

TITUS 2:1-10

STATION HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

4 MAY 2025

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INTRODUCTION TO TITUS RECAP

- **Purpose: to provide instruction on sustaining the churches**
- **by maintaining right belief and practice**
- **Primarily the responsibility of leaders**

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INTRODUCTION TO TITUS RECAP

- **Letter speaks directly to trans-local leaders**
- **indirectly to local leaders whom they appoint**
- **and to the people they lead**
- **It encourages particular choices and actions, with reasons**

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TITUS 1:10-16 RECAP

- **Teachers of heresy and immorality**
- **Leaders must counter their influence**
- **by prescribing right conduct and warning against wrong conduct**

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TITUS 2:1-10 INTRODUCTION

- **What to teach different groups of believers**
- **Classified by age, sex and social position**
- **Conduct in home, church, society**
- **Qualities to pursue and vices to avoid**

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TITUS 2:1-10 PROBLEMS

- **Different standards for different groups**
- **Subordination of wives**
- **Acceptance of slavery?**

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TITUS 2:1-10 STRUCTURE

- **General command**
- **developed for four (five) groups**
- **with direction for church leaders**

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TITUS 2:1

- **Leaders must oppose the false teachers**
- **by instructing the churches in right conduct**
- **according to the apostolic teaching**
- **which is the basis of verses 2-10**

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TITUS 2:1

- **Instructions conform to apostolic teaching**
- **and are grounded on key gospel events (2:11-14)**
- **So they are presented as God-given and valid across space and time**

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TITUS 2:2-10

- **Instructions reflect social expectations of each group**
- **Characteristics and temptations of each**
- **Most important qualities for each**
- **Responses to Cretan context**

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TITUS 2:2

- **For older men**
 - **Sober, serious, self-controlled**
 - **Healthy in faith, love and endurance**
- **Heads of households**
- **Hierarchical household structure**

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TITUS 2:3-5

- **For older women**
 - **Holy and godly demeanour**
 - **Avoid slander and alcohol addiction**
 - **Teach what is good to younger women**

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TITUS 2:4-5

- **For younger women**
 - Love for husbands and children
 - Self-control and purity
 - Subordination to husbands
- **Relates to church's reputation and mission**

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TITUS 2:6

- **For younger men**
 - Self-control
- **For Titus as example to younger men**
 - Model of good works

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TITUS 2:7-8

- **For Titus as example for leaders**
 - Teaching with integrity and gravity
 - Teaching healthy and beyond reproach
 - Shames false teachers into silence

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TITUS 2:9-10

- **For slaves**
 - Subordination in everything
 - ❖ Good service
 - ❖ No opposition
 - ❖ No stealing
 - ❖ Fidelity
 - Brings credit to apostolic teaching

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TITUS 2:9-10

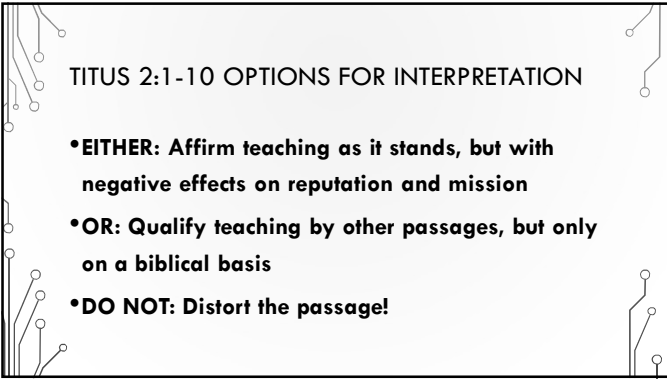
- **Slaves and wives addressed directly: they are full members of the church**
- **Institution of slavery NOT presented as God-given**

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TITUS 2:1-10 SUMMARY

- **Does not positively support slavery**
- **Affirms Christian status and discipleship of each group**
- **BUT assumes that hierarchical household relationships are God-given and binding**

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TITUS 2:1-10 OPTIONS FOR INTERPRETATION

- **EITHER:** Affirm teaching as it stands, but with negative effects on reputation and mission
- **OR:** Qualify teaching by other passages, but only on a biblical basis
- **DO NOT:** Distort the passage!

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TITUS 2:1-10 FINAL THOUGHTS

- **Plenty of uncontroversial content to apply**
- **Great passage next!**

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