

Titus Chapter 1: What You Believe will Dictate Your Behavior

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I. Introduction

What we say matters, but what we do matters even more, especially when it comes to elders. What we do reflects what we believe. Thus, an elder must hold to the faith of God's elect, a faith that teaches him to be blameless not only in his family life, but in everything. Thus he must cling to God's sound truth so that he may be able to fulfill his task as a steward of God.

II. **Titus 1:1–4:** The Faith of God's Elect Should Dictate their Behavior

The first four verses of Titus are loaded with meaning; they reveal the central themes of the letter to Titus. They reveal that we should live in accordance to what we believe and on the basis of the hope that lies within eternal life.

III. **Titus 1:5–9:** Elders Should Hold Fast to what they Believe so that They will Remain Blameless and Able to Shepherd God's Flock

What we do matters. It's not simply about what we say, but what we do. And when it comes to elders, they must be blameless in family life and everything else. Why? Because he is a steward of God; he is looking after the House of God. And he will need to hold fast to His Word so that he'll be able to fulfill his role as God's steward.

IV. **Titus 1:10–16:** What You Believe (or Not) will Dictate Your Behavior

What we believe is revealed by what we do. If we claim to believe God's truth, then our life should reflect such truth: *to the pure all things are pure*. What we don't believe (of God's Word) is also revealed by what we do, *but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled*.

V. Conclusion

If we do not live according to the faith we hold, then like the "lazy gluttons" described in Titus we become hypocrites and "disqualified for every good work." Our actions reflect what we believe or don't believe of God's sound truth. When we disbelieve God's truth, we cling to another truth and our actions and mind become defiled.