a Grace Notes course

The Epistle of Paul to Titus

Bible Study by Correspondence by Warren Doud Introduction to the Study Lesson 10 of 10 (Final Lesson of Series) Titus 3:12-15

Email: wdoud@bga.com

Titus

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Instructions for Completing the Lesson

Begin each study session with prayer. It is the Holy Spirit who makes spiritual things discernable to Christians, so it is essential to be in fellowship with the Lord during Bible study.

Read the whole book of Titus often. It is a short book, and reading it many times will help you understand the story much better.

Instructions

- 1. Read the introduction to the study of Titus
- 2. Study Titus 3:12-15 reading the verses and studying the notes. Be sure to read any other Bible passages that are called out in the notes.
- 3. Study the topics in the same manner. Take particular care to trace all of the discussion through the Bible passages which are included. The topics are called out in the text at a certain point, but you can study the topics in any order you wish. The topics are: Rapture; Redemption
- 4. Review all of the notes in the Titus study and the topics
- 5. Go to the Quiz page and follow the instructions to complete all the questions on the quiz. The quiz is "open book". You may refer to all the notes and to the Bible when you take the test. But you should not get help from another person.
- 6. When you have completed the Quiz, be sure to SAVE your file. If the file is lost, and that can happen at Grace Notes as well, you will want to be able to reproduce your work.
- 7. To send the Quiz back to Grace Notes, follow the instructions on the Quiz page.

Titus 3:12

When I shall send Artemas unto thee, or Tychicus, be diligent to come unto me to Nicopolis: for I have determined there to winter.

The conclusion is devoted largely to personal matters. Paul indicates his plans for the future activities of Titus, and he lays on him the immediate obligation to assist Zenas and Apollos. The thought of material assistance is related more generally to the Cretan Christians.

Artemas is not mentioned elsewhere in the Bible, so we have no information about this man. He is obviously a trusted worker, in the same class as Tychicus. Artemas and Tychicus were evidently available as replacements for Titus on Crete, and were to be sent by Paul to relieve Titus in his duties.

Tychicus was one of Paul's close associates. He was a native of the province of Asia (Acts 20:4) and probably accompanied Paul to Jerusalem on the third missionary journey.

When Paul was imprisoned in Rome the first time, he chose Tychicus to carry the epistles to Ephesus and Colosse (Eph. 6:21; Col. 4:7). In Colossians Paul calls Tychicus "the beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord." From 2 Timothy 4:12 we learn that Paul sent him on a subsequent mission to Ephesus.

The verb "shall send" is in the subjunctive, indicating an indefinite clause, so that Paul had not yet decided when either of the two men would be sent to Crete. Titus was to remain as his post until his replacements arrived.

Paul requests Titus to join him at Nicopolis ("city of victory"). There were a number of cities of that name in the Mediterranean region. The city here is probably the one on the Ambracian Gulf in Epirus, built by Augustus to celebrate the Roman victory at the battle of Actium. Paul was not at Nicopolis when he wrote the letter to Titus, because he said "I have determined there to winter." We do not know where he was at the time of writing, perhaps in Achaia or Macedonia. But Paul was at liberty to go to Nicopolis, so we know that the letter was written after his release from his first Roman imprisonment.

Titus 3:13

Bring Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey diligently, that nothing be wanting unto them.

"Bring" is actually "set forward".

Here we get an impression of Paul as a great spiritual leader, moving his "troops" into strategic position. And Titus is to have a part in furthering that work. Zenas and Apollos are on a journey which has evidently taken them by Crete; they may have carried the letter which we are studying. Titus now is to "set them forward" on their journey and to meet their needs for the travel.

We know nothing further of Zenas, except that he was a lawyer. His name is Greek, so he may have been a practitioner of Roman law and was now using his abilities in spreading the Gospel. He may have been a Jewish Christian, however, with a Greek name, and expert in Jewish law.

Apollos was the eloquent preacher from Alexandria whom Aquila and Priscilla instructed more fully in the way of the Lord at Ephesus.

Topic: Apollos

Topic: Aquila and Priscilla

Titus 3:14

And let ours also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful.

These are instructions concerning the Cretan Christians. I believe there is a flavor here of Titus' turning to the local congregations to help with the needs of Zenas and Apollos. It was a good opportunity to cultivate a missionary spirit in the Cretan believers, and to learn to practice Christian giving.

This is a further reminder to them, and to us, that the Christian life is not in hearing only, but in doing the "good works which God has before ordained..." (Eph. 6:10)

Titus 3:15

All that are with me salute thee. Greet them that love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

There must have been a number of others with Paul when he wrote this epistle, probably fellow workers. As believers, the Cretans loved Paul and the other missionaries and that love bound them together. It was a love operating in the sphere of faith, so the reference is to the love which is the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

Paul ends with a prayer that God's grace will be with all his friends and associates on Crete.

Apollos

The New Testament character Apollos was a welleducated man from the city of Alexandria in Egypt. He was well acquainted with the Old Testament scriptures and was familiar with John the Baptist's teachings. About A.D. 56 he came to Ephesus where he began to teach in the synagogue "the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John".

Aquila and his wife Priscilla were at the church in Ephesus and heard Apollos speaking. They took him aside and provided him with doctrinal teaching to bring him up to date about Christ, the Cross, the Resurrection, etc. After this, Apollos went to preach in Achaia, especially at Corinth, having been highly recommended by the Ephesian Christians. He was very effective in representing the claims of Christ to the Jews.

