit. 3:8
--Eph. 2:8-10

PRODUCT or result

4-PRINCIPLE--Mt. 20:26-28
--Voluntary submission, not legal;
--Works out of the response of a redeemed heart
--Tit. 3:1

5-PATTERN----------Pastor leading the flock - Example
--Tit. 2:7
--By prayer for ourselves & for others
--Col. 1:9-10--"For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom & spiritual understanding; that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;"

6-PURPOSE--Mt. 5:16--"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven
--1 Pet. 2:12--"Having your conversation honest --among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation."
--Heb. 13:21--"Make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in H s sight.."
--Works seen
--Glory gotten unto God

Good works that honor the Father.
That is man's ultimate purpose

7-PLACE--------Your good works are good enough in themselves--good enough in your generation--but they will NEVER DO for a FOUNDATION to rest upon

8-ILLUS--Hypothetical story of a foolish man who went to a place where a house was being built, & seeing a number of flower pots standing there, took them and laid them in the trench which had been dug for the foundation.
"WHAT ARE YOU DOING?" asked one of the workmen.
"Why, I'm laying a foundation!" was the reply.
"WHAT,----with FLOWER POTS?"
"I didn't know that was wrong," he said.
The workman replied, "Well, take them away; they won't do for the foundation!!!!"
"Oh," said the foolish man, "you are finding fault with my flower pots, are you."
"NO," came the workman's reply, "I AM NOT. They are not being found fault with, but I am finding fault with the PLACE WHERE YOU PUT THEM. They will be good enough for an ornamentation for the top, but they will not do for the bottom."

NB

--SO IT IS WITH WORKS----They will do at the TOP of the structure of salvation, but they will not do as the bottom.
--As a foundation for the soul to rest upon, nothing will suffice but the righteousness of Christ and His finished work on Calvary. This is our hope of salvation!!!
--Our good works are good enough AFTERWARDS, when God the Holy Spirit by His grace works faith & love & all good things in us.

- ADORNMENT, but not foundation

About GOOD WORKS

B.-Addressed To Men:

1-**Elders**--1 Tim. 3:1--"This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work."

2-**Rulers** are **no hindrance** to good works

1-Rom. 13:3--"For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? Do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:"

2-**Preparation**:

1-2 Tim. 2:21--"If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, & meet for the Master's use, and prepared unto every good work."

6-ILLUS--A new Pastor arrived in a community & went visiting in the afternoon. He met a little boy on the sidewalk & asked him his name, age, where he went to school, and then if his DAD was a Christian.

The little boy answered, "He's a Christian all right, according to what he says, but HE'S **NOT WORKING AT IT.**"

C.-Addressed To Women:

1-**Modest** women

1-1 Tim. 2:9-10--"IN like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; but (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works"

2-**Older** women

1-1 Tim. 5:10--"Well reported of for good works..."

3-**Virtuous** woman

1-Prov. 31:31--"Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates

2-Dorcas--Acts 9:36--"Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did."

3-Woman who anointed Jesus — Mary of Bethany

1-Mt. 26:10--"When Jesus understood it, he said unto them, Why trouble ye the woman? For she hath wrought a good work upon me."

4-**WORKS** are "love made visible" — Well stated!

D.-How Furnished For Good Works:

1-By THE **WORD**--2 Tim. 3:16-17

2-By **Mutual provoking**--Heb. 10:24--"Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works."

CALVIN--"His grace necessarily brings along with it newness of life, because they who are still the servants of sin make void the blessing of redemption. But now we are released from the bondage of sin, that we may serve the righteousness of God."

3-By GIVING--2 Cor. 9:8--And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work

1-1 Tim. 6:17-19--"Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in

uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life."

5-By PERSONAL EVALUATION of our labors

6-Gal. 6:4--"Let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."

7-By a Problem text--Phs. 2:12--Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, WORK OUT your own salvation with fear and trembling."

--WHAT DOES IT MEAN???? ?

