A PASSAGE THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT

Part Eight "The Preacher Epistles"



by J.S. Smith

1 and 2 Timothy and Titus Author: Paul • 64-67 A.D.

The books are addressed to Timothy and Titus, two young preachers acquainted with Paul. Timothy had been carefully instructed in the scriptures by his mother and grandmother when he a child. His mother was Jewish but his father was Greek. He became a companion of Paul in his travels and preaching. Their association is a picture of the ideal older and younger preacher relationship. Titus

was a Christian born of Gentile parents (Gal. 2:3) and also a frequent companion of Paul (Titus 1:4). The apostle's refusal to circumcise Titus made a monumental statement that Gentiles were accepted into the church of Christ without being proselyted into Judaism.

The author is the apostle Paul, who is once again extremely concerned with meeting false teachers. He prescribes bold and forceful opposition to them. The elders are to take an active role as well as the preacher in defending the flock of Christ.

The purpose of these epistles is to help sustain the preachers. Paul speaks at some length on the appointment of elders, giving their necessary qualities and their duties.

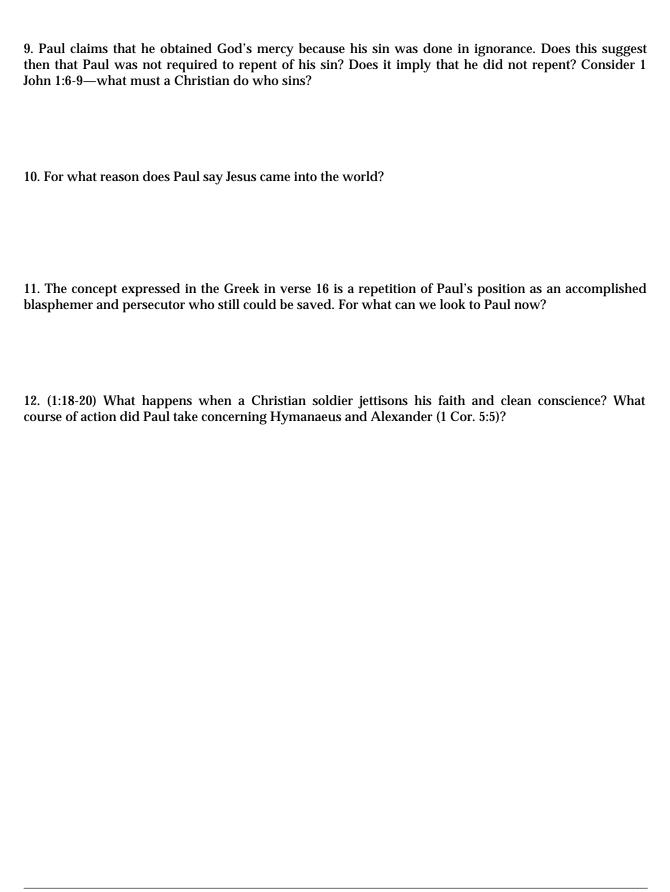


Paul encourages the younger evangelists to continue setting in order the things that were lacking in the churches where they labored. Paul was concerned at this time in his life most with the epidemic of false teachers in the church and with indoctrinating the church concerning its work and organization. Timothy is reminded of the authority he exercises to preach the word and the others are encouraged to pay him proper attention and respect.

Lesson 1: Personal Notes

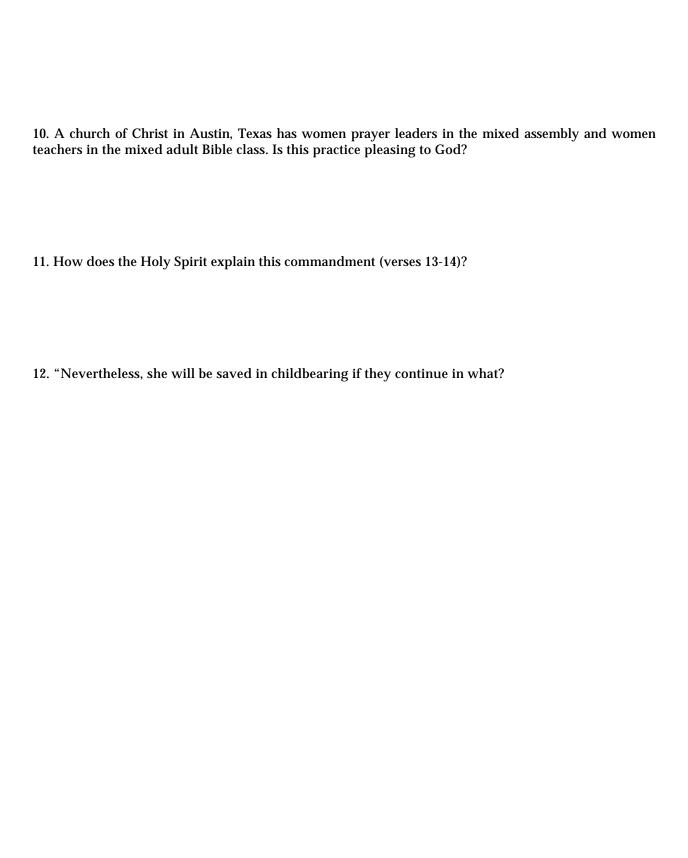
First Timothy 1:1-20

1. (1:1-2) Was Timothy Paul's biological son? How then was he Paul's son?
2. (1:3-7) Timothy was to charge some that they teach no other doctrine. None other than what doctrine?
3. They were not to give heed to fables and endless genealogies. As to the former, in what way are these still given heed among religious people of our day?
4. As to the latter, the careful distinction made between Jew and Gentile was at the heart of this pursuit. but what did the King of the Jews do to the dividing wall between them?
5. What were some transgressions of those noted in verse 7?
6. (1:8-11) Does Paul hate the Law of Moses; is he its enemy?
7. Does verse 9 release righteous people from obeying the law of God?
8. (1:12-17) How was Paul formerly a blasphemer—we know that he was always committed to serving God conscientiously? When was Paul set right?



Lesson 2: Prayer First Timothy 2:1-15

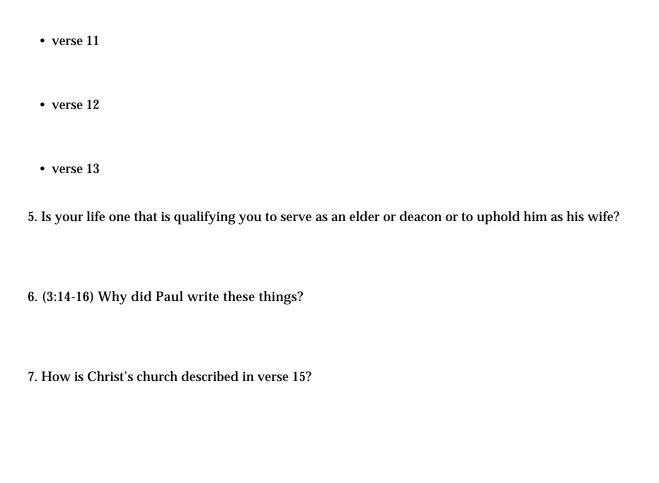
9. Again, in verses 11-12 is distinguished the roles of man and woman. Describe the teaching here.
8. In verses 9-10 is offered the responsibility of women. What is it?
7. (2:8-15) One duty of men is given here in contradistinction from the duties of women. What is that duty?
6. But, can we not also pray to Mary, another mediator and intercessor between man and God?
5. What did Jesus do for us and what does he do even now?
4. What is God's desire? What effect does this verse have on Calvinist Predestination?
3. What is implied by the necessity of such a prayer?
2. Toward what end should our prayers for the specific group be?
1. (2:1-7) Generally, for whom is prayer to be made? Specifically, whom does Paul point out in this passage?



