

FAITH'S FOUNDATION
Session: Three Hundred and Eight:
Titus: "*Stick with It!*"
"True Power"

Foundational Observation:

To be right, at the expense of *doing right* is WRONG!

Foundational Principles:

Meekness is never weakness, but just the opposite; it is power under control.

Foundational Verses:

Titus 3:1-15 (Formatting added for emphasis)

- 1 Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient,
to be ready to do whatever is good,
- 2 to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate,
and to show true humility toward all men.
- 3 At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of
passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one
another.
- 4 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared,
- 5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.
He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,
- 6 whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,
- 7 so that, having been justified by his grace,
we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.
- 8 This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who
have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good.
These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.
- 9 But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the
law, because these are unprofitable and useless.
- 10 Warn a divisive person once, and then warn him a second time.
After that, have nothing to do with him.
- 11 You may be sure that such a man is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.
- 12 As soon as I send Artemas or Tychicus to you,
do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, because I have decided to winter there.
- 13 Do everything you can to help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way
and see that they have everything they need.
- 14 Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good,
in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives.
- 15 Everyone with me sends you greetings. Greet those who love us in the faith.

Grace be with you all.

Understanding How to Exercise "True Power"

(Bolded question are geared toward application.)

- 1. Before doing any detailed study of Titus 3, answer the following question. *Based upon your own personal opinions and possibly beliefs, how do you think a Christian can and should best interact with society around him or her?* _____

- 2. The world of Paul's day (as well as today) looked at Christianity with mistrust and suspicion. Why do you think this was (is) the case? _____

- 3. Paul guides our Christian citizenship in verses 1-8. Regardless of the group we are a part of (a nation, state, city, community, organization, group, or even a church), Paul gives us key actions and attitudes to apply. In verses 1-2 identify as many of those actions as you can by following the clue of the word "to." _____

How might this pattern strengthen the groups we are a part of today? _____

- 4. Based upon verses 3-7, what is the basis for our change in actions in our daily life and relationships? _____

In verse 8, "the trustworthy saying" refers back to the gospel message summarized in verses 3-7, which message brings us hope (vs. 7). How or why does this empower the behaviors spoken of in verses 1-2? _____

When we are discouraged with the atmosphere in our current group, how can these verses help us? _____

- 5. In every group (government, church, job, family, etc.) we find obnoxious people. Based on verses 9-10, how should we deal with them? _____

What as some key clues you can immediately apply from these words? _____

- 6. Looking past the names of places and people that are strange to us in verses 12-14, what principles can you find to encourage your faithfulness in hard situations? _____

Why might the power of character be greater than the power of force? _____
