

Lesson 9 – chapter and paragraph study

Welcome

Glimmer of hope – this week, next week – final weeks of walking through the study process and next week is last with homework! Hurray.

Pray.

Review overview study

Last week, your assignment was essentially to conclude your study of the book of Titus as a whole – to conclude the overview study.

As we've been seeking to learn how to inductively study the Bible, we've been focusing on getting down the bigger picture of the whole book.

Why is this necessary?

How would this play out in a week-to-week teaching setting?

How would this play out if you were given 1 teaching opportunity – say in an EC, or at the SWW retreat?

This overview process is so helpful for understanding the Bible. We're so prone to laziness!

Our flesh wants to merely rely on the work of others – at times that's ok – but how much more rewarding is it to do it yourself? How much better do you understand Titus after working through these steps over the last few weeks?!

Essentially what we've done so far is enabled you to be able to teach a survey of OT or NT class.

Some of the most difficult classes to teach. How do you summarize an entire book of the Bible in an hour!? How do you even synthesize and come up with the singular message and point of a book of the Bible? That's what we've been doing so far.

So let's look talk through some of your conclusions concerning the overview of Titus.

First, let's talk through the additional material you read through this week:

What were some things you found helpful from the additional material you all read on the background/overview of Titus?

What about in terms of the message/point of the book?

Where did you find yourself arguing with them based on what you studied?

Turning then to look at the chart you were given last week, which is really an attempt to summarize what you've learned of Titus as a whole – Dawson had you filling out the far right column of that handout, so let's talk through that.

	Paragraph Themes	Chapter Themes	Author
Segment Divisions	1:1-4	1	Date:
	1:5-9		Purpose:
	1:10-16		Summary:
	2:1-15	2	Theme:
	3:1-11	3	Key Verse:
	3:12-15		Key Words:

Author: Paul to Titus

Date: AD 63-64 (After end of Acts, before the end of Paul's life)

Purpose – what is Paul's purpose in writing: 1:5, 3:12

Summary – (an expanded sentence that expresses the content of the book): Paul writes to Titus, in order to exhort Titus to correct the churches in Crete to do gospel deeds.

Theme – message of the book based on key words – key words > subjects > theme:

Deeds in accordance with the gospel OR Gospel Deeds OR **The ordered church of gospel deeds**

Key verse:

1:1 – knowledge of the truth which is according to godliness

1:5 For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you,

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, 12 instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age,

2:14 who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

Titus 3:8 This is a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that those who have believed God will be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men.

3:14 Our people must also learn to engage in good deeds to meet pressing needs, so that they will not be unfruitful.

Key words: gospel, grace, faith, deeds, doctrine, God/Savior

What is the message of Titus?

Keeping in mind all we've learned of the 4 corners: People, places, events, subjects...

Message/point/main idea of Titus: The church is to be corrected so that they are careful to do gospel deeds

In light of the context of the whole book, we can now dig into the parts of the book, starting with the chapters, which are helpful divisions in Titus.

CHAPTER STUDY: The Basics

1. PRAY

How many of you have taken serious time to pray each week in the study process?

We're so tempted to skip this. Or keep it here only because we know we should but when it comes down to actually studying the Bible, this becomes practically unimportant.

At times I fear we may even view this as a distraction to Bible reading, something we know we should do, but it's practically a hurdle to jump over before we can actually get to work studying.

How foolish and prideful we are! There may be no more important step in Bible study.

Studying the Bible as God intends requires us to be entirely dependent upon him because this is a supernatural work we're seeking to do, that we can't do on our own.

A method of praying Biblical prayers before we read/study the Bible:

I – **Incline** - Psa. 119:36 Incline my heart to Your testimonies And not to *dishonest* gain.

O – **Open** Psa. 119:18 Open my eyes, that I may behold Wonderful things from Your law.

U – **Unite** - Psa. 86:11 Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth;

Unite my heart to fear Your name.

S – **Satisfy** - Psa. 90:14 O satisfy us in the morning with Your lovingkindness, That we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

L – **Lead** - Psa. 119:35 Lead me in the path of Your commandments, For I delight in it.

An alternative would be to read and pray a stanza or two of PS 119, other passages...

2. KEEP THE CONTEXT IN MIND

How do we do that? What does that mean?

How would the context of the whole book shape our understanding of one chapter or section?

Each section is part of a bigger argument – seeing in light of the whole is the only way to see it as it was intended.

To isolate a chapter or section would make it impossible to understand as we should. The context determines the meaning of a given section.

3. Does the text answer any of the 5W's AND AN H?

Who, what, when, where, why, how

Who spoke it? About Whom? Who are the major characters? Who are the people mentioned? To Whom is the author speaking?

