

Sermon Outline

UNFIT FOR DOING ANYTHING GOOD | Geoff Lin

Bible reading: Titus 1:5-16 (Page 1699)

The story so far: Titus is to *appoint elders in every town (1:5) who love what is good (1:8) and who hold firmly to the trustworthy message so they can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it (1:9)*

1. What were the false teachers teaching?

Titus 1:10 ... full of meaningless talk and deception, esp. those of the circumcision group

Titus 1:14 ... Jewish myths or the merely human commands of those who reject the truth

Titus 3:9 ... foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless

3 possibilities:

i. silly speculation

ii. unsound doctrine

legalism is _____ but _____

iii. "you must do what I tell you to do"

"merely human commands of those who reject the truth" = "commands of people"

unthinking compliance is _____ but _____

2. What should be the response to false teachers?

2 principles:

i. they must be silenced (verse 11)

ii. **rebuke** them sharply, so that they will be **sound** in the faith (verse 13)

Titus 1:9 ... encourage others by **sound** doctrine and **refute** those who oppose it

Titus 3:10 Warn a divisive person once, and then warn them a second time. After that, have nothing to do with them.

Titus 1:1 ... knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness

b_____ and b_____ always go together

3. Some practical suggestions:

i. Never downplay the devastating effect of false teaching

ii. Please be willing to speak up

Recommended Reading: Carl Trueman (2020), *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self: Cultural Amnesia, Expressive Individualism, and the Road to Sexual Revolution*

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. ¹² It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³ while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

iii. Always test the doctrine of our teachers

"Be Like the Bereans"

Acts 17:11 Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

For discussion: what practical steps might you take this week to grow in your knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness