

## Titus Overview

### Instructions for a Young Church

Paul had two main concerns for the ministry in Crete according to his letter written to Titus; false teachers and Christian conduct. The foremost concern was the threat of false teachers. He counsels Titus to deal with the problem by appointing elders who will be withstand their false hood with him (1:5). Paul had specific criteria for those elders that he gives to Titus (1:5-9). He also exhorts him to deal with these false teachers directly (1:10-13).

The second concern Paul had regarded the conduct of the Cretan Christians. Therefore, Paul gives Titus specific instruction on how the members of the church are to conduct themselves. He gives instruction to older men (2:2), older women (2:3) which implies younger women as well (2:4-5). He gives instruction to the young men (2:7-8), and to slaves (2:9-10). He summarizes his instruction by calling Titus to teach the church to live in such a way that their lives accord with the gospel that they received (2:11-15). This includes being submissive, humble, peaceable, and full of good works (3:1-11).

### Titus Theme: Truth and Life

A proper understanding of the truth will result in a godly life. Likewise, false teaching will not produce godliness, but rather immorality. Godly Christians therefore will pursue **(1) sound teaching** (1:9; 2:1, 8) and **(2) godly character** (1:6-9; 2:7-8).