--You can be so overfed you don't have time to digest. Often the reason you don't digest is that you don't take any exercise for God

--ILLUS--In the old days in Germany the orthodox Jews would nail the foot of a fat goose to a board so he couldn't take any exercise. Then they would poke grain down his throat until he got so fat he couldn't have moved if he hadn't been nailed down. When he got where he was "all fat", they killed the goose; put him in the oven; & rendered out the grease

--SOME CHRISTIANS ARE LIKE THAT. They love the Word of God, but they don't go out & share what has been preached to them. They don't go out strong in the Lord & the power of His might to do exploits for God.

--They just develop SPIRITUAL INDIGESTION------"a GOOSE GREASE christian"

--Spiritual exercise in good works is essential for the believer who will be balanced

--ILLUS--Baseball pitcher's ARM has to be "Worked out" to get it in shape & keep it in shape for effective use as an offensive weapon----------So also the Christian who is expected to "WORK OUT" his salvation

CONCLUSION:

A.-Evil & Dead Works:

1-Can't save

2-Can't give life

B.-Acceptable Works:

1-Salvation through Christ

2-Jn. 6:29--"This is the work of God , that ye believe on Him whom God hath sent"

3-Salvation is ONLY found in Christ

4-Acts 4:12

5-ILLUS--I remember what the Scotch preacher said when he was dying. Someone said to him, "WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?" Said he, "I am just gathering all my good works up together, & I am throwing them overboard; & I am lashing myself to the plank of FREE GRACE, and I expect to arrive home in glory-land on it"

DO LIKEWISE---if you expect to get to heaven

C.-Good Works: AFTER salvation.

8

1-Expected of EVERY Christian.....& they need to be GOOD

2-Need to be "working at it" as believers

3-HENRY VAN DYKE--"The world has small need of a religion which consists solely or chiefly of emotions & raptures. But the religion that follows Jesus Christ, alike when He goes up into the hi[gh] mountain to pray, & when He comes down to the dark valley to work; the religion that listens to Him, alike when He tells us of the peace & joy of the Fathers's house, and when He calls us to feed His lambs; the religion that is willing to suffer as well as to enjoy, to labor as well as worship God, and has a heart to love man, and a hand to help in every good cause--is pure & undefiled."

Or 4-Tit. 3:8--"This is a faithful saying, & these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men."

Your WORKS

BENEDICTION--2 Thess. 2:16-17--"Now our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, Comfort your hearts, & stablish you in every good word and work."

Westbrae--2/9/69--"I Am Not Skilled To Understand"---154 (2)
"Nothing But The Blood" 130 (1)
"His Way With Thee" 346 (3)

Calvary Columbus 4/6/75

OKBC - 10/5/86

Bible Center Ch - 11/29/08

Hilltop Bapt. Ch - 4/19/09

"How To Deal With Heresy" Titus 3:9-11

INTRO:

A.-The Principle of LEAVEN:

1-It GROWS!---Silently, steadily & relentlessly

2-It starts little.....but it does not stay little

3-EXPANDS tremendously

4-ILLUS--Overflowing dough over a basin onto a table & onto the floor

B.-The Problem of Leaven:

1-SYMBOL in Scripture of the growth of EVIL Skepticism

--Leaven of Sadducees is Denial of supernatural/RES

--Leaven of Pharisees is ceremonialism in religion

--Leaven OfHerodians is materialism/ WORLDLINESS

2-"The Kingdom of heaven is likened unto leaven" (Mt. 13:33) according to Jesus' parable

3-MEANING--Inside the professing Church, which includes both real & counterfeit Christians, problems of a very serious nature will be found

4-One of the very real problems today is HERESY !

5-Richard DeHaan: "When there is a substituting of man-made beliefs in the place of God's holoness, debased human standards of conduct gradually replace the high moral principles God has established. When a person loses sight of the absolutes of God's Word as the expression of His holiness,he's on a moral toboggan slide. Man's code of ethics has been substituted for the principles of God's Word." (HOW TO HANDLE A HERETIC, P.2, 2 Peter 2)

DEF.

6-UNGER 's BIBLE DICTIONARY--"A doctrinal departure from revealed truth" by a believer;....a disturbance of the unity of doctrine & fellowship in the local Church

7-PROPOSITION:--We need to know clearly what the problem of heresy is so that we can follow the procedures of God's Word for handling heresy !

8Explanation --The problem of heresy in the Church is not a matter to be taken lightly. Its influence is widespread & its effects devastating !

I.-THE PROBLEM OF HERESY:

A.-The Definition:

1-VINE: "A heretic is a follower of a particular truth or perversion of truth to his personal advantage. Formation of a division, sect or party which divides the Body of Christ is the result."---SAVED, BUT IN ERROR !

2-A factious or sectarian person with a doctrinal or practical "HOBBY HORSE" (Vol. II, P.217)

-A believer, but out of balance
-Contentious, carnal &party-spirited

3-"What a person believes can bring him eternal life---or it can destroy him. This is the reason heresy is so dangerous, both for the one who pronotes it & for the one who may be mislead by it." (R. E. DeHaan)

B.-The Distinctions: (Tit. 3:8-10)

1-Wholesome Values--Tit. 3:8
- -Produce GOOD WORKS
- -Excellent in nature; pleasing
- -"Profitable"==Useful,advantagous

2-Heretical Values--(Tit. 3:9)

a --FOOLISH QUESTIONS
- **Whether Phoebe was a Deaconess or not
- **Number of Spiritual Gifts God has given
- **Number of angels that can dance on the head of a pin
- **Questions that are stupid, & to no point

b-GENEALOGIES
- **Such as occupy the attention of Mormons
- **No need for such in the age of grace, for not one's physical birth & lineage, but our birth from above is what really matters !

c-CONTENTIONS & STRIVINGS ABOUT THE LAW
- **Tend to gender strfe, not unity
- **Attempt to give a permanence to the LAW, which God intended as a "Schoolmaster" to lead us to Christ
- **Mosaic Law was fulfilled by Christ & DONE AWAY in Christ !
- **Law was designed to curb the ungodly, not be a rule of life for Christians

d-VERDICT OF GOD on such heretical values
- ** Unprofitable & vain
- ** No result in the Christian life
- **No power to produce noble character or pure conduct

3-Heretical Persons (Tit. 3:10)
- -People engulfed in their perverted views
- -Majoring on minors, instead of on major issues
- -Difference between a HORSE and a HOBBY HORSE
- -A person who chooses doctrines he prefers & leaves the rest---and so becomes UNBALANCED

C.-The Difficulty: (Tit. 3:11)

1-He is perverted
2-He is sinning
3-He is condemned by his own actions
4-ILLUS:--Farrell Wallace & his reaction to teaching on DEACONNESSES

5-Distinguish:

HERETIC:	APOSTATE:
**Probably saved; Rebellious	**Not saved
**Deviant in some areas	**Denies truth, most areas
**An erring brother	**An enemy of truth

D.-The Details Of Today's Heresies:

1-Eternal security as a "damnable doctrine"
2-Hyper-dispensationalism, which denies water baptism & the Lord's table from the Church as ordinances for this age.
3-Charismatic movement which imposes false standards of spirituality & authority of experience
4-Ecumenical evangelism which confuses going with the believers with going with the gospel with going to the lost with the gospel.
5-Covenant theology's failing to distinguish Israel from the Church

E.-Reactions To Heresy:

1-"Mind your own business! What I believe is my business
2-Perhaps, but your beliefs & actions as a believer affect me, because we are members of the same Body
3-HERESY DOES EXIST, and causes CONFUSION!!
4-What, then, are we to do about Heresy????

II.-THE PROCEDURE WITH HERESY:

A.-What Areas Do The Scriptures Delineate?:

1-Debasing Immorality--1 Cor. 5:1-13
--Includes all kinds of perversion
--1 Cor. 6:9-11

2-Doctrinal Perversion
--1 Tim. 6:3-5 deals with HETERODOXY contrary to the Apostle's wholesome words & out of harmony with the teacings of our Lord
--EXAMPLES** Circumcision of Gentiles (Gal.2:10
**Hymenaeus & Alexander-1 Tim. 1:19-20
**Denial of resurrection -2 Tim.2:16-18
** Lordship salvation
** Denial of Christ's ETERNAL SONSHIP

3-DISORDERLY WALK
--2 TH. 3:6-16 where some would not work, but took advantage of gracious brethren
--Gal.3:11-21 where Peter & eventually Barnabas showed hypocrisy in their different behavior toward Gentiles after Jews arrived

--2 Tim. 4:10 where Demas is spoken of as having "forsaken me, having loved this present world"

--2 Tim. 4:14 where Alexander the coppersmith is spoken of as one who "did me much evil." Paul says "The Lord reward him according to his works."

--Phil. 4:2-3 where two Phillipian women are the heart concern of Paul, "that they be of the same mind in the Lord."

B.-What Attitudes Does The Bible Demand:

1-A spirit of MEEKNESS--Gal. 6:1
2-A spirit of GENTLENESS--2 Tim. 2:24-26
3-A spirit of BROTHERLINESS--2 Th. 3:15

C.-What Actions Does The Bible Detail?:

1-The BASIC PLAN--Matt. 18:15-17
--Gal. 6:1
2-The BASIC PURPOSE--Reconcilliation of brethren
--Restoration of relationships
3-The BASIC PRACTICES if the brother is not responsive

a--"Note him" (2 Th. 3:14) or "Mark him" (Rom.16:17) PERSONAL ACTION

b--"Admonish him" (2 Th. 3:16) VERBAL ACTION

c--"Withdraw from him" (2 Th. 3:7) or "Have no company with him" (2 Th. 3:11 & 1 Cor. 5:9-11) PHYSICAL ACTION

d--"Reject him" (Tit. 3:10-11), or "Purge out" (1 Cor. 5:7), or "Put away" (1 Cor. 5:13), oe "let him be unto you as an heathen man & a publican" (Matt. 18:17) EXPULSION ACTION

D.-What Does God's Prescribed Way Design?:

1-OBEDIENCE to Divine instruction --Jas. 1:21-22; 1 Sam. 15:22

2-RESTORATION of the sinning brother--Gal. 6:1 & ,att. 18

3-REMOVAL of defilement from the guilty one and God's Church--1 Cor. 5:6-8

4-RESTRAINT of others from thinking lightly of sin--1 Tim. 5:20

5-HONOR to God==Avoiding blasphemy of His Name--1 Tim. 6:1 & Tit. 2:5

6-May God enable us to fulfill these God-honoring aspirations !!

CONCLUSION:

A.-Heresy is INEVITABLE------EXPECT IT !!

1 Cor. 11:19--"For there must also be heresies among you, that they which are approvrd may be made manifest among you.

B.- Heresy Is Curable In Others:

1-PRAY--for erring brethren

2-SHOW the love of Christ in all you do and say

3-GRACIOUSLY WARN the unruly of the terrible consequences of sin which is not repented of--"Note him"
--"Admonish him"

4-AVOID the unrepentant in all possible encounters
--"Withdraw from him"
--"Reject him"

5-This will be the result of knowing clearly what the problem of heresy is, so that we can follow the required procedures of God's Word in handling the heresies we meet in our days

C.-Heresy Is Preventable In You:

1-RECEIVE the new life Jesus Christ offers you for believing on Him and receiving His gift of salvation.

2-GROW STEADILY in God's grace & knowledge of Christ

3-INVOLVE YOURSELF actively in the full ministry of your local, biblical Church

4-PROGRESS CONTINUALLY in a holy life

The proof of a genuine conversion is found when a person who makes a profession of faith goes on with the Lord throughout his life and produces spiritual fruit.

4/25/09~ Hilltop Bapt. Ch.~SS.

