

THE TRANSFORMATIVE GOSPEL: OLDER/YOUNGER WOMEN

Sunday, July 1, 2018 -- Titus series -- Msg 19 -- Mike Todd

TITUS Chapter 2

English Standard Version (ESV)

1 But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. **2** Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. **3** Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, **4** and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, **5** to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. **6** Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. **7** Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, **8** and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us. **9** Slaves are to be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-

pleasing, not argumentative, **10** not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.

11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, **12** training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, **13** waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, **14** 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.

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

CONTEXT/BACKGROUND:

The Apostle Paul has left Titus on the island of Crete to straighten out messed up churches.

The churches had problematic leaders, doctrine and behavior.

In **Titus 1:5-16** Titus is told to appoint godly elders and to oppose false teachers and false teaching. In chapter 2, the focus shifts from the LEADERS to the CONGREGATION, with specific instructions for various groups in the Church.

Older men are to be:

- 1) Sober-minded** = Their discipline of life brings a clarity of mind.
- 2) Dignified** = They are honorable and respectable with clear godly values.
- 3) Self-controlled** = Their inside values control their outside behavior.
- 4) Sound in faith, in love and in steadfastness** = They are spiritually healthy and stable.

OLDER MEN	OLDER WOMEN
YOUNGER MEN	YOUNGER WOMEN

The older men in the body of Christ are to be a model of what it means to faithfully walk in God's grace with God's people in a fallen world.

FOUR REASONS WHY THIS PASSAGE MATTERS TO ALL OF US

- This is _____, and **all** _____ is designed to equip **all** _____ (2 Timothy 3:16).
- Much of what Paul says here has to do with _____, and that applies to _____.
- No matter how _____ you are, you are still _____ than somebody else.
- This passage is about _____ business, and _____ business is _____ business!

"Older women..." There is no precise age requirement, but Paul is clearly thinking about people with _____ and _____ experience to pass on.

Likewise? Yes! Parents learn that _____ their children equally doesn't always mean _____ them the same, because of their different personalities, _____ abilities and _____ in the family. Each member in God's family also has a unique _____.

“Older women likewise are to be...”

1) Reverent in their behavior = *hieroprepes* is a compound of *hieros*, meaning holy, and *prepo*, meaning seemly, fitting, or _____. The idea here is _____ living, behavior appropriate to someone _____ as God’s servant.

2) Not slanderers = shockingly, the word here is *diabolous*, a word sometimes used in reference to the _____, but which more generally means _____.

Revelation 12:10 “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.”

- Gossip and mean-spirited _____ are not compatible with reverence/holiness.
- Complaining and criticizing are not _____!

3) Not...slaves to much wine = these are faithful disciples of Christ who refuse to give themselves over to the _____ of something that will _____ out life and God.

Romans 6:19 “For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.”

4) They are to teach what is good... Paul appears to have coined this word (*kalodidaskalous*) by combining the words for “good” and “teaching.” He very literally says, that the older women are to be “_____ - _____” people, the kind of people you spend time with and end up acquiring good _____ and good _____.

- This **does not** mean that we should just feel free to _____ our _____ into the lives of everyone younger than we are. Nobody likes a _____ (1 Timothy 5:15).
- This **does not** mean nonstop _____. One of the most important things we can teach by example is how to _____. James 3 and the book of Proverbs have a lot to say about the wisdom of knowing when to _____.
- Like the older men, older women are to _____ and _____ what it means to faithfully walk in God’s _____ with God’s _____ in a fallen world.

5) “and so train the young women” This word (*sophronizosin*) is built from the word for wisdom. If there were such a word as “_____ - _____,” that would pretty well capture the idea.

- Older women, pass on your _____! Help the younger women to live _____ and _____!

Don’t miss the little word “_____!” Helping younger folks _____ in wisdom requires _____ wisdom, and unfortunately, age doesn’t _____ wisdom.

- At any age, it is those who never stop _____ wisdom and maturity who have the most to offer.

6) “Train them...to love their husbands and children” Paul uses compound words that emphasize what young women are to _____ more than what they are to _____. Wives and mothers should be characterized by care and _____ for their husbands and children.

7) **“Train them...to be self-controlled”** This also applies to elders (Titus 1:8 and 1 Timothy 3:2) and older men (v. 2). As Pastor Andrew puts it, their _____ control their _____.

8) **“Train them...to be...pure”** This includes sexual purity, but there is more to it than that.

1 Timothy 5:22 “Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, nor take part in the sins of others; keep yourself pure.”

