

Titus 3:1-15 **Closing Instructions – Closing Greetings**

Be subject to governing authorities – Be fruitful in every good work

¹ Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, ² to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men.

Remember our own past failures

³ For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another.

Changed by saving Grace of God

⁴ But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, ⁵ not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Maintain good works

⁸ This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men.

Avoid contentious disputes

⁹ But avoid foolish disputes, genealogies, contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and useless. ¹⁰ Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition, ¹¹ knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being self-condemned.

Come to me at Nicopolis

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.

Send Zenas and Apollos on their way with ample supplies.

¹³ Send Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey with haste, that they may lack nothing. ¹⁴ And let our people also learn to maintain good works, to meet urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful.

Closing Greeting

¹⁵ All who are with me greet you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.
NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Be subject to governing authorities – Be fruitful in every good work [Titus 3:1-2]

- ✚ Paul's advice is for the peaceful existence of the believers to avoid unnecessary oppression from governmental entities, and from the public at large. It is a good common sense approach.
- ✧ Toward the government; be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, keeps you out of legal problems.

- ✧ Toward the public; to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men, will not cause a violent reaction and will contribute to the safety and well being of the believer.

Remember our own past failures [Titus 3:3]

- ✧ For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another.
- ✧ Remembering where we were before coming to the Lord for Salvation, helps us to be more understanding of the problems faced by unbelievers.

Changed by saving Grace of God [Titus 3:4-7]

- ✧ God The Father, did not send Jesus our Savior into the world because of works of righteousness done by men, but by His own mercy, grace, kindness, and love.
- ✧ God saved us through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, Whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior. Therefore the Salvation of God is accomplished through Christ Jesus.
- ✧ The goal of His grace is, that after having been justified by His grace, we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.
- ✧ Access to Eternal Life is not our doing, but made possible by the grace of God.

Maintain good works [Titus 3:8]

- ✧ The obligation of the believer is in response to Salvation accomplished through Jesus Christ.
- ✧ After we are saved by believing the Gospel message, we are expected to demonstrate our appreciation for His work of Salvation by carefully maintaining good works in our lives.
- ✧ These commandments are good and profitable to men, and consistent with all Scriptures.

Avoid contentious disputes [Titus 3:9-10]

- ✧ To be effective in our walk of faith, we must avoid things that would not be of value.
- ✧ Avoid foolish disputes (debates) over things that cause contentions, genealogies, strivings about the law, for they are unprofitable and useless.
- ✧ Reject a divisive man after admonishing (warning) him twice.
- ✧ Such a man is warped (perverted, prejudiced), by his behavior he is self condemned.

Come to me at Nicopolis

- ✧ Paul was not in prison when he sent the letter to Titus, but having missed him in Troas, Paul instructs Titus to join him at Nicopolis where he intends to spend the winter.
- ✧ Paul will send Artemas or Tychicus to Crete to relieve Titus to go to Nicopolis.
- ✧ Nicopolis (city of victory) is, as most agree, in western Greece about 4 miles north of Actium on the Adriatic Sea coast where Augustus pitched his tent when he defeated Anthony in the sea battle at Actium.
- ✧ Artemas and Tychicus, were a trusted coworkers with Paul one of whom Paul intended to send to Crete to relieve Titus so he could join him at Nicopolis, little else is known about them.

Send Zenas and Apollos on their way with ample supplies.

- ✧ Zenas the lawyer and Apollos were apparently with Titus in Crete So Paul instructed Titus to supply them well for their journey so they would lack nothing and send them on their way for their travels.
- ✧ In this way the believers in Crete would learn to maintain good works, to meet urgent needs, which would make them fruitful in the faith.

Closing Greeting

- ✧ All who are with me greet you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.