Lesson 3: Elders and Deacons

First Timothy 3:1-16

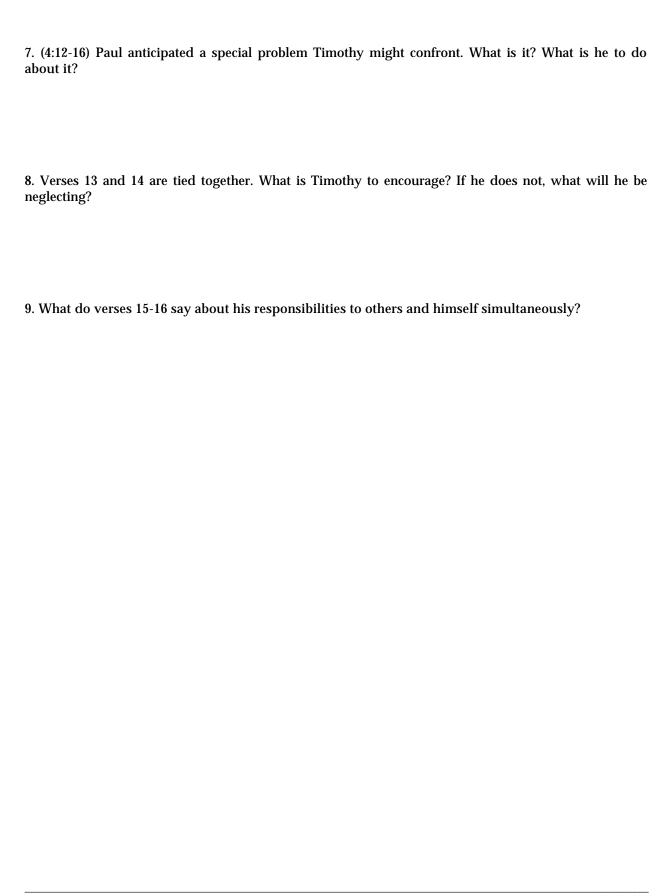
1. (3:1-7) What are some different terms that are used to describe the first office taken up in chapter three?
2. What does verse one say about this office and the men who would fill it?
3. Be prepared to discuss the qualities of an elder verse by verse in class:• verse 2
• verse 3
• verse 4
• verse 5
• verse 6
• verse 7
4. (3:8-13) Be prepared to discuss the qualities of deacons verse by verse:• verse 8
• verse 9
• verse 10



Lesson 4: Command and Teach

First Timothy 4:1-16

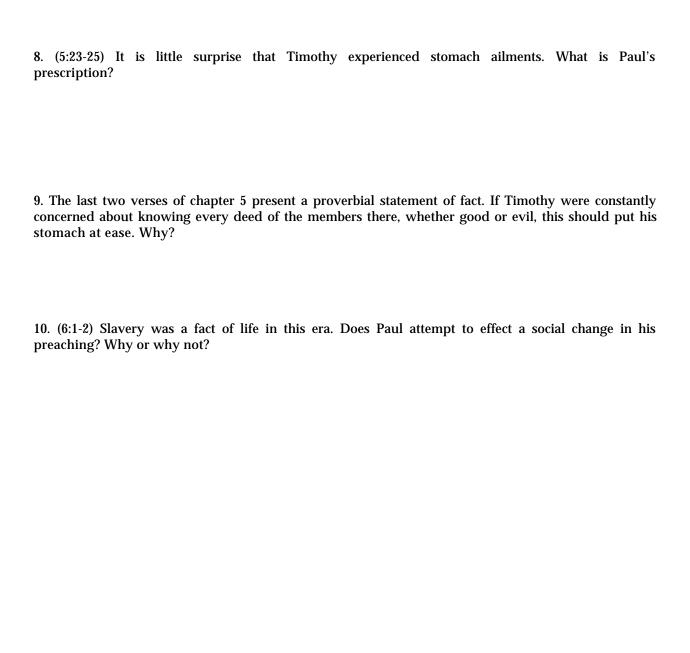
1. (4:1-5) One description of these false teachers is very telling of their actions. What does verse 2 say of their consciences and what does that denote?
2. Verse 3 introduces two of the false teachings to look for. What are they?
3. How should food be received?
4. (4:6-10) What is Timothy told to do in verse 6?
5. The bodily exercise Paul has in mind was a bit more involved than the athleticism common in today's health clubs. It also involved the abuse of the body as well as exercise. What does Paul write in comparing bodily exercise with exercise of godly senses? In what ways is verse 8 true?
6. In what way is Jesus the Savior of all men, especially those who believe?