"FOOLISHNESS, FRIENDS, AND FINALE" Titus 3:9-15 (15) (1)
Rom. 16:17-20

INTRO: **A.-"Whole Counsel Of God":**

1-Printed on--Letterhead of the church
--Bulletin of the church each week

2-Acts 20:27--"For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God."

3-Some parts of the "Whole counsel" are PROFITABLE!
--Tit. 3:8
--GOOD WORKS ** Definition- Done by a believer
- Accomplished in the power of the Spirit
- For the glory of God

** Lead to rewards
** Helpful to others
** Accredits our testimony to others

--NINE references to "good works" in 13 chapters of 3 Pastoral Epistles

--Lk. 19:8--"Zacchaeus stood & said to the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold."
** Zacchaeus proved the reality of his profession by his actions
** Others were helped by Zacchaeus
** Approval of our Lord was gained

4-Some parts of the "Whole counsel" deal with the UNPROFITABLE
--Contrast with good works of 3:8
--Tit. 3:9-11
--WARNING raised against these
--Actions of the old nature
--As important to be concerned with these in exhortation TO AVOID these as TO DO the things which are profitable

5-BALANCE of dealing with the profitable and pleasant and also with the unprofitable and unpleasant

*6-Bible ministry in a BIBLE CHURCH will inevitably include both!

B.-Concluding Themes Of The Book Of Titus:

1-Foolishness--------3:9-11
2-Friends------------3:12-14
3-Finale-------------3:15
4-PROP:---To learn to apply in practical life, the truths of God's Word, both the happy + the hard sayings.
We need

I.-FOOLISHNESS-----(3:9-11):

A.-Foolish Questions:

1-Titus 3:9 (AMPLIFIED)--"But avoid stupid and foolish controversies and genealogies and dissentions and wrangling about the Law, for they are unprofitable and futil

2-WHAT ARE THESE "FOOLISH QUESTIONS"? ????
--Questions with no real point; STUPID raising of doubt
** ? of # of Spiritual gifts
** ? of Deaconesses in Rom. 16:1-2

--Genealogical comparisons & studies
** Such as occupy the MORMONS
** No need for such under grace
--Contentions and strivings about the Law
** Such gender strife; not unity
** Attempt to give permanence to the Law, which was designed as TEMPORARY to bring men to Christ — Gal. 3:19-25
** As in Seventh Day Adventism
** System of Law of O. T. was done away in Christ

3-VERDICT OF GOD--"They are unprofitable and vain"
--No result in the christian's life
--No power to produce a noble character or pure conduct
--H. A. IRONSIDE--"...occupation with idle theories is of no value toward a holy life..."

4-Believer is to "Major on MAJORS, not major on MINORS" !

B.-Foolish Questioners:

1-Tit. 3:10-11 (AMPLIFIED)--"(As for) a man who is factious--a heretical sectarian and cause of divisions--after admonishing him a first and second time, reject (him from your fellowship and have nothing more to do with him), Well aware that such a person has utterly changed--is perverted and corrupted; he goes on sinning (though) he is convicted of guilt and self-condemned"

2-"HERETIC" = "A factious, sectarian person with some doctrinal or practical "hobby horse" at variance with God's Word or ways, who stays in the church, while denying part of the truth held by the church."
"One who chooses doctrine he prefers to believe, rather than one who accepts true doctrine as revealed in Scripture."
--This is a matter of HIS WILL !
--Result of this is a "Smorgasbord Theology" !
EXAMPLE
** Neo-Evangelicalism
** Unsure about doctrines of Holy Scripture, Holy Spirit, or Eschatology
** Unduly accommodating to Science. + Social action + LIBERALS

3-Distinguish HERETIC from APOSTATE:
--Heretic is probably saved through rebellious
--Apostate is not saved
--Heretic is a deviant in some areas
--Apostate is a denier in most areas
--Heretic is an erring brother
--Apostate is an ENEMY of the true faith

4-It is to be expected that we'll have heretics to face !!!!!
--1 Cor. 1:11-13--"For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?"
--1 Cor. 11:19--"For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you."

