

## Good Deeds: Be Strong & Courageous

Titus 1:10-16

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The Church isn't a building. It's a people.

We are meant to be a blessing to our neighborhoods, networks, and nations.

Our faith comes from a knowledge of truth and leads to godliness.

Courage is needed because the realm of truth isn't a playground. It's a battleground.

**Courage** // We boldly and authentically step out as we pursue others.

False teachers reject authority.

*For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party.*

—Titus 1:10

No one outgrows the need for submission and accountability.

*For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.*

—2 Timothy 4:3-4 (NASB95)

False teachers can't deliver and deceive.

*For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party.*

—Titus 1:10

In other words, these false teachers are “mind deceivers.”

It's a group that will insist that the path to Jesus necessarily passes through the gate of Judaism.

False teachers have evil motives.

*They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach.*

—Titus 1:11

It's gaining wealth by deceiving, harming and even killing others.

Church leadership is called to confront false teachers without delay or they will tear the church apart.

False teachers are disgraceful.

*One of the Cretans, a prophet of their own, said, “Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.”*

—Titus 1:12

Paul was using a known cultural statement to make a sober point about the conduct of false teachers on Crete.

*This testimony is true.*

—Titus 1:13

Godly leadership takes action — immediately.

*Therefore, rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth.*

—Titus 1:13-14

*...rebuke those who contradict it.”*

—Titus 1:9

They don't tolerate sin and error.

The Christian message always has restoration as its motivation.

*To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.*

—Titus 1:15-16

It's a group that will insist that the path to Jesus necessarily passes through the gate of Judaism.

They talk about external purity, but they are internally corrupt.

# Big Idea

**Beware of any teaching not grounded in God's Word and does not lead to godly conduct.**

## STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS

- Are you an individual who is wired more to fight in confrontation or flight?
- In what area of your life are you needing to ask God to give you courage to step into? (Spend time praying for each other)
- Have you heard a preacher who was rebellious or deceptive? What did this preacher say or do that showed he was a fraud?
- What is the relationship between Paul's charge for believers to confront false teachers (Titus 1:13) and Jesus's command not to judge (Matthew 7:1)?
- How does this message or passage bring comfort, conviction or correction in my life?
- How should this passage or message reshape my thoughts, attitudes, emotions, motivations, words and actions?