Acts 18:24-28 Now a certain Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus; and he was mighty in the Scriptures. This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately the things concerning Jesus, being acquainted only with the baptism of John; and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. And when he wanted to go across to Achaia, the brethren encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him; and when he had arrived, he helped greatly those who had believed through grace; for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

Acts 19:1 And it came about that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper country came to Ephesus, and found some disciples,

In Corinth, Apollos was also very useful in "watering" the spiritual seed which Paul had planted. He was obviously a skilled teacher of Bible truth and much appreciated by the believers there. Unfortunately, many of the Corinthian believers became so attached to him that they produced a schism in the church, with some taking Apollos' part, some Paul's, and some staying out of the conflict. But it is obvious that Apollos did not encourage this party feeling, seen in the approving way Paul speaks of him and in the fact that Apollos did not want to return to Corinth when he was with Paul at Ephesus (1 Cor. 16:12).

1 Cor. 1:12 Now I mean this, that each one of you is saying, "I am of Paul," and "I of Apollos," and "I of Cephas," and "I of Christ."

1 Cor. 3:4-6 For when one says, "I am of Paul," and another, "I am of Apollos," are you not {mere} men? What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave {opportunity} to each one. I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth.

1 Cor. 3:22 whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or things present or things to come; all things belong to you,

1 Cor. 4:6 Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively applied to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that in us you might learn not to exceed what is written, in order that no one of you might become arrogant in behalf of one against the other.

1 Cor. 16:12 But concerning Apollos our brother, I encouraged him greatly to come to you with the brethren; and it was not at all his desire to come now, but he will come when he has opportunity. Paul mentions Apollos again in Titus 3:13 and recommends him and Zenas the lawyer to Titus, knowing that they intended to visit Crete.

Titus 3:13 Diligently help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way so that nothing is lacking for them.

Jerome (a church father) believed that Apollos remained in Crete until he had heard that the divisions in Corinth had been healed, and that he returned and became bishop of that city.

Aquila and Priscilla

Aquila and his wife Priscilla were Jews and natives of Pontus. Their occupation was tentmaking. They had fled from Rome to Corinth when the emperor Claudius had commanded all Jews to leave that city. When Paul came to Corinth, he found them and stayed with them for some time, working with them at the trade of tentmaking.

Later, when Paul was opposed by the Jews, and perhaps to remove any obstacle to his reception by the Gentiles, he left the house of Aquila and dwelled with a man named Justus.

It is not clear when Aquila and Priscilla became Christians, but it was certainly before Paul left Corinth, because they traveled with him to Ephesus. Paul was able to teach them a great deal about Christ in a short time, because we see Aquila and Priscilla giving instruction to Apollos in Ephesus (Acts 18). They appear to have been zealous promoters of the cause of Christ in Ephesus (1 Cor. 16:19).

Acts 18:2 And he [Paul] found a certain Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, having recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. He came to them,

Acts 18:18 And Paul, having remained many days longer, took leave of the brethren and put out to sea for Syria, and with him were Priscilla and Aquila. In Cenchrea he had his hair cut, for he was keeping a vow.

Acts 18:26 and he [Apollos] began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.

Aquila and Priscilla later returned to Rome, and their home there was a place of assembly for believers. See Romans 16:3 and following verses.

Some years after that they seem to have returned to Ephesus, because Paul sends salutations to them there during his second imprisonment at Rome (2 Tim. 4:19), as being with Timothy.

Titus Lesson 10 Quiz

Instructions

The following questions relate to your study of this lesson, including the topical studies.

To answer a question, type your response in the space provided after the word "Answer:". A question may be True/False, multiple choice, fill in the blank, or short answer type.

One of the questions requires you to write one or two paragraphs in "essay" form. Use the space provided; it will expand to accommodate your response.

You have choices about sending the quiz back to Grace Notes.

- If you received an email file containing the quiz, you can use the REPLY feature of your e-mail application to open the quiz. Enter your answers in the reply message. Then SEND the message to Grace Notes.
- You can enter your answers on these pages, then send the whole file back to Grace Notes as a file attachment. This is handy, but these lessons will average 100K to 200K in size. As an alternative,
- After you answer the questions here, copy and paste the whole list of questions into a new MS Word document; then, send the new file to Grace Notes as an attachment. The new file will, of course, be much smaller than this main file.
- Finally, you can print the Quiz pages on your printer and send your response back to Grace Notes in the regular mail. If you do this, send the mail to:

Grace Notes % Warren Doud 1705 Aggie Lane Austin, Texas 78757 USA

Whichever transmission method you use, when Grace Notes receives this last Quiz, we will send you an e-mail message acknowledging that you have completed this course. We will also ask you to verify that the name we are planning to put on the certificate is correct. It will take us a two to three weeks to print and mail the certificate.

Question on Titus Lesson 10

1. Only one question for the lesson! :-)

Write a brief "report" (one or two paragraphs) describing how the study of Titus has either (1) changed your perception of something, or (2) changed how you do something, such as teaching or ministering, or (3) increased your understanding about something. Pick any one of these items.

Congratulations for having finished the study of Titus. When you send this Quiz back to Grace Notes, I'll get a certificate ready to send you.

Cordially in Christ,

Warren Doud