

Insights From Titus

Other non-fiction books by the author:

Biblical Oddities

Even So, Come, Lord Jesus

The Kings of Israel and Judah

Collected Sunday School Lessons (2008 – 2009)

Collected Sunday School Lessons (2010 – 2011)

Collected Sunday School Lessons (2012 – 2013)

Collected Sunday School Lessons (2014 – 2018)

The Lost Doctrines

Dinosaurs in History

Summary of Old Testament Events

Chapter Summary of the Bible

Creation: A Study of Origins

Theology: An Assortment of Articles

Heresy: A Study of False Teachers

Eschatology: A Study of the Second Coming

C S Lewis

Bill Gothard

Translation Issues: The KJV Controversy

The Catholic Church: A Study of Heresy

Insights From Titus

by Jonathan Cooper

First Edition on 4/30/2024

Introduction

One of the ways I've been studying the Word of God is by making a list of everything that each book of the Bible teaches. This has resulted in more than a thousand pages of material. Although it's interesting and I've learned a lot from writing it, that's a lot of bullet points to read through!

The purpose of this book is to extract the most interesting insights from that massive list. This isn't intended to summarize each book of the Bible because that's what my "Chapter Summary of the Bible" is for. It's also not intended to list the major points of each book because you're probably already familiar with them. Finally, it's not intended to offer in-depth commentary because that's what my regular commentary is for. This book is simply a collection of points that I found interesting.

I hope there's some material here that you find edifying.

Jon Cooper
4/29/2024

Table of Contents

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Introduction..... | 4 |
| Titus..... | 7 |

Titus

- Paul first describes himself as a servant and then as an apostle (Titus 1:1). He didn't try to impress Titus with his authority or accomplishments. Instead he humbly called himself a servant of God.
- Paul referred to predestination at the very beginning of this letter (Titus 1:1). He said that those who have faith in God were chosen by Him. The reason we have faith is because God chose us.
- There's a direct relationship between truth and godliness (Titus 1:1). You can't achieve godliness without the truth.
- God promised us eternal life before He created the world (Titus 1:2).
- The world had a beginning. It's not eternal (Titus 1:2).
- God has chosen to use *preaching* to manifest His Word to the world (Titus 1:3).
- Titus was given the task of fixing problems in churches and ordaining elders (Titus 1:5). This means the churches of Paul's day had problems which needed to be addressed, and Paul sent an *outsider* to put those churches in order.
- There's no mention in any of Paul's letters of ordaining pastors. Instead only elders are ordained and only elders lead churches. There's no mention of pastors leading churches anywhere in the New Testament, or having any authority over any church.
- In order to be ordained as an elder the person had to be married, have multiple children, and have well-behaved children. You also had to be male, since only males can be

husbands (Titus 1:6). Paul did *not* say that if no one was able to meet these qualifications it was fine to relax them in the name of pragmatism.

- Poorly behaved children reflect badly on their parents. God holds parents responsible if their children are unruly. Having unruly children disqualified an elder candidate from service. It seems that if he couldn't raise up his own children then he had no business trying to raise up the church.
- The leadership of the church had to be blameless (Titus 1:7). If they weren't then that disqualified them from service.
- Church leaders are responsible for caring for the flock of God on His behalf. Churches don't exist for the purpose of enriching the church leadership! Those who abuse their position for personal gain are unjust, and they will be held accountable for it on the day of judgment (Titus 1:7).
- Church leaders must know the Word of God. If they don't then they aren't qualified to lead the church (Titus 1:9).
- The way that churches are commanded to convince skeptics is by proclaiming sound doctrine – not by compromising or making an appeal to worldliness (Titus 1:9). Sound doctrine is one of the key weapons of the church and must never be abandoned or exchanged for something else.
- Paul didn't think it was wrong or unkind to call heretics liars and evil beasts. He also didn't believe he had to qualify his condemnation of heretics by saying that they were good people. Instead he condemned them as liars and deceivers who were leading people to Hell (Titus 1:10-12).

- Paul believed it was important to rebuke people sharply so that they would be sound in the faith (Titus 1:13-14). He did *not* teach that churches should find the lowest common denominator and only teach the most basic truths in order to maximize outreach. Instead he taught that those who were in error should be sharply rebuked.
- The apostle Paul warned against listening to Jewish fables or taking them seriously (Titus 1:14). The fables of this world turn people away from the truth of God's Word.
- The Lord doesn't give anyone the option of adding to what He has said or taking away from it (Titus 1:14). Paul didn't say it was fine to walk in the traditions of this world if it helped form alliances with other groups. Instead he completely forbade it.
- There's an enormous difference between how those who are pure view this world, and how those who are impure view it. Those who are impure turn everything into corruption and sin. Those who are pure are able to look at things which are good and see them as good things (Titus 1:15). Only those who are pure can see the world as it really is.
- Although we aren't saved by our actions, our actions do reveal our true nature (Titus 1:16).
- Proclaiming doctrine isn't optional. It's something that church leaders are required to do (Titus 2:1).
- The elderly aren't allowed to live however they want simply because they're old. Instead they must live righteous and godly lives (Titus 2:2-3).
- Paul believed that elderly women were tempted to falsely accuse others, and forbade them from doing that (Titus

2:3-4). He commanded older women to teach younger women how to do that which was right – specifically, how to love their husbands and love their children.

- Although Good works don't save us, good works aren't optional. They are something all Christians must pursue (Titus 2:7).
- Paul didn't allow any doctrine to be corrupted or changed (Titus 2:7). He didn't allow doctrines to be ignored or altered in the name of pragmatism or trying to reach a larger audience.
- God requires people to pursue excellence in their jobs. We must not slack off or be lazy (Titus 2:9).
- Christians who live disorderly and wicked lives are attacking the doctrines of God through their actions (Titus 2:10).
- God hasn't given Christians the liberty to sin (Titus 2:12).
- The blessed hope of Christians is the return of Jesus at the rapture (Titus 2:13). It's not a sin to look forward to the return of Christ! We should be looking forward to the rapture with hope and earnest anticipation.
- The death of Jesus does more than just forgive our sins. It also purifies us and changes us into people who hate sin and love godliness (Titus 2:14).
- The life of Jesus wasn't taken from Him by force. He willingly sacrificed His life for us (Titus 2:14).
- God requires Christians to obey the law (Titus 3:1). God did *not* say that our obedience to the government depends on its good behavior or on politicians leading upright and godly lives.

- God expects Christians to be fruitful and seek to do good works (Titus 3:1).
- Our own works don't bring us righteousness (Titus 3:5).
- Christians and churches must avoid foolish questions (Titus 3:9). This means there *is* such a thing as a foolish question – and they're so dangerous that they must be avoided.
- If a person continues to teach heresy after two admonitions then churches must reject that person and have nothing to do with them (Titus 3:10). This means churches aren't allowed to tolerate heretics on the grounds that they teach many good things and are only in error in one area. If the person won't repent of their heresy then they must be rejected.
- Paul was very concerned about Christians being unfruitful. He kept exhorting people to diligently pursue good works and bear fruit (Titus 3:14).