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

--Acts 20:29-30--"For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things to draw away disciples after them." (3)

Paul's Warning

--Heresy is INEVITABLE
--Heresy is the result of CARNALITY & self-will
--Heresy is to prove the believer who is true to God's Word as opposed to the one who is not

5-A BATTLE is on, and we cannot avoid it !!!

6-J. GRESHAM MACHEN--Feb. 1924, Moody B. I. Founders Week "There are three possible attitudes which you may take in the present conflict. In the first place, you may stand FOR CHRIST. That is best.!!! In the second place, you may stand FOR ANTI-CHRISTIAN MODERNISM. That is next best. In the third place, you may be NEUTRAL. That is perhaps worst of all.

"The worst sin today is to day that you agree with the Christian faith and believe in the Bible, but then make common cause with those who deny the basic facts of Christianity. Never was it more obviously true that he that is not with Christ is against Him." —Battle lines shift from time to time, but they do not go away!

C.-Foolishness Quelled:

1-FIRST STEP----------"AVOID" (1)

--Tit. 3:9
--1 Tim. 4:7--"But refuse profane and old wives fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness
--2 Tim. 2:22-23--"Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart. But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes."
--In other words, seek to AVOID an open controversy and go on doing the Lord's work
--DON'T pour kerosine on the fire'!!!.
--Maybe it will "go away" if you refuse to enter into a controversy of foolish questions with a foolish questioner. —Though unlikely
--BUT---don't be surprised if it won't "GO AWAY" quietly!!!

2-SECOND STEP----------"ADMONISH" (2)

--No one of us is perfect, so all need corrective encouragement on occasion
--Gal. 6:1--"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness;"
--Don't SUMMARILY DISMISS a brother because he errs, but seek to reclaim him
--Mt. 18:15-17 is to be followed
** One of only 2 references recorded concerning the CHURCH from our Lord's lips while on earth
** Go personally and admonish him Privately
** Go with a witness and admonish him
** Prayerfully seek a "meeting of hearts and minds"

3-THIRD STEP---------'REJECT' 3 (4)

== Darby-"Have done with"

== Expositors- "Have nothing to do with"

-Mt. 18:17--"And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: bu if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and as a publican."

-Prov. 22:10[11]"Cast out the scorner, and contention will go out; yea, strife and reproach shall cease."

Q

--WHY REJECT HIM ???? ?

A.

--Because his failure to respond shows him to be in a state of REBELLION---3:11

--Separation of this man from the fellowship of true believers of the Church is essential, because he has separated himself from the TRUTH

-ILLUS--1 Tim. 1:18-20 + 2 Tim 2:17-19

--Hymanaeus & Alexander delivered unto Satan

--Modern Illustration in [illegible] of Chinese Gospel Mission [illegible] Sacramento

4-Some will find it very difficult to make & to keep the decisions necessary for such a procedure, but we must "CHOOSE OUR SIDE"---The Lord's side

--The Devil's side

--Neutrality AIDS THE ENEMY

5-Following this Scriptural pattern requires

Commandment Living

--LOVE toward all

--COURAGE to stand for the truth & against error and its evil workers — Do do otherwise is sheer COWARDICE

6-RESULT of foolishness quelled--UNITY of the Spirit

--Eph. 4:1-6

--Unity is GIVEN by the Spirit

--Unity is KEPT by the saints

*--Unity is rooted in a DOCTRINAL basis

*--Unity is EXPRESSED in life and love transparent living

7-Only as we're willing to stand and to live on the basis of God's Word on these very practical issues, are we fulfilling our profession as part of a BIBLE CHURCH

8-We do no favor--To our erring brethren

--To ourselves

--To our beloved Church

--OR.....to our lovely Lord

--If we fail to deal with foolish doctrines and foolish men according to THE SCRIPTURAL PATTERN

II.-FRIENDS----(3:12-14):

