

LIVING GODLY IN THE PRESENT AGE

Jan Patterson

General Track | August 21, 2022



INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF TITUS

1. Background of Crete
2. Titus' difficult task
3. Picture of a biblical church

OVERVIEW OF TITUS

1. Titus' responsibilities
2. Needs of each age/gender
3. General instructions for all
4. PURPOSE of the instruction

EMPHASIS OF TITUS

1. "SENSIBLE" is all-inclusive

Sound-mindedness is an important scriptural virtue, expected of all ages and ranks of Christians. ~Homer Kent

2. Biblical meanings

2. Practical meanings

3. How we attain it

4. NT contexts

- Titus 2:4 *...so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children*
“Encourage,” --to admonish, moderate, to make sensible 😊

- Titus 2:6 *Likewise urge the young men to be sensible.*
To be teachable and submissive.

- I Timothy 2:9 *Likewise, I want women to adorn themselves with proper clothing, modestly and discreetly, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly garments.*
“Discreetly”—with moderation and self-control

- Romans 12:3 *For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.*
“Soberly,” or with “sound judgment”—moderate in self-estimation

- II Timothy 1:7 *For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.*
“Discipline” is also translated “sound mind or sound judgment”

APPLYING TITUS' TEACHING TODAY

1. Requires being different

2. Titus 2:12 *instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age*
“Age” means a period of time—right now

3. New to our “age”
 - Gender confusion

 - Fast-paced technological world

 - Various religious systems

 - Level of immodesty

 - More extreme feministic ideals

CONCLUSION

1. Understand “tolerance” and “acceptance”

2. Have a biblical response to aberrant thinking
 - How to regard such individuals:

I Timothy 6:3-5 If anyone advocates a different doctrine and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine conforming to godliness, he is conceited and understands nothing; but he has a morbid interest in controversial questions and disputes about words, out of which arise envy, strife, abusive language, evil suspicions, and constant friction between men of depraved mind and deprived of the truth.

- How to respond to them:

II Timothy 2:22-26 Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart. But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they produce quarrels The Lord’s bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.

- How to regard Christians who persist in living this way
I Corinthians 5:11 *But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler— not even to eat with such a one.*

3. Titus 2:12 tells us that God's grace instructs us *to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age*

4. Expect persecution

5. Depend on the Word