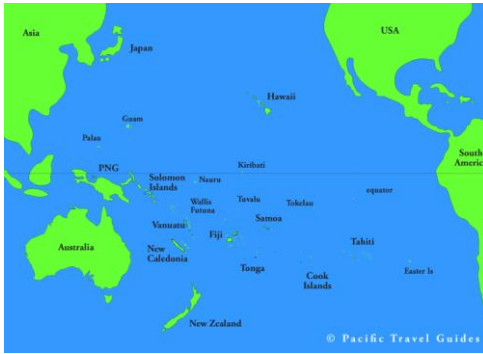


Titus 2.1-15

The Stomach of Evil



Alan Tippett

told the story of God's Mission
in the Pacific Islands...



As we STEP into the Scripture this Morning
from Pacific to Mediterranean, back to 1st Cent
Apostle Paul > TITUS on Island of Crete
146 miles / 235 kms LONG

Paul's FIRST DIRECT COMMAND to Titus v. 1 But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine.

CONTRAST with CRETAN RELIGIOUS TEACHERS – Verse Right BEFORE
They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. Titus 1.16
Have GOOD TALK but a LOUSY WALK – Preach but do NOT PRACTICE

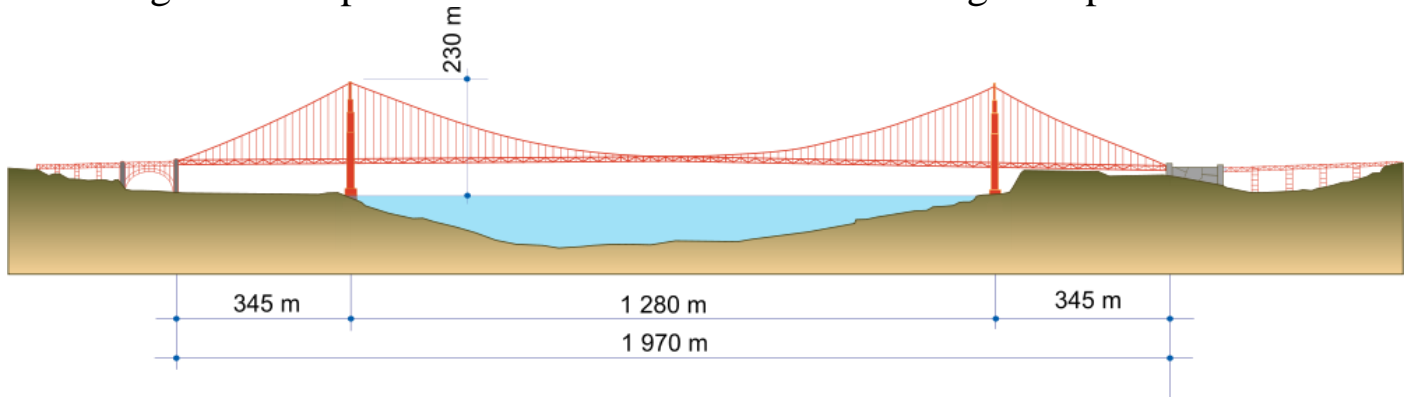
Paul PLEADS with Titus - & ALL who Follow Christ – to BE DIFFERENT!
5 X's Pastoral Letters (Tim & Titus) “But as for YOU” > Stand Up & Stand Out

Chapter 2 – SOUND DOCTRINE = Gospel TRUTHS AND Ethical Commands
SOUND = HEALTHY or FIT / Wd. used in Gospels: HEALED, Made WHOLE
Healthy DOCTRINE // Healthy BODY > All must WORK TOGETHER

If our theology is maimed (with bits missing) or diseased (with bits distorted), it is not ‘sound’ or ‘healthy’...Paul calls ‘sound doctrine’ ‘the whole purpose of God,’ the fullness of divine revelation.
John Stott

Sound Doctrine = What we BELIEVE and How we BEHAVE >LIFE GIVING

1916 Engineer Joseph Strauss – Submitted Idea for Bridge to Span S.F. BAY



Bridge Completed in 1937 – Called GOLDEN GATE Bridge

Today Millions of People DRIVE ACROSS that Bridge EVERY WEEK



REASON Millions have Not Fallen into Bay these 79 yrs – 2 Mighty Pillars

2 Pillars driven deeply into BEDROCK – Carry the SUSPENSION Bridge

Titus 2 >> 2 Gospel Pillars FOUNDATION of our SALVATION

1. Gospel Appearances

v. 11 For the grace of God has appeared

v. 13 the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ

Greek word EPIPHANY > Visible Appearance of Something that was Invisible
SUN that leaps onto HORIZON at Daybreak / ENEMY who Springs AMBUSH