What are the main events? What are the major ideas? What are the major teachings? What does the author talk about the most? What is his purpose in saying that?

When did this event take place? When will it happen? When did he say it?

Where was this done? Where was this said? Where will it happen?

Why was there a need for this to be written? Why was this mentioned? Why was it not mentioned? Why was so much or so little space devoted to this particular event or teaching? Why was this reference mentioned?

How is it done? How is this truth illustrated?

4. Mark and Examine KEY WORDS AND PHRASES.

- - both key words and phrases of the book as a whole and those that may be only relevant to the particular chapter you are studying.
- - Noun, descriptive word, verb –
- - Every Key word is a who what when where why or how word
- - Mark one at a time as you read.
- - Mark all references to God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – make lists
- - Don't merely scan through – READ each time

5. Mark:

(1). CONTRASTS

= an evaluation of things that are different or opposite - “but” “however”
“nevertheless”

- - may not be between words – but between the thought or body of truth
- - note the contrast in the margin

(2). WORDS OF COMPARISON

- - “like” “as”
- - note what the comparison is in the margin
- - circle and connect.

(3). EXPRESSIONS OF TIME

“then” “after this” “until” “when” note in the margin about the timing.

(4). TERMS OF CONCLUSION

“therefore” “for” “so that” “for this reason” - words that indicate a conclusion or a summary is being made – a result is being stated, a purpose statement, etc.

- underline them

With Historical or Biographical Books

- The location and/or timing of the opening of the chapter.
- Any significant changes in location or time as they occur in the chapter. ➤ Major characters, doctrines, and events covered in the chapter.

6. Check CHAPTER THEMES

7. Develop PARAGRAPH THEMES

Chapter themes should be reflective of the book theme paragraph themes should support the chapter themes.

Assignment for August 14: Do a chapter study of Titus 2 and 3

Practice this on Ch 1 w/the rest of class....

1. pray
2. keep the context in mind
3. 5 w's and h
4. mark key words and phrases
5. mark contrasts, comparisons, expressions of time, and terms of conclusion
6. develop and check chapter theme
7. create paragraph themes

WHO

Who spoke it? About Whom? Who are the major characters? Who are the people mentioned? To Whom is the author speaking?

Titus 1:1 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, 2 in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago, 3 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,

Titus 1:4 To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

Titus 1:5 For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you, 6 namely, if any man is above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion. 7 For the overseer must be above reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain, 8 but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled, 9 holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.

Titus 1:10 For there are many rebellious men, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, 11 who must be silenced because they are upsetting whole families, teaching things they should not teach for the sake of sordid gain. 12 One of themselves, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons." 13 This testimony is true. For this reason reprove them severely so that they may be sound in the faith, 14 not paying attention to Jewish myths and commandments of men who turn away from the truth. 15 To the pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure, but both their mind and their conscience are defiled. 16 They profess to know God, but by their deeds they deny Him, being detestable and disobedient and worthless for any good deed.

WHAT

What are the main events? What are the major ideas? What are the major teachings? What does the author talk about the most? What is his purpose in saying that?

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WHEN

When did this event take place? When will it happen? When did he say it?

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WHERE

Where was this done? Where was this said? Where will it happen?

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HOW

How is it done? How is this truth illustrated?

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MARK CONTRASTS

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COMPARISONS

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EXPRESSIONS OF TIME

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CONCLUSIONS

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Titus 1:4 To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

Titus 1:5 **For this reason** I left you in Crete, **that** you would set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you, **6** *namely*, if any man is above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion. **7** **For** the overseer must be above reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain, **8** but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled, **9** holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, **so that** he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.

Titus 1:10 **For** there are many rebellious men, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, **11** who must be silenced **because** they are upsetting whole families, teaching things they should not *teach* for the sake of sordid gain. **12** One of themselves, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons." **13** This testimony is true. **For this reason** reprove them severely **so that** they may be sound in the faith, **14** not paying attention to Jewish myths and commandments of men who turn away from the truth. **15** To the pure, all things are pure; but to those who are defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure, but both their mind and their conscience are defiled. **16** They profess to know God, but by *their* deeds they deny *Him*, being detestable and disobedient and worthless for any good deed.

After all that, what would you say is the theme of chapter 1?

Ch 1 – the gospel deeds of leaders in the church

The gospel teaching and deeds of leaders in the church

Homework for next week: CH 2-3...

Ch 2 – the gospel deeds of people in the church

Ch 3 – the gospel deeds of gospel people in the world