Lesson 5: Saints

First Timothy 5:1-6:2

1. (5:1-2) These two verses instruct the preacher, and in reality all, as they deal with other members of the church. Match the following: a. older women exhort as a father b. older men treat as sisters treat as brothers c. younger women d. younger men treat as mothers 2. (5:3-10) What situation is covered in this passage? Is the church commanded or permitted here to extend benevolence without limit? Where does the first obligation lie when someone can not provide for himself or herself? 3. (5:11-16) Why were younger widows not to be taken into the list? 4. What is Paul's instruction concerning them? 5. (5:17-22) How are we to treat elders who rule the church well? Is it proper to compensate an elder financially if his work engages a great deal of his time? 6. What should be done concerning an elder against whom someone levels an accusation? 7. Verse 22 encourages Timothy to be careful and deliberate when an accusation is raised—perhaps the accuser is false. If Timothy were to take up the accusation too quickly, he would be sharing in what?



Lesson 6: Humility First Timothy 6:3-21

1. (6:3-10) Here again Paul returns to describing divisive brethren or false teachers. After telling of their methods and fruits, he points out their motivation in verse 5. What is it? What should be done about them?
2. In verse 6, Paul tells of the opposite attitude. Theirs was one of discontented godliness—focused upon greed. What is truly a means of great gain?
3. How does Paul put worldly treasures and their pursuit in perspective in verse 7. Of what Old Testament character is this sentiment reminiscent?
4. What is said of the love of money? What happens to people who desire to be rich?
5. (6:11-16) Paul remarks that laying hold of eternal life is yet a future feat. What must Timothy do to eventually grasp eternity?
6. In what manner is Timothy to keep this command, according to verse 14?
7. (6:17-19) Paul returns once more to warn the rich. What are they warned against in verse 17?
8. Why are riches said to be uncertain? Refer to Mark 8:34-38.

9. What are the rich warned to do in verses 18-19? Consider Matthew 6:19-21.

10. (6:20-21) What bearing does this passage have on preaching today?

Lesson 7: Fatherly Advice Second Timothy 1:1-18

1. (1:1-2) What three blessings does Paul pray upon Timothy in verse 2? Define each briefly.
2. (1:2-7) Were Paul's ancestors servants of God or enemies of God? What was Paul when God's Son began to be preached? Refer to Philippians 3:5-6 to complete your answer. Was he an enemy or friend at this writing?
3. What image of Timothy did Paul have in his mind, according to verse 4?
4. Who taught Timothy and led him to his faith in God? What about his father (Acts 16:1)?
5. What is Timothy to do with the gift of God within him? What lesson might we learn about gifts (talents and abilities) God has given to us?
6. (1:8-12) Consider also Romans 1:16. When men and society at large hold the gospel in contempt, do Christians sometimes become ashamed of the gospel, the testimony of the Lord?
7. What did Jesus's appearance do (verse 10)?

