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## A Biographical Study of Titus

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# *Titus*

## CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

- I. Titus, the man
  - A. He was a Gentile Greek, probably from Syrian Antioch.
  - B. Paul probably led him to Christ (Acts 11:26; Titus 1:4).
  - C. Some believe he may have been the brother of Luke.
  - D. He became one of Paul's most trusted associates. The apostle refers to him as:
    1. His true son in the faith (Titus 1:4)
    2. His spiritual brother (2 Cor. 2:13)
    3. His partner and helper (2 Cor. 8:23)
    4. A positive role model (2 Cor. 8:23)
- II. Titus, the missionary
  - A. He accompanied Paul to Jerusalem after the apostle's first missionary journey — "Then fourteen years after I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and took Titus with me also. . . . But neither Titus, who was with me, being a Greek, was compelled to be circumcised" (Gal. 2:1, 3).
  - B. He joined Paul during his third missionary journey.
- III. Titus, the messenger — On at least two occasions during his third missionary journey, Paul sent Titus to straighten out certain problems that developed in the church at Corinth.
  - A. Paul had learned while in Ephesus of the opposition that had developed against him in the Corinthian church.
  - B. Attempting to correct this, he sent a letter (which he called his "sorrowful letter"; 2 Cor. 2:4; 7:8) by way of Titus to the church.
    1. His grief upon not finding Titus at Troas — "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual" (1 Cor. 2:12-13). "For, when we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled on every side; without were fightings, within were fears" (2 Cor. 7:5).
    2. His gladness upon finding Titus in Macedonia — "Nevertheless God, that comforteth those that are cast down, comforted us by the coming of Titus; And not by his coming only, but by the consolation wherewith he was comforted in you, when he told us your earnest desire, your mourning, your fervent mind toward me; so that I rejoiced the more. . . . And his inward affection is more abundant toward you, whilst he remembereth the obedience of you all, how with fear and trembling ye received him" (2 Cor. 7:6-7, 15).

- E. Even though Paul's letter had caused the majority of the Corinthians to repent of their hostility against the apostle, there was still a minority opposition, led by a group of Judaizers (2 Cor. 10–13).
  - F. Paul then wrote 2 Corinthians and sent it with Titus and another brother (2 Cor. 8:16-24).
- IV. Titus, the minister—“For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee” (Titus 1:5). At Paul's direction, Titus settled on the Isle of Crete to pastor the church there. During the apostle's second and final Roman imprisonment, he wrote his epistle to Titus. In this letter Titus was instructed to do the following:
- A. Rebuke the slothful lifestyle of the Cretans (Titus 1:10-13).
  - B. Reject all heresy and warn the heretics (Titus 3:10).
  - C. Preach sound doctrine (Titus 2:1).
  - D. Avoid foolish philosophical speculations (Titus 3:9).
  - E. Exhort with all authority (Titus 2:15).
  - F. Meet the apostle in Nicopolis (Titus 3:12).
  - G. Help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos with their trip (Titus 3:13).

## **STATISTICS**

*First mention:* 2 Corinthians 2:13

*Final mention:* Titus 1:4

*Frequency of his name:* Referred to 12 times

*Biblical books mentioning him:* Four (2 Corinthians, Galatians, 2 Timothy, Titus)

*Occupation:* Missionary and pastor

*Important fact about his life:* Paul addressed a New Testament epistle to him.