

October 8, 2023

The commentary in italics are mine in response to furthering what David Guzik has written. All verses I have added to aid in understanding as use in relation to how we should view application in our daily lives.

Titus 1:10-11 This first part from Titus and is focused on the Spiritual condition of the church.

**For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain.**

*The church today is not only being hit by members of the congregations who are this way but pastors themselves. Many want to be the person who has the most contrived message, things of sensationalism, a claim of inside special revelation, to be perceived as one who knows more than other and God addresses them to address others. This is what we wrestle against today. As it is addressed in the verses in Titus it is attesting to those who struggle with conforming to grace, accepting something that appears too simple in contrast to the law of works. These people had reason to feel the way they did, they may have said they were waiting for the Messiah but when He came they failed to recognize Him.*

For there are many insubordinates: The word insubordinate indicates someone who will not submit to God's order of authority. The ancient Greek word translated insubordinate is the negative form of the word submit — an insubordinate man will not submit.

*Submission comes in different means, it can be addressing the person who talks like a strong believer but their life does not show the signs of surrender. It can be one who seeks authority over others but seeks to lord things over others. Surrendering being important in order to achieve submission, or at least submission to our Lord God's desire for His, that all come to repentance. Some submit in ways of their own such as doing works instead of works of faith, this would be person that desires to have others look up to them. The problem with this manner of thinking is that the word here as used*

God has established an order of authority in several different areas of life. There is an order of authority in the home, *The Husband*, in the church, *The Pastor or Elders*, in the workplace, *The boss*, and in the community, *Keepers of the peace and obedience*. God wants us to recognize the areas where He has placed an order of authority in our lives, and He wants us to submit to that authority.

Ministers - li-toorg-os', Rom 13:6 - For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers **attending continually to this very thing**. What is this very thing being addressed here?

**Romans 13:4-5; For he is God's minister – ( dee-ak'-on-os) to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to**

execute wrath on him who practices evil. Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake.

Romans 13:4; Dee-ak-on-os - minister, in this verse implies – “those through whom God carries on his administration on earth, as magistrates,” specially, a Christian teacher and pastor (technically, a deacon or deaconess):—deacon, minister, servant.

Romans 13:6; li-toorg-os'-minister, “those by whom God administers his affairs and executes his decrees: so of magistrates,” a public minister, a servant of the state, a minister, servant, so of military labourers - of the temple - of one busied with holy things, of a priest. of the servants of a king.

Jesus says in Matthew Chapter 20

Matthew 20:25-28; But Jesus called them to Himself and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. 26 Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. 27 And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave— 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

*Ours is not to lord over others but to serve others, Philippians 2:3; Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.*

ii. If there were many contentious and “problem people” among God’s people in Paul’s day, so soon after the apostle himself had been among them, then we should also expect that there would be such people today. There are still many insubordinates.

b. Idle talkers and deceivers: These problem people will make themselves known by their unwise speech and by their deception.

*There are many people today as there was back then that have their opinions and perceptions but are often unstudied and even it is done without the thought of deception it can often still cause cracks in the body for the reason many are unsure of how to study and interpret the Scripture. One should desire to learn for themselves and not just what others say of teach. For teachers the level of judgment is higher than for others, so be careful.*

**I Titus 1:7; desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm. James 3:1; My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. This should never become a game as to who can give a better sermon or the most exciting news, but do your teaching knowing what this verse implies. It is a serious task to take up and attempt to be as correct as you can, according to Scripture.**

i. Idle talkers: “The main idea was of a worship which produced no goodness of life. These people in Crete could talk glibly but all their talk was ineffective in bringing anyone one step nearer goodness.” (Barclay)

c. Especially those of the circumcision: Paul was particularly concerned with the effect of some Christians from a Jewish background, who thought the key to acceptance before God was keeping the Law of Moses.

i. The words insubordinate and of the circumcision taken together show that these were Christians from a Jewish background, or at least they were Christians in name. "We cannot call those persons unruly on whose obedience we have no claim." (White)

ii. "They tried to persuade them that the simple story of Jesus and the Cross was not sufficient, but that, to be really wise, they needed all the subtle stories and the long genealogies and the elaborate allegories of the Rabbis. Further, they tried to teach them that grace was not enough, but that, to be really good, they needed to take upon themselves all the rules and regulations about foods and washings which were so characteristic of Judaism." (Barclay)

*These things still take place today. Some churches meet on Saturday believing it to be the Lord's day, Some eat certain foods, some seek merely to be encouraged even if they do not grasp the gospel at least they feel good about themselves and their relationship with God.*

iii. We can understand why it might be more difficult for Christians who came from Judaism and why they might tend to be more of a source of trouble in the early churches. Christians from pagan backgrounds immediately knew that they had to reject everything about their prior understanding about the gods. Yet Christians from Judaism had to take some things and leave others, and this is often more difficult.

d. Whose mouths must be stopped: Titus had to train the elders he chose to simply "shut up" these problem people. They should not be allowed to gain a hearing, because if allowed, they would subvert whole households. *This is the problem with un-biblical teaching and it must be addressed as soon as possible.*

*Relative to abortion. Although we no longer put children through fire, the meaningless abortion in the claim of women's rights has taken the place. It is not about "My Body" as some many of these same women took the vaccine against their choice. Abortion has become their religion, and the unborn are their sacrifices.*

**Leviticus 18:21; You must not give any of your children to be sacrificed to Molech, for you must not profane the name of your God. I am the LORD.**

**Deuteronomy 18:10; "There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer,**

**2 Kings 16:3, But he walked in the way of the kings of Israel; indeed he made his son pass through the fire, according to the abominations of the nations whom the LORD had cast out from before the children of Israel.**

**2 Kings 21:6; Also he made his son pass through the fire, practiced soothsaying, used witchcraft, and consulted spiritists and mediums. He did much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger.**

**Ezekiel 16:21; “that you have slain My children and offered them up to them by causing them to pass through the fire?**

**Berean Study Bible Jeremiah 19:5**

**because they have abandoned Me and made this a foreign place. They have burned incense in this place to other gods that neither they nor their fathers nor the kings of Judah have ever known. They have filled this place with the blood of the innocent. 5They have built high places to Baal on which to burn their children in the fire as offerings to Baal— something I never commanded or mentioned, nor did it even enter My mind. 6So behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when this place will no longer be called Topheth or the Valley of Ben-hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter....**

On what day was the most common for Christians to worship God?

**Acts 20:7; Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight.**