

May 17 2025

# TITUS

Healthy Doctrine, Healthy Practice, Healthy Church

Healthy Leaders

Titus 1:5-9

**CONGREGATION:** : <sup>4</sup> To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior. <sup>5</sup> This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— <sup>6</sup> if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination.

**Men:** <sup>7</sup> For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, <sup>8</sup> but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. <sup>9</sup> He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in **SOUND doctrine** and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

**WOMEN:** <sup>10</sup>For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party. <sup>11</sup>They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach. <sup>12</sup>One of the Cretans, a prophet of their own, said, “Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.”

**CONGREGATION:** <sup>13</sup> This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be **SOUND in the faith**, <sup>14</sup>not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth. <sup>15</sup>To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. <sup>16</sup>They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.



## Winston Churchill





# Review

<sup>5</sup> This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you—



# Healthy Churches require Healthy Leaders

<sup>5</sup> This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and **appoint elders** in every town as I directed you—

<sup>7</sup>For an **overseer**, as God's steward, ...,



## What is an elder?

So I exhort the **elders** [*presbyteros*] among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: <sup>2</sup>

**shepherd** [*poimainō*] the flock of God that is among you, exercising **oversight**, [*episkopeō*]

1 Peter 5:1-2

# What does an elder do?

1. Lead. Titus 1:7; 1 Tim. 5:17; 1 Peter 5:2-3
2. Teach. Titus 1:9; 1 Tim. 5:17; Eph. 4:12
3. Guard. Acts 20:28; Titus 1:9
4. Care. Acts 20:35; James 5:14

## Why a plurality of elders?

<sup>5</sup> This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and **appoint elders** in every town as I directed you—

<sup>17</sup>Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching. <sup>18</sup>For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain,” and, “The laborer deserves his wages.”

1 Timothy 5:17-18

## How are elders chosen?

<sup>5</sup> This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and **appoint elders** in every town as I directed you—

**Healthy churches require healthy leaders who are marked by godly commitments, conduct, character, and convictions.\***

<sup>5</sup> This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and **appoint elders** in every town as I directed you—

\* Adapted from Dr. Daniel Akin



## 1) Godly commitments

<sup>6</sup> if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination.

## 2) Godly Conduct.

<sup>7</sup> For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain,

### 3) Godly Character.

<sup>8</sup> but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined.

## 4) Godly Convictions.

<sup>9</sup> He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

# How do I begin to develop this leadership?

❖ Abide in Christ.

<sup>4</sup>Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

John 15:4-5

❖ Be empowered by the Spirit.

<sup>16</sup> But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.... <sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control;...

Galatians 5:16, 22,23



❖ Remember who the church belongs to.

<sup>7</sup> For an overseer, as God's steward,

**Healthy churches require healthy leaders who are marked by godly commitments, conduct, character, and convictions.**