NT uses Word 10 X's – 4 X's re. Jesus FIRST Coming, 6 X's Jesus 2nd Coming

2 Appearances of Jesus Christ – GOSPEL Pillars driven Deeply into History

a. Epiphany of Grace

v. 11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people

This is our GREAT NEWS – God has come to SAVE Us, because of His LOVE

God of BIBLE – OT & NT – is a Gracious God – ONE, ETERNAL GOD

“The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin...” Exodus 34.6,7

NOW in NEW Covenant – Grace for ALL Peoples and Nations

Jesus – Son of God and God the Son – FINISHED our Salvation on CROSS

God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel
2 Timothy 1.8-10

For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. John 1.16

b. Epiphany of Glory

Jesus of Nazareth BRIEFLY Appeared STAGE of History: 30+ yrs, 2000 yrs ago
HISTORY will come to a God-Appointed CLOSE by 2nd Epiphany of JESUS

v. 13 waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ

Christian Hope – Not ‘I hope so’ but “I KNOW so” – Coming Again in GLORY

During his TRIAL before the HIGH PRIEST Jesus told Israel’s Religious Ruler:

Jesus: “...you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven”
Matthew 26.64

v. 13 our great God and Savior Jesus Christ

One of **CLEAREST** Verses in Bible that Jesus Christ **IS FULLY GOD**

Every NT Reference to **EPIPHANY** is to **JESUS** – both Our Savior & Our **GOD**
 Dwells in **ETERNAL** – Mysterious – Fellowship of **TRINITY** w/ Father & Spirit

Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Hebrews 9.28

When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Colossians 3.4

2. Gospel Adornment

2 Great **PILLARS** of Gospel > Like **SUSPENSION** Bridge for People of God
 People of God to Travel “El Camino Real” > **KING’S HIGHWAY** of **GLORY**



The weight of the roadway is hung from two cables that pass through the two main towers and are fixed in concrete at each end. Each cable is made of 27,572 strands of wire. There are 80,000 miles (130,000 km) of wire in the main cables.

People of God **TRAVEL GOSPEL** Bridge – Safely Suspended by 2 Epiphanies
NOT an Option > Wanna get to Other Side > Travel Across Suspended Bridge
 Rest of **TITUS 2** > **WHO** are those Given **GRACE & GLORY** from Great God?

Sound Doctrine = What we **BELIEVE** AND How we **BEHAVE**

How to be a **CHRISTIAN** and Not a **CRETAN**

vs. 11,12 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, *training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age*

People who Behold His Grace learn When to Say No and When to Say Yes

vs. 13,14 waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us *to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.*

People who will BEHOLD His Glory are ENTHUSIASTS for GOOD WORKS

We LIVE in this IN BETWEEN TIME – Between ALREADY and NOT YET

CONFIDENT He has Come for Us – CERTAIN He will Come Again

LOOK Opposite Ways at SAME TIME: He Came Past / Coming Again Future

Looking in FAITH to our Gospel Yesterday & Gospel Tomorrow

Makes us Live for this GOSPEL TODAY

Get Up in Morning: X has DIED, X has RISEN, X will COME AGAIN

It was for this purpose that the epiphany of God's grace in Jesus Christ took place. It is not only that grace makes good works possible (enabling us to do them), but that grace makes them necessary (challenging us to live accordingly). The emphasis is on the necessity, not the mere possibility, of good works. John Stott

Titus MUST TEACH DOCTRINE Believers > GIVES HEALTH TO CHURCH

TEACH Sound Doctrine = Right Belief & Right Living - GO TOGETHER

GENERAL PRINCIPLES & SPECIFIC APPLICATIONS

a. Elderly – same Root word used in Ch 1 for “Elders” > Respectable

Church should have all AGES and RACES > Reach World, Encourage E/Other

Gospel should BRIDGE the Generation Gap – Create ONE Family in Christ

54 Gender Identities in Facebook > Only 2 in Bible > Men and Women

vs. 2,3 Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good

v. 2 “the greybeards” / Dignity & Maturity > NEEDED in Ministry! LEADERS

Older People cannot Afford to WASTE TIME > Strive to END WELL for Jesus

v. 3 Older women likewise > SAME QUALITIES AND MORE

1) Sound in Belief

v. 2 sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness / v. 3 teach what is good

FAITH, LOVE, and HOPE – Foundations of the Christian Life

NEW BELIEVERS IN CRETE - Needed Xtian Models and Examples

Good TEACHING in a church will lead to MORE Good TEACHING > RIPPLE

2) Self-Controlled Behavior – Holy Spirit working In & Thru Lives

v. 2 sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled > No SELF-INDULGENCE

v. 3 reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine

Some think END of Life is Time to LIVE IT UP – Try All U Never got to TRY

Can Now Join Willie Nelson in Smokin’ Joints DAILY, Because it is LEGAL

Anything can FERMENT and Turn into Beer & there’s 2 Buck CHUCK WINE

“Maturity – Being big enough on the inside to control yourself on the outside.”

