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DEALING WITH FALSE TEACHERS (Titus 1:10-16; ref. I Timothy 6:1-10)

There were false teachers among them, especially of the Jews who Paul called vain talkers, deceivers, who were misleading whole families and teaching them things they ought not for ill gotten money (Titus 1:10,11). Paul doesn't say, here, what they were teaching, but we read in Acts 15:1, that certain men who had come down to Antioch from Judea, were teaching: "Except you be circumcised after the manner of Moses, you cannot be saved" (see Romans 16:18). Luke says, in Acts 15:2, Paul and Barnabas had great arguments and debates with them.

1. What does Paul tell Titus must be done to these deceivers in Titus 1:11? _____

It seems the Cretans were known to be liars and cheaters, because even Paul agreed with what a prophet from these false teachers was saying, by saying himself, "This witness is true" (Titus 1:12,13).

2. What does Paul tell Titus to do that the Cretans

FIRST STUDY

TITUS / SECOND PASTORAL EPISTLE

Titus was converted from paganism under Paul's ministry and at the time of this writing, was a pastor who Paul appointed over the churches in Crete.

The theme of this, Paul's pastoral epistle to Titus, puts emphasis on the connection of doctrine, dedicated to faithful men with a godly lifestyle; and "grace" as the great doctrine of Salvation, being linked to "good works."

GREETINGS (Titus 1:1-4)

In Paul's greeting to Titus, he calls himself a servant, and an apostle of God's choosing (Titus 1:1): thus showing Paul's authority in the office of apostle, and being qualified to move and to act in the sphere of the true faith, and the perfect knowledge of the truth, and the hope of eternal life promised by God.

1. What does Paul call Titus in Titus 1:4? _____

QUALIFICATIONS OF ELDERS/BISHOPS (Titus 1:5-9)

Paul left Titus in Crete to organize the believers into local Church bodies and to "set in order things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city" (Titus 1:5; The Open Bible, p. 1138, Notes)

Elders (Titus 1:5). Gr. presbuteros, elder. the

word elders in the O.T. meant the heads or rulers of the tribes, cities, and nations. In the Gospels and Acts it generally refers to the Sanhedrin (Mt. 15:2; 16:21; 21:23; 26:3; Acts 4:5,8,23). In the early church elders were the ministers and deacons, or preaching elders or business elders of the local churches (Acts 11:30; 14:23; 16:4; 20:17,28; 21:18; I Tim. 5:17; Tit. 1:5; Jas. 5:14). Apostles were elders (Acts 11:30; 1 Peter 5:1; 2 Jn. 1; 3 Jn. 1, but all elders were not apostles (Acts 15:2,4,6,22,23; 16:4). The elders of Acts 20:17 were the overseers of 20:28. The elders of 1 Tim. 5:17; Tit. 1:5-10; 1 Pet. 5:1-2 were preaching elders or bishops. The business elders were deacons (Acts 6). Bishops and deacons are mentioned in Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:1-13. ¹

The word presbutores is also used of older men and women (Lk. 15:25; Jn. 8:9; Acts 2:17; 4:22; 1 Tim. 5:2). It is used also in heavenly ranks (Rev. 4:4,10; 5:6,8,11,14; 7:11,13; 11:16; 14:3; 19:4). It is found 68 times and is trans. elder except in Jn. 8:9; Acts 2:17; 4:22. ¹

Ordain elders. Titus 1:5. The word ordain should read appoint or make or order.

Following the appointments of these elders, Paul told Titus to set them over the churches (or assemblies) in every city as he had directed him.

1. According to what qualifications were these leaders to be appointed? Name them. (Titus 1:6-

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1. Dake, N.T., p. 140.