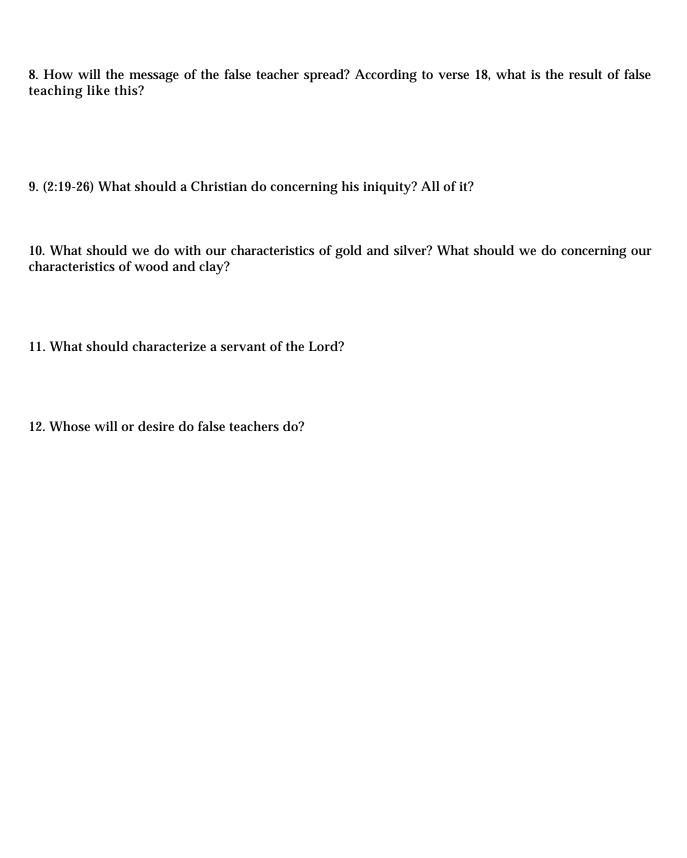
8. Toward what end does Paul endure his present sufferings and forfeit his potential earthly wealth and comfort?
9. (1:13-18) Biblical patterns have come under fire from our progressive brethren recently. The New Hermeneutic movement says that the Biblical pattern for the church and for life is antiquated and should be replaced. What did Paul tell Timothy to do with this very same pattern in verses 13-14?
10. We are introduced to two here from Asia. Who are they and what have they done? Refer back to verse 8 as well.
11. Whom is introduced in contrast? What is his record?

Lesson 8: Orders for Christian Soldiers

Second Timothy 2:1-26

1. (2:1-6) What duty of a preacher is outlined in verse 2?

2. What three occupations are reward?OCCUPATIONsoldier	e introduced as analogies REQUIREMENT/LES		must each do to attain the
• athlete			
• farmer			
3. (2:7-13) What is Timothy to	keep in mind (verse 8)?		
4. Verses 11-13 state more about did we die with Christ? F			it. Consider Romans 6:1-11:
5. (2:14-18) The "them" addr What was the result of the fal			
6. What kind of effort (if any) truth? What does this mean?	is required to be approv	red of by God? What	must one do regarding the
7. The false teachers were no profane and idle babblings. V			



