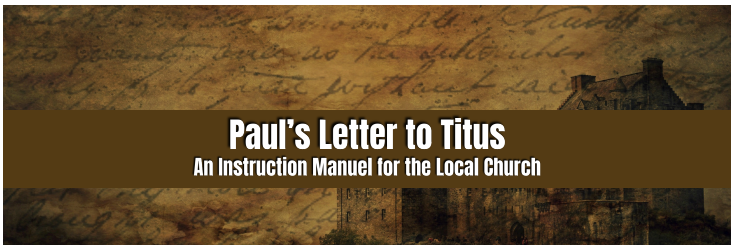


Paul's Greeting to Titus: Not just saying 'Hi,' but also 'Why'  
August 11, 2024 – Titus 1:1-4  
Michael Stevens



Notes:

August 2024			
Week 1 Starting August 5	Week 2 Starting August 12	Week 3 Starting August 19	Week 4 Starting August 26
Day 1: Exodus 32	Day 1: Exodus 37	Day 1: Leviticus 2	Day 1: Leviticus 7
Day 2: Exodus 33	Day 2: Exodus 38	Day 2: Leviticus 3	Day 2: Hebrews 1
Day 3: Exodus 34	Day 3: Exodus 39	Day 3: Leviticus 4	Day 3: Hebrews 3
Day 4: Exodus 35	Day 4: Exodus 40	Day 4: Leviticus 5	Day 4: Hebrews 4
Day 5: Exodus 36	Day 5: Leviticus 1	Day 5: Leviticus 6	Day 5: Hebrews 5
<sup>17</sup> For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again.			
<sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."			
John 10:17-18 (NIV)			

## Discussion Questions:

1. What does the presence of Titus within Paul's broader ministry show us about how God builds the Church?
2. How does it resonate with you to be identified as a *doulos*—a servant/bondslave—of God? What implications might this have for choices in life?
3. What is an appropriate, biblical relationship between the faith and knowledge, the heart and the head, as laid out by Paul in his salutation to Titus?
4. How should the “hope in eternal life” that we have as a promise from “God, who does not lie,” affect our daily choices? What might be the implications in terms of boldness for the work of the Kingdom, or willingness to make difficult, countercultural decisions?
5. Theological Bonus Question: Why is the deity of Christ a crucial point of the true gospel? Why are phrases like “Christ our Lord” or “God our Savior” important? (Or, to go all the way into the theological realm, why is it essential that Jesus was both fully God and fully man?)
6. Poetry Bonus, Too! What does this passage from T.S. Eliot's “Four Quartets” suggest about what it means to live here and now in light of our “hope of eternal life” (Titus 1:2)? (Remember that poetry is an attempt to express some universal idea through concrete language and imagery)

But to apprehend

The point of intersection of the timeless  
With time, is an occupation for the saint—  
No occupation either, but something given  
And taken, in a lifetime's death in love,  
Ardour and selflessness and self-surrender.  
For most of us, there is only the unattended  
Moment, the moment in and out of time,  
The distraction fit, lost in a shaft of sunlight,  
The wild thyme unseen, or the winter lightning  
Or the waterfall, or music heard so deeply  
That it is not heard at all, but you are the music  
While the music lasts. These are only hints and guesses,  
Hints followed by guesses; and the rest  
Is prayer, observance, discipline, thought and action.  
The hint half guessed, the gift half understood, is Incarnation