Hebrews 5:14 “But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.”

- Older women are to help younger women grow in _____ so they won’t get mixed up with things that may seem _____ but may be _____ to their spiritual health.
- It’s the job of older women to **give the gift of _____** !

9) **“Train them...to be...working at home”** Perhaps in Crete, like in Ephesus, there is a problem with some of the younger women being “idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not” (1 Timothy 5:15).

- This **does not** rule out women _____ outside the _____ (see Proverbs 31).
- This **does** point to the fact that having a healthy _____ and _____ life takes intentional _____ work .

10) **“Train them...to be...kind”** The word here can mean kind, _____, or _____.

- Paul **is not** asking them to be _____.
- He **is** asking them not to be _____.

11) **“Train them...to be...submissive to their own husbands”** The Bible also mentions the submission of:

- Jesus to His earthly parents (Luke 2:51)
- Christians to human authorities (Titus 3:1)
- Jesus to God the Father (1 Corinthians 15:28)
- Christians to one-another (Ephesians 5:21)

- This has **absolutely nothing** to do with _____ or _____ (Genesis 1:27)! It reflects the reality that members of a family have different _____.
- This **does not apply** to all _____ - _____ interaction. It is specific to _____.
- This **does not mean** that husbands get to _____ it _____ their wives (Mark 10:42-44, Ephesians 5:28).
- It **does assume** that self-sacrificing _____, _____, and _____ characterize Christian relationships.
- This **is saying** that the home should not be characterized by _____ or _____.

12) **“that the word of God may not be reviled.”** Christians are “Exhibit A” for the gospel.

- This **does not** mean that women must be _____ and _____ to glorify God.
- It **does** mean that if the women of the church don’t _____ in one-another, and the families of the church are _____ and _____, the _____ of the _____ will suffer.
- We need to avoid giving people an excuse to say **“If that’s a _____, I don’t want to _____.”**

Older women in the body of Christ

have a _____ in helping younger women
to _____ the challenges of _____ and _____ life
in a fallen world.

A FEW FINAL THOUGHTS:

- **Older women, give the gift of _____.** Look for opportunities to invest in younger women by your wise _____, _____, and _____.
- **Younger women, give the gift of _____ and _____.** Open the door to the older women around you. Let them know you want their _____ in your life, and make yourself available when they are.
- **Men, give the gift of _____ and _____.** Do everything you can to help the women in your lives put these things into practice for the sake of your _____, the _____ of God, and a watching _____.

1:5-16 TITUS' TASKS

1:5-9 APPOINT NEW LEADERS

ELDERS

MATURE HUSBANDS & FATHERS

KNOWN FOR INTEGRITY, SELF-CONTROL, & GENEROSITY

ABLE TO TEACH THE GOOD NEWS

2:10-16 CONFRONT CORRUPT LEADERS

ETHNICALLY JEWISH CRETAN CHRISTIANS

DEMANDING CIRCUMCISION & TORAH OBSERVANCE (SEE GALATIANS)

MOTIVATED BY MONEY

EPIMENIDES SAID IT BEST:

"CRETANS ARE... ALWAYS LIARS, VICIOUS BEASTS, AND LAZY GLUTTONS!"

THEY CLAIM TO KNOW GOD, BUT THEIR ACTIONS DENY HIM.

THEY CLAIM TO KNOW GOD, BUT THEIR ACTIONS DENY HIM.

2 THE NEW HOUSEHOLD

THE PRESENT REALITY...

FORGET YOU BOSS-MAN!

WOO YEAHH, JESUS!!!

CHRISTIANS! WHAT A JOKE...

...& THE RESULT

- GOD'S WORD IS DISCREDITED (2:5)
- PEOPLE MAKE EVIL ACCUSATIONS (2:8)
- THE CHRISTIAN MESSAGE ISN'T COMPELLING (2:10)

THE CRETAN HOUSEHOLD, JESUS-STYLE

THE GOSPEL MUST PROVE ITSELF IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE

CHRISTIANITY IS COMPELLING WHEN IT LOOKS CULTURALLY SIMILAR... BUT IS BASED ON DIFFERENT VALUE SYSTEM & DEVOTED TO A DIFFERENT GOD.

2:11-15 THE CHRISTIAN WAY OF LIFE IS BASED ON

GOD'S GENEROUS GRACE

DEMONSTRATED IN JESUS' REDEEMING DEATH FOR HIS ENEMIES

CALLS PEOPLE TO A NEW WAY OF LIFE