

TITUS 1: 1-3

THE PRIORITY OF MISSION &
THE PRIORITY OF GOSPEL PREACHING

TITUS 1: 1-3

RECAP

- ❑ Paul had left Titus in Crete after a short missionary activity.
- ❑ Titus is to complete the unfinished task of setting the church in order, (1:5).
- ❑ When the church is armed with sound doctrine and godly living, by God's grace (2:11-13), they will overcome the false teachers and impact the pagan society.

TITUS 1: 1-3

□ The Priority of Commitment

□ The Priority of Mission (1: 1-2)

Paul, a bond-servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the **faith** of those **chosen** of God and the **knowledge** of the **truth** which is according to **godliness**, in the **hope of eternal life**, which **God, who cannot lie**, promised long ages ago (Titus 1: 1-2)

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The Priority of Mission

1: 1-Παῦλος δοῦλος Θεοῦ, ἀπόστολος δὲ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ κατὰ **πίστιν ἐκλεκτῶν** Θεοῦ καὶ **ἐπίγνωσιν** ἀληθείας τῆς κατ' **εὐσέβειαν**

- Πίστιν—faith
- ἐκλεκτῶν- elect
- ἐπίγνωσιν - revealed knowledge that impacts the recipient
- εὐσέβειαν- godliness or spiritual life

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The Priority of Mission

1: 2- ἐπ' ἐλπίδι ζωῆς αἰωνίου, ἣν ἐπηγγείλατο ὁ ἀψευδὴς Θεὸς πρὸ χρόνων αἰωνίων,

□ ἐλπίδι- hope which is confident expectation

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The Priority of Mission

- ❑ **Faith:** evangelism
- ❑ **Knowledge:** edification, progressive sanctification or spiritual growth (1Tim 2:4, Romans 10:2, Col 1:9)
- ❑ **Godliness:** spiritual life or Christian living (2Pet 1:3,6; 1Tim 6:3,5, 6; 1Tim 4:7)
- ❑ **Hope:** endurance and confident living in the face of suffering and opposition (Rom 4:18, 1Cor 9:10, Rom 8:20,24; 12:12; 15:13)

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Doctrine of Eternal Life in Context (1:1-3)

- ❑ Eternal life is called a hope
- ❑ God promised it in eternity past
- ❑ Grounded upon God's veracity (truthfulness)
- ❑ To whom did God Promise Eternal Life in eternity past?
- ❑ The promise was made to Christ

John 1⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.

TITUS 1: 1-3

Doctrine of Eternal Life (EL) in Context (1:1-3)

- ❑ **EL** was promised to Christ on **behalf of the Church**, and promised to the Church for the **sake of Christ**.
- ❑ **EL** is the summary of the promise of life from God through Christ to His Chosen ones, from salvation to sanctification and finally to glorification.
- ❑ All of God's promises which sum up in eternal life find their fulfilment in Christ

*2Cor 1²⁰ For all the **promises** of God in Him are **Yes**, and in Him **Amen**, to the glory of God through us. (KJV)*

TITUS 1: 1-3

Doctrine of Eternal Life (EL) in Context (1:1-3)

Summary: The promise of God's mission, which comprises of salvation, sanctification, godliness and final glorification all rest upon the promise of the hope of eternal life (Titus 1:1-2)

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❑ **The Priority of Commitment**

❑ **The Priority of Mission**

❑ **THE PRIORITY OF GOSPEL PREACHING (1:3)**

Titus 1³ but at the proper time **manifested**, *even His word*, in the **proclamation** with which I was **entrusted** according to the **commandment** of God our Savior

❑ **Eternal Life** can only made known to the world through the preaching of the **gospel**.

❑ Mankind can only receive eternal life by **faith in Christ**.

❑ The **vehicle** for God's mission is the gospel (Matthew 12:42, Jonah 3:4, 1 Cor 1:21; 2:4, Romans 16:25; 10:13-16, 2Tim 4:17)

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The Priorities of Spiritual Leadership

- The Priority of Commitment**
- The Priority of Mission**
- The Priority of Gospel Preaching**

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Lessons

- ❑ To rejoice that God's mission (evangelism, sanctification & glorification) rests absolutely on God's unchanging promise in Christ.
- ❑ As God has called us into his mission, we need to give utmost priority to it, with diligence and consecration.
- ❑ We should renounce the distracting pleasures of this world and focus on our mission of taking Christ to the world.
- ❑ As in Crete over 2000 ago, the only way for the church to combat false teachers and to impact our pagan society, is to give more diligence to the preaching and living the gospel.