A.-Messengers To Titus: (3:12)

1-Real friendship is only secure when both friends know THE FRIEND that sticketh closer than a brother

2-Artemas & Tychicus were co-laborers with Paul

3-One or the other was to deliver this letter to Titus & probably succeed him as PASTOR in Crete.- Replacement

(a) Beloved + faithful
(b) Traveled w/ Paul - Acts 20:4
(c) Sent to Timothy at Ephesus 2 Tim. 4:12

4-ARTEMAS---**Only reference** we have to him is here
5-**Tychicus**--Mentioned in Acts, Eph., Col. & 2 Timothy (5)
--Formerly an **Apostolic messenger**
--Described in Col. 4:7-8--"All my state shall Tychicus declare unto you, who is a beloved brother, and a faithful minister and fellowservant in the Lord: Whom I have sent unto you for the same purpose, that he might know your estate, and comfort your hearts."
--Man in whom Paul had **implicit confidence**
--**BALANCED** man of God — Praise God for such ones!! may his tribe increase!

B. Message To Titus:
1-To be diligent **to come** to Paul--"lose no time" (AMPLIFIED)
2-Come to Nicopolis where Paul would spend the winter
3-Companionship & fellowship of Titus were desired
4-Perhaps some **new assignment** was to be set before him

(3:13) **C. Men With Titus:** -Sharing Hospitality — Remote for Paul — How each of us needs this!
1-**ZENAS**--Only N. T. reference
--**A lawyer** ** Not likely of Roman Jurisprudence
** More likely of Mosaic Law; A SCRIBE
-Here was a christian lawyer.....which is a **rare** though not impossible combination — I have known a few
2-**APOLLOS**--"**Mighty** in the Scriptures" Acts. 18:24
--**Alexandrian scholar** schooled in the O.T.
--Disciple of John the Baptist
--Won to Christ and instructed in the Word by **Aquilla** and **Priscilla**
--**Leader** in Christian service, especially in **Corinth** AND Ephesus
--Friend and **intimate associate** of the Apostle Paul
--Man of **his own mind** in following the Lord
--1 Cor. 16:12--"As touching our brother Apollos, I greatly desired him to come unto you with the brethren: but his will was not at all to come at this time; but he will come when he shall have convenient time."
--**POSSIBLY** he wrote the Book of **HEBREWS**.
3-These were to be "Brought on their journey"
= Darby, "Set forth diligently on their way
--**Diligence** and **urgency** required (AORIST IMPERATIVE)
--Responsibility of a **PASTOR** to show needs to the Church
--Pastor is the **LEADER** of the congregation
Adequate equippage is expected ** For missionaries
** For traveling ministers who share
** From us as christians as the source of sufficient supply
"W/enthusiastic participation"
--"That nothing be wanting (lacking) unto them"
--**Church leader** is to hasten their departure in the will of God by leading the church to supply their needs
--ILLUS---**Paul**--1 Cor. 16:6--"And it may be that I will abide, yea, and winter with you, that ye may bring me on my journey whersoever I go."
--ILLUS--**Timothy**--1 Cor. 16:10-11--"Now if Timotheous

Sharing Travel + Hospitality as they involved W/ ENTHUSIASM
• Obediently - Heb. 13:17
• Eagerly - Rom. 12:13
• Cheerfully - 1 Pet. 4:9

come, see that he may be with you without fear: for he worketh the work of the Lord, as I also do. Let no man therefore despise him: but conduct him forth in peace, that he may come unto me: for I look for him with the brethren." (6)

D.-Ministry Of Titus----THE CHURCH! (3:14)

1-"And let ours"--True believers in view
--Term would indicate a company who had voluntarily identified themselves with the membership of that local church
--Fellow christians of the Body in that locale
--Those won to Christ by labor of Titus & Paul
--The LOCAL CHURCH is the sphere in which to find your nearest and best friends

People are GATHERED; believers privilege

2-"Learn"--Not intuitive knowledge about spiritual matters
--Pastor Titus was to teach them P/T ministry
--The need for such instruction was part of the reason for regularity in Church Attendance -Ongoing process
--Good stewardship was one of the subjects to be taught
--Eph. 4:28--"Let him that stole, steal no more: but rather let him labor, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth."