Lesson 9: Perilous Times

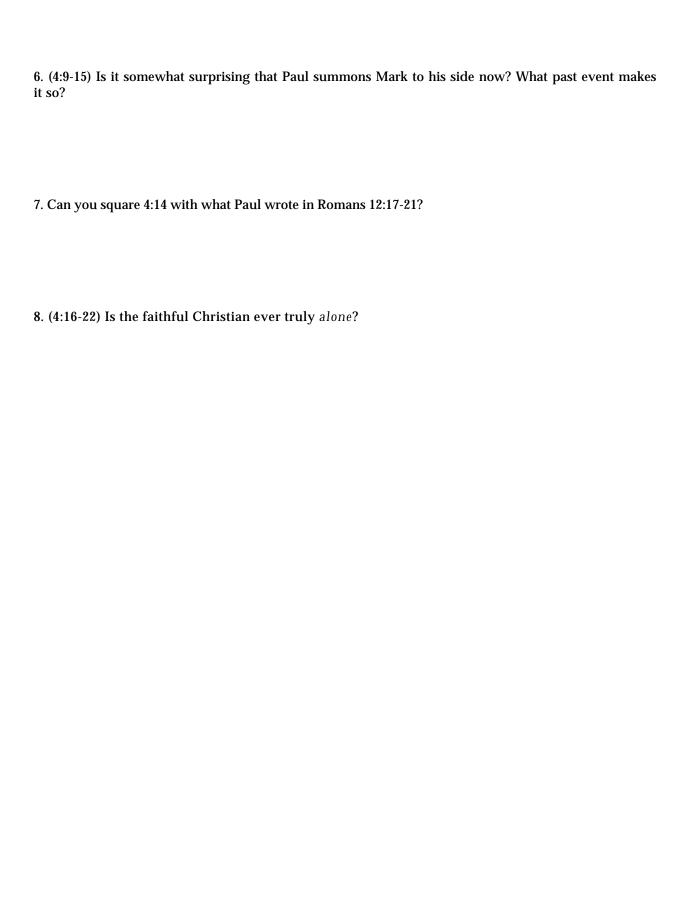
Second Timothy 3:1-17

J. C.
1. (3:1-9) When will these perilous times come?
2. Consider the description of people in verses 2-4—write down the three that most stand out to you. There are no right or wrong answers.
3. Do these people profess godliness? Could they even call themselves Christians?
4. By what means do they assert their influence?

5. (3:10-17) Yes, and all who desire to live_godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution (verse 13). What is the significance of each of these emphasized words to this verse and concept?
• all
• desire
• live
• will
6. Who taught Timothy from the Scriptures in his childhood?
7. Where does scripture come from originally?
8. For what is scripture profitable?
9. With the scriptures in his tool belt, how well prepared is the man of God?

Lesson 10: Parting Words Second Timothy 4:1-22

1. (4:1-5) In three words, what is the apostolic charge to the evangelist? Wh include? What does it exclude?	at does	this	charge
2. What is meant by "in season and out of season"?			
3. Verse 2 also includes a microcosm of the preaching charge: what is it?			
4. Verse 3 describes an out of season era. What is its cause?			
5. (4:6-8) What event in Paul's life is he predicting here? Is he living in dread of w	hat folle	ows?	



Lesson 11: The Church on Crete

Titus 1:1-16

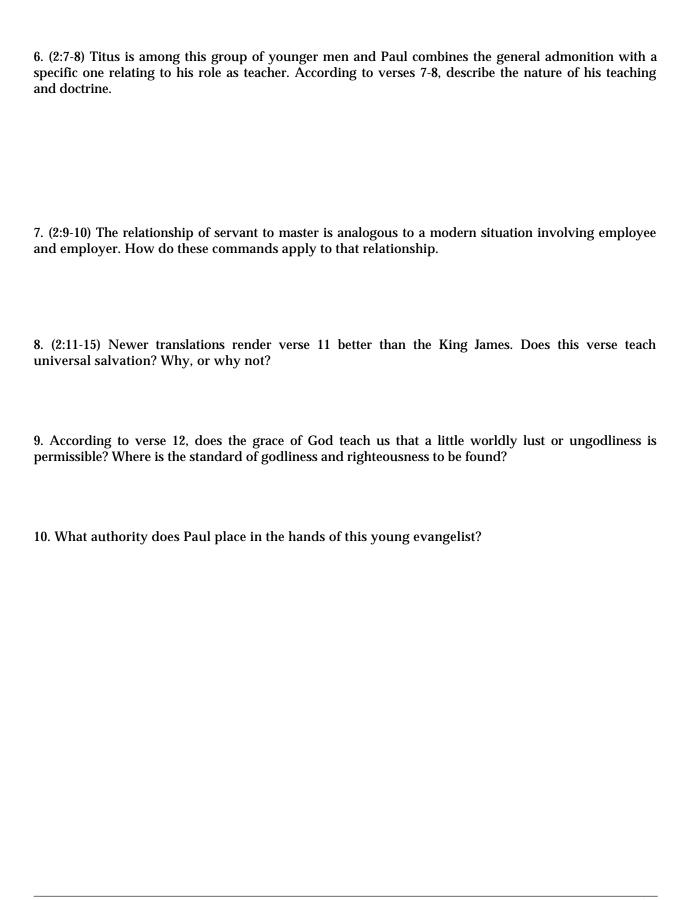
1. (1:1-4) Refer to Hebrews 6:17-19: what is the promise and hope that Paul speaks of which God made before time began?
2. (1:5-9) Why did Paul leave the evangelist on Crete? Is this still something that preachers should do?
3. Paul then lists some qualities that men are to have before consideration as elders. Be prepared to discuss these verse by verse in class:
• verse 6
• verse 7
• verse 8
• verse 9
4. (1:10-16) We get more into an important task of the elder in this passage. There are many errors shaking the church and world in our day but it was no different in the first century. If we desire to know the right way to deal with false teachers, we need look no further than the Bible. What was the error Paul was dealing with, as seen in verse 10?
5. How does Paul describe these false teachers in verse 10?

