

Titus 3.⁹But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless. ¹⁰As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him, ¹¹knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned. ¹²When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. ¹³Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. ¹⁴And let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful. ¹⁵All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all.

1. What are some of the unprofitable distractions you struggle with?
2. What are the characteristics of a “divisive” person?
3. Isn’t it divisive to “have nothing more to do with him” (v. 10). Is there a difference between being a “divisive person” and taking hard stands for truth and righteousness that cause division when people don’t agree with that stance? Do you think all the Cretan Christians were happily united when Titus tried to implement Paul’s commands in this letter?
4. “Self-condemned” Wow! Is Paul saying these divisive ones have no hope of forgiveness? Or, like all other Cretans, is Gospel forgiveness and grace offered to them? (Hint: Look at the last sentence in the letter. v. 15)
5. After all the work that Paul tasked Titus to do, does it surprise you that he now tells him to leave Crete soon (v. 12)? What does that tell us about how ministry/church is or is not built on one man?
6. Who are you supporting as they go out to serve Christ in other lands (v. 13)? Is “Gospel mission” part of your personal budget?
7. This letter opens and closes with “grace” (1.4, 3.15), and uses the word many times throughout. What does “grace” mean? Have you experienced “Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior”? (1.4).

From Everywhere to Everywhere: Opposition and Advance Titus 3.9-15

Chapter 1 - Doctrine and Duty in the Church

Chapter 2 - Doctrine and Duty in the Home

Chapter 3 - Doctrine and Duty in the World

1. Opposition Within

- a. Unprofitable Distractions vs. 8,9, 1 Tim 1.3-5, 1 Corinth 10.23,24,31
- b. Ungodly Divisions v. 9
 - 1) Character vs. 10, 11, Romans 12.18
 - 2) Correction v. 10, Matthew 18.15-17
 - 3) Consequences v. 11, Hebrews 10.26,27, John 14.6

2. Advance Beyond

2 Corinthians 10.15,16, Romans 15.20,21

- a. Friendships v. 12, 2 Corinth 2.12,13, 7.6,13, 2 Tim 1.3,4, 4.9,21
- b. Foundation 1 Corinthians 3.11, 16.9, Ephesians 2.19,20
- c. Funding v. 13, Acts 13.2,3, 3 John 5-8
- d. Fruitfulness v. 14, Colossians 1.5,6
- e. Family v. 15, Titus 1.4