People are TAUGHT- in ongoing Process

3-"To maintain"--Not spasmodic giving
--But regular & continuous giving
--Enthusiastic pitch ALL the time
--1 Cor. 16:1-2
--ILLUS--Methodology of regularity of giving is encouraged by using OFFERING ENVELOPES

because it is right NOT because there is a pressing need.

People are PRACTICING- DOING something!

4-"Good Works"--Honest trades
--Capt. John Smith----"No work....NO EAT"
--Prov. 13:11--"Wealth gotten by unworthy methods shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labor shall increase."
--HONEST LABOR is expected from all Christians
--Honorble and honest employment as a means of supporting oneself and of support of christian work
--ILLUS--Marvin Franer and his POOL TABLE REPAIR business....he felt it had to go by the wayside because of his desire for a clear-cut testimony!!!
--No non-producers expected by God in His Church
--All are gifted
--EACH can do some job for God's glory
--Man can do no good works, unless he is already justified (3:7) and blessed by faith.

5-"For necessary uses"--OWN NEEDS.....of own family - 1 Tim 5:8
--Problem is to distinguish between our needs and our wants
--CHURCH NEEDS ** Pastor's expenses -STAFF
** Missionaries needs
** Expansion needs
--Erdman--"The selfish Cretians might plead too great poverty to have a part

People are GIVING to meet urgent needs

(7) Generates RESULTS

in aiding missionaries. They are to be trained to engage in honest occupations, both for their own support and in order that they may be able to have a substantial part in christian enterprises, and thus be 'not unfruitful'". (P.158)

--These are all the PRIVILEGE as well as the RESPONSIBILITY of the christians

NB --Can't expect the devil's children to underwrite God's program of evangelism

--That's our job.....so we can be FRUITFUL in our christian experience

--1 Cor. 16:15-16--"I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the first fruits of Achaia, and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,) That ye submit yourselves unto every one that helpeth us, and laboreth."

6-Bengel--"Spiritual need lays a foundation for duties, that one may not be able to stand aloof from another."

III.-FINALE--------(3:15):

A.-Those With Paul:

1-All of them

2-Join in a salute--Spiritual greeting
--To Titus
--To those serving with Titus

3-United in love + in grace

B.-Those With Titus:

1-Greeted by Paul--Because of shared love for Christ
--Because of their expressed love for Paul due to his past labors on their spiritual behalf

X 2-Limited to those "in the faith"

3-Reminder that spiritual blessings are particularized to the saved BORN into + then GROW in grace

4-PLURAL "you all" indicates that this Epistle was not just for Titus, but for all the household of faith also.....

;;;; and aren't we glad !!!.

5-GRACE of God--What Paul desires for them
--Benediction & committal

CONCLUSION:

A.-Book Of Titus:

1-Introduction----------1:1-4
2-Officers in the Church----------1:5-9
3-Offenders In the Church----------1:10-16
4-Obedience in the Church----------2:1--3:8
5-Order in the Church----------3:9-111
6-Conclusion----------3:12-15

over

B.-This Message:

1-FOOLISHNESS---3:9-11
- --AVOID it when possible
  - ** Whether in DOCTRINE
  - ** Or in MEN
- --If not, then
  - ** ADMONISH THEM
  - ** REJECT THEM

2-FRIENDS--Appreciate them
- --Cherish them
- --Help them
- --Labor with them
- --Appreciate the Church of God as your "family"

3-FINALE---
- --Loving greetings
- --Same grace NEEDED by everyone
- --Same grace AVAILABLE to every one
- --It is GOD in whom we live, & move, & have our being by His grace !!!

God's SUPPORT GROUP for His people,

4-Titus 3:8

"This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men."

To "mother" w/o smothering them

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