

The Letter to Titus

9

Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God's Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

Morning Study

Today we continue studying Paul's letter to **Titus**, this time reading it section by section. This letter is very practical in nature, instructing Titus on matters of ministry and church government. It can be divided into three sections, corresponding with the three chapter divisions of the letter.

- The task of Titus (**1:1-16**)
- The instructions for Titus (**2:1-15**)
- The charge to Titus (**3:1-15**)

Today, we will read more closely the first section of **Titus**. Read each subsection, below, answering the questions associated with them. Type out your answers or jot them down on a piece of paper and file your answers with your morning study.

Read Titus 1:1-4

- What does the knowledge of the truth lead to? (**1:1**).
- In **1:1**, Paul speaks of a faith and a knowledge of the truth. In **1:2**, he describes this faith and knowledge as resting on what?

Read Titus 1:5-9

- Why did Paul leave Titus on Crete? (**1:5**).
- How does Paul's list of qualifications given to Titus in **1:6-9** compare to the one he gives to Timothy? (**1 Timothy 3:1-7**).

Read Titus 1:10-16

- Why does Paul say it's important for an elder in Crete to hold firmly to the message as it has been taught? (**1:9-11**).
- What were Cretans described as? (**1:12**).
- On the basis of this description, what was Titus instructed to do? (**1:13-14**).
- Does Paul's wording in **1:15-16** describe the Cretan old self or the Cretan new self in Christ? How does this passage compare to **Ephesians 4:17-24**?

Memory Verse

To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted. They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him...

Titus 1:15-16

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!