REVERENT = HOLY PERSON / Like Priest in Temple

Older People are to PRACTICE the PRESENCE of God

In Africa, ‘elders’ are respected, and thus they sometimes consider themselves above the law and entitled to do as they please. Paul, however, tells them to live balanced lives. They should be respected not just because they have cultural authority over the young but because their lives inspire respect.

Solomon Andria, Madagascar

3) Safely Handover the Baton

Might RETIRE from EMPLOYMENT – Never RETIRE from Kingdom Service
WIDOWS in Early Church – Many Churches Today – Mighty Army for the Lord

Paul does NOT TELL Titus to teach Younger WOMEN

PROTECTION of Reputation of Church AND Older Women do BETTER JOB
Young Women can Learn from Women who have BEEN THERE, DONE THAT

v. 4 and so train the young women // v. 6 Likewise, urge the younger men

The older women are not to hoard their knowledge but pass it on to younger women who need the advice of those with greater experience. Bryan Chapell

PURPOSE of ZGC Sister to Sister – MEET and Share across Culture and Years
End of Life is Time to FINISH WELL in the FAITH – Hand BATON Next Gen.
Might have Great Team of Runners – But if DROP BATON will LOSE the Race

...what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also 2 Timothy 2.2

“Teach what is Good” to Next Generation SPIRITUAL FORMATION / Mentors

b. Energetic Energetic Sometimes > My ‘get up and go’ gets up and Leaves!

STRENGTH OF YOUTH SHOULD BE CHANNLED

Every major missionary movement begun by people in their 20’s

1) Life - TITUS HIMSELF to SHOW an Example to All, esp the YOUNG

v. 7 Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, and sound speech...

A PASTOR’S MOST POWERFUL SERMON IS HIS LIFE
IMPORTANT IN MISSION SETTING - BY TEACHING & LIFE

DIFFICULTY IN LEADERSHIP - CONSTANTLY BEING WATCHED

Paul: “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.”

1 Corinthians 11.1

Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

1 Timothy 4.12

v. 15 Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

A CHURCH WILL NEVER RISE ANY HIGHER THAN ITS LEADERS

v. 8 integrity, dignity, and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.

v. 5 that the word of God may not be reviled

Highest Goal of Life – NOT that You and I be Happy and Feel Good

Highest Purpose of Life – Glory of God > NAME held in Honor by All Peoples

Church: Declare Name of God – Lips & Lives – So Lost FIND & Follow Him

World – Tells you to Ask First “What’s in this for ME?”

Jesus > You will FIND your Life ONLY when you GIVE IT AWAY!

LOTS of People on UNI Campus will have ENCOUNTER with Jesus Christ

Encounter will be THRU YOU! Reputation of Jesus is at Stake in our Witness

“Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.” What about CHRISTIANS?

You here in this City/Nation may be FIRST BIBLE people will Read...

You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all. And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

2 Corinthians 3.2,3

2) Love v. 4 train the young women to love their husbands and children

BIG ASK – Arranged Marriages, Abusive Husbands, Rampant Prostitution

“train the younger husband-loving to be child-loving, self controlled”

Some Wives use Child Care as way to ESCAPE Loving their Husbands

1st Way Teach Children God LOVES THEM is to See Parents Love E/Other
Crete False Teachers v. 11 “upsetting whole families” Christians need Get Right

Paul Not Answering All Questions about Modern Family – Working Wives

The Apostle without question ranks a wife’s obligations to care for her husband and children over her personal benefit or fulfillment. Bryan Chapell

LISTEN to Messages Ephesians 5 – Marriage, Husbands, Wives – ZGC Website
Mutual, Sacrificial, Exclusive Love between Husband and Wife Until Death

v. 7 Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled.

Just ONE Command to Young Men – CONTROL YOURSELF

Maybe when they Get that Right Paul will give them Another Command!

