

Instructing in Sound Doctrine

Titus 1:9, 2:1-10

Paul's Letter to Titus

Theme:

Teaching healthy doctrine leads to healthy churches. Healthy churches are ordered churches.

THE BIG PICTURE:

Melodic Line within Titus

- [positive] 1:1 Paul, a bond-servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the faith of those chosen of God and **the knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness,**
- [negative] 1:16 **They profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him,** being detestable and disobedient and worthless for any good deed.

These two verses form bookends for chapter one. They also establish the Melodic Line within Titus. Chapter 2 will “flip” verse 16 around.

Introduction:

¹ “But as for you, **speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine**” (Titus 2:1).

The instruction of this text is not dealing primarily with your children but with your church.

Outline:

- I. Healthy Instruction for the Elderly (vv. 2-5)

Summary Statement - **that the word of God may not be reviled [*blasphemeo*].**

- II. Healthy Instruction for the non-Elderly (vv. 6-8)

Summary Statement - **so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.**

- III. Healthy Instruction for the Workplace [slaves and masters] (vv. 9, 10)

Summary Statement - so that in everything they may adorn [*cosmeo* = “to put in proper order”] the doctrine of God our Savior.

The word “adorn” is **cosmeo** and means, “To put in proper order.” This goes back to this fundamental idea in Titus. The JESUS SEED always produces GOSPEL FRUIT. The collectiveness of that FRUIT is order and self-control.

Shepherding the Sheep: (What is the NEXT STEP?)

To the believing: What you think **and** what you do matters in the church and **honors** God. When you look at your life, do you see and hear the gospel? What is the gospel saying? The gospel says, "I can't," "But God can," "And Jesus did."

To the unbelieving: You cannot separate what you think from what you do. Your "works" show you for what you are, a filthy rag (Isa. 64:6).