

INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF TITUS

I. Titus – Paul’s Companion.

- a. Paul’s “own son, after the common faith” –Titus 1:1-4.
- b. Titus in book of Acts – not mentioned by Luke.
- c. Had been in Jerusalem with Paul (Acts 11 or Acts 15) –Gal. 2:1-10.
- d. Was in Macedonia – mentioned in:
 - i. II Cor. 2:12-13 – Paul did not find him in Troas (“Titus my brother”)
 - ii. II Cor. 7:5-16 – In Macedonia, he came to Paul from Corinth to let him know how things were with the church at Corinth.
 - iii. II Cor. 8:6, 16-23 – Sent back to Corinth to help collect their gift for the saints in Jerusalem.

II. Island of Crete.

- a. Location of Titus when received the letter from Paul. (Titus 1:5)
- b. Island was 158 miles long and 50 miles wide and was located in the Mediterranean Sea.
 - i. Many Jews lived there in the first century.
 - ii. People from Crete present at Pentecost (Acts 2:11).
 - iii. Paul’s first visit to Crete was on his trip to Rome (Acts 27:13-16).
 - iv. Paul’s second visit to Crete (Titus 1:5) “For this cause *left* I thee in Crete...” (Titus was *left* – not *sent* to Crete.)
 - v. Reputation of Cretians was bad.
 - 1. To “cretianize” meant “to lie”
 - 2. “The Cretians are always liars, evil beast, slow bellies.” Titus 1:12

III. Date and Place of Writing.

- a. Date –Likely 63-67 AD. (After Paul’s first Roman imprisonment in approx. 60-62 AD.)
- b. Place – Nicopolis – a city in western Greece. (Titus 3:12)

IV. Occasion and Purpose of Writing.

- a. Occasion – likely the coming visit of the Zenus the lawyer and Apollos, the well-known evangelist. (Titus 3:13)
- b. Purpose.
 - i. To provide qualifications and duties of the duly appointed elders. (to “set in order the things that are wanting...” Titus 1:5-9).
 - ii. To combat Jewish false teachers (Judaizers) who were leading the faithful astray. (Titus 1:10,11 and 14)
 - iii. To instruct and remind Titus of the need for “sound doctrine”.
 - 1. 1:9 – “the faithful word”.
 - 2. 1:13 – “sound in the faith”.
 - 3. 2:1 – “sound doctrine”.
 - 4. 2:8 – “sound speech”.
 - iv. To emphasize the importance of God’s grace and mercy in our salvation.
 - 1. 2:11-14 – “the grace of God that bringeth salvation”.
 - 2. 3:4-8 –Justification through grace by the mercy of God through baptism and the renewing of the Holy Spirit.

THE SPREAD OF CHRISTIANITY

MAP 14