Control Words, Thoughts, Actions, Time, Testosterone, Treasure

Greater Understanding of GRACE, greater DESIRE for GODLINESS

Hearts are WARMED and WON by Undeserved, Unconditional LOVE of God

God does NOT FORCE us to SERVE Him he FREES Us to Serve Him

THEME > GOSPEL GRACE Leads to GODLINESS > Doctrine demands Duty

ALL are to be SELF-CONTROLLED > Old Men & Women & Young M & W

He who wants to be a true Christian or to belong to the kingdom of Christ must be truly a believer. But he does not truly believe if works of love do not follow his faith. Martin Luther

For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. 1 Thessalonians 4.3-8

3) Liberty

v. 5 to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands

Woman who **CHOOSES** Marriage Choses Responsibilities **HOME & FAMILY**
 We Now think we Know More than Old Bible – We have **MR. MOM** at Home
CAN Work – Marriage **IS** Team Effort – But No Biblical Example of Mr. Mom
 If it were such a **GREAT IDEA** I think God would have Encouraged It!

Problem we Read v. 5 as Statement of **INFERIORITY** – She is **JUST** a Mom
 Biblical Marriage is Relationship of **EQUALS** – Talents, Gifts, Responsibility
 Biblical Marriage defines **ROLES** and **DUTIES** that are **UNIQUE** to M & W
 In the Church and in the Home – Men are **LEADERS** and Women are **LED**

Our fickle feelings about motherhood must submit to God's truth... We are *alive* for a purpose—to make known the Lord's mighty deeds among the nations... Sisters in Christ, whatever season we're in, whatever kind of nurturing work we're doing, and however long our season lasts, life in Christ is our new normal. And it will still be 30 trillion years from now. Gloria Furman

World tells All of Us – Old, Young, Men, Women – It can **SATISFY**
 Latest Phone, Movie, Investment, Purchase, Fashion, or Sexual Conquest
 Christian needs to Learn Great Joy is **ALREADY OURS** in having **JESUS**
TRANSFORMATION was Seen in Christians on **CRETE**

Legalism	Liberty	License
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Legalism - God will love me because I do this!

License - God loves me no matter what I do, so I need not love Him with my life!

Liberty - God loves me because I am in Christ and His Spirit in me leads me to follow Him!

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. Galatians 5.1

Christianity is not simply something we know; it is something we do. It is not merely a belief system or a moral code; it is a theology that comes to life.

Philip Ryken

“If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” John 8.36

c. Enslaved

1) Grim Reality v. 9 Bondservants are to be submissive to their own masters in everything

SLAVES - 60 million Rome Empire / 1/3 of Empire Slaves > In CHURCHES

WHY NOT BAN IT? 1) Could not – Xtians Small Minority Group

2) Immediate Ban, Collapse Society

3) Gospel ended it eventually - BROTHERS in X

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3.28

Not Essay on SOCIAL JUSTICE – Pastoral Letter to Church...full of SLAVES

2) Given Responsibility – Strong words of REBUKE for Slaves on CRETE

Paul does NOT Lower the Bar for Slaves – No Patronizing or Compromising

vs. 8-10 submissive to their own masters in everything they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, not pilfering, but showing all good faith,

He TALKS to them like the Mature, Spirit-filled Adults they are in Christ

1) Avoid DISOBEDIENCE - serve Master from their heart

2) Don't TALK BACK - including behind Master's back

3) Do not STEAL – It does NOT BELONG to You

TODAY - millions lost by employees who steal “they owe it to me”

Are YOU making the Gospel ATTRACTIVE in your Place of Service for Christ
Understand U R Christ’s AMBASSADOR – Campus, Corporation, Community

For he who was called in the Lord as a bondservant is a freedman of the Lord. Likewise he who was free when called is a bondservant of Christ. You were bought with a price; do not become bondservants of men. So, brothers, in whatever condition each was called, there let him remain with God.

1 Corinthians 7.22-24

3) Gospel Revealed

vs. 10,11 ...so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior. For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people

These LOWEST in Society are FIRST in the KINGDOM

Church is to LOOK at their Righteous Lives – their ADORNMENT of Gospel

Paul, a servant [slave] of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ Titus 1.1

Paul the Apostle, wears the SAME JERSEY as the SLAVE – for Jesus

Jesus – More than any Herald on FIJI – became the STOMACH OF EVIL

He SWALLOWED the King’s words of Judgment > Taking our Punishment

Gave His Life for our SIN and REBELLION against God our King on Cross

Now RISEN in Glory > Speaks King’s Words of Love and Forgiveness

Jesus: “Whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Mark 10.44,45

JEWEL OF THE GOSPEL WILL SHINE / GOD IS HONORED

EVEN BY THE SLAVE / JESUS - GREATEST OF ALL - SLAVE OF ALL

Titus 2.¹But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. ²Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. ³Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, ⁴and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, ⁵to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. ⁶Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. ⁷Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, ⁸and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us. ⁹Bondservants are to be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, ¹⁰not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior. ¹¹For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹²training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works. ¹⁵Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.