



## **Titus, the True Son**

**“To Titus, a true son in our  
common faith...” (Titus 1:4)**

# Titus, the True Son

- Of Titus nothing more is known than what is found in the epistles of Paul. He was an evangelist who worked with the apostle.
- He was by birth a Gentile. In Gal. 2:3, he is called a Greek, and he had not been circumcised.
- He was converted 14 years after Paul by Paul himself.
- Probably from Asia Minor: Greeks lived there in large numbers, Paul preached there often, and there were numerous converts made there.
- Titus went with Paul and Barnabas to Jerusalem from Antioch, perhaps to show that it was not necessary that Gentile converts be circumcised.

# Titus, the True Son

- Acts 15:19 - “Therefore I judge that we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God”
- Gal. 2:1-4 - “Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and also took Titus with me. 2 And I went up by revelation, and communicated to them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to those who were of reputation, lest by any means I might run, or had run, in vain. 3 Yet not even Titus who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised. 4 And this occurred because of false brethren secretly brought in (who came in by stealth to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us into bondage”

# Titus, the True Son

- Titus was quite involved in the work at Corinth
  - 2Cor. 8:23 - “If anyone inquires about Titus, he is my partner and fellow worker concerning you.”
  - 2Cor. 7:6, 13 - “Nevertheless God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus... 13 Therefore we have been comforted in your comfort. And we rejoiced exceedingly more for the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by you all.”

# Titus, the True Son

- 2Cor. 2:13 - “I had no rest in my spirit, because I did not find Titus my brother; but taking my leave of them, I departed for Macedonia.”
- 2Cor. 12:18 - “I urged Titus, and sent our brother with him. Did Titus take advantage of you? Did we not walk in the same spirit? Did we not walk in the same steps?”
- 2Tim. 4:10 - “for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica--Crescens for Galatia, Titus for Dalmatia.”

# Titus, the True Son

- There is reason to believe that Titus spent some time with the apostle in Ephesus
- Titus was left by Paul in the island of Crete, that he might “set in order the things that were wanting, and ordain elders in every city” - Titus 1:5
- This was in the year 62, after the first imprisonment of Paul at Rome. He did not intend it to be long term work
  - Titus 3:12 - “When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicus, be diligent to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there.”

# Titus, the True Son

- He was with Paul in Rome during his second imprisonment there, but did not remain with him until his trial, but left him and went into Dalmatia - 2Tim. 4:10
- History suggests that he returned to Crete to preach until his death. He died in the year 107 AD, aged about 95 in the city of Candia (modern Heraklion) Crete.

# Titus, The True Son

- He was not afraid of controversy
  - Prov. 1:33 - “But whoever listens to me will dwell securely, And will be at ease, without fear of harm.”
  - 1Cor. 16:10 - “Now if Timothy comes, see that he may be with you without fear; for he does the work of the Lord, as I also do.”

# Titus, The True Son

- At Antioch and Jerusalem during the circumcision error
  - Acts 15:2, 7 - “Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and dispute with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem, to the apostles and elders, about this question... 7 And when there had been much dispute, Peter rose up and said to them: Men and brethren, you know that a good while ago God chose among us, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe.”

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- At Corinth during the materialist error
  - 1Cor. 1:10 - “Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.”

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- At Crete during the leadership crisis
  - Titus 1:10-13 - “For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, 11 whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain. 12 One of them, a prophet of their own, said, Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons. 13 This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith”

# Titus, The True Son

- At Dalmatia on the frontier of the gospel
  - Rom. 15:18-21 - “For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me, in word and deed, to make the Gentiles obedient-- 19 in mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God, so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ. 20 And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man's foundation, 21 but as it is written: To whom He was not announced, they shall see; And those who have not heard shall understand.”

# Titus, The True Son

- He was able to follow instructions
- Worked with Paul in Macedonia, a poverty stricken area
  - 2Cor. 7:5-6 - “For indeed, when we came to Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were troubled on every side. Outside were conflicts, inside were fears. 6 Nevertheless God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus”

# Titus, The True Son

- Worked with the Corinthians, a divisive, childish group - 2Cor. 7:15
- Accompanies Paul to Jerusalem, knowing he would be the center of controversy - Gal. 2:1-4
- Left in Crete to appoint elders, a potentially difficult task - Titus 1:5
- Asked to rejoin Paul in Nicopolis - Titus 3:12
- Followed Paul to Rome when he was taken to Caesar - 2Tim. 4:10
- Follows orders to go to Dalmatia - 2Tim. 4:10

# Titus, The True Son

- Titus did not serve the Lord and follow the lead of the apostle Paul for selfish reasons or self advancement
- “If you want happiness for an hour, take a nap. If you want happiness for a day, go fishing. If you want happiness for a year, inherit a fortune. If you want happiness for a lifetime, help somebody” (*Asian Proverb*)

# Titus, The True Son

- “The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well. The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”