6. What is Paul's instruction concerning them? What is their danger (verse 11)?
7. What are some ways in which a teacher may teach falsely in the pursuit of dishonest gain?
8. We still use the term, "Cretan" to describe someone of undistinguished character as Paul noted the term used in that day. Who made that accusation originally and what does Paul say about it?
9. How long should Titus give into the false teachers and allow them free course to spread their message before sounding an alarm? Refer to Galatians 2:5 to complete your answer.
10. Verse 15 is an allusion to the same consideration of Romans 14. He contrasts the Judaizing teachers with sincere Christians. What is the chilling indictment found in verse 16?

Lesson 12: Sound Doctrine

Titus 2:1-15

1. (2:1-5) Another contrast is here made between the false teachers and Paul's goal for Titus. What things should he speak?
2. Paul begins then remarking on some qualities of a sound church, directed as various groups of people. How are the older men to be? (The older men in class should especially be able to discuss each term.)
3. How are the older women to act? (The older women in class should especially be able to discuss each term.)
4. How are younger women to act? (The younger women in class should especially be able to discuss each term.)
5. (2:6) How are younger men to behave, according to verse 6 alone? (The younger men in class should especially be able to discuss this term.)



Lesson 13: Reminding ThemTitus 3:1-15

	11(45 0.1 10
1. (3:1-7) To what extent must a saint be	e subject to rulers and authorities?
2. Which of these laws should a Christ	ian obey or disobey?
HYPOTHETICAL LAW	OBEY/DISOBEY?
• no one may speak the name of Chi	rist in public
• all citizens must pay income tax h	nonestly
• worship on Sundays is hereby forb	oidden
• no passing zone	
3. Is man saved by God's mercy or by a s	system of meritorious works?
4. He saved us, through what?	
	l, "washing," in verse 5 is more properly, "bath." Name two
a. b.	

6. (3:8) What word best describes the attitue. a. careless c. careful	tude toward good works that believers should possess: b. uncommitted d. unconcerned
7. (3:9-11) While some works are good, ot	thers are not. What does Paul instruct Titus about evil works?
8. What should <i>first</i> be done concerning	a man who labors in these contentious and divisive pursuits?
9. What should be done if he will not rece	eive and submit to two admonitions?
10. Does the preacher or the church coanswer.)	ondemn him, then? If not, who does? (Be careful with your
11. (3:12-15) What word best describes a a. lacking	Christian's attitude toward good works? b. lethargic
c. occasional	d. maintained
12. What is said of those who fail to meet	t urgent needs?
13. What becomes of a tree that does not	bear fruit?

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