

THE SAD, HARD TRUTH ABOUT THE TRUTH! TITUS 1:9-14

What is the sad, hard truth?

1. The truth is always **Opposed!**

Matthew 7:15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Matthew 7:16 Ye shall know them by their fruits...

Matthew 24:23 Then if any man shall say unto you, Lo, here is Christ, or there; believe it not. Matthew 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect. Matthew 24:25 Behold, I have told you before.

Acts 15:1 And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, **Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.**

Acts 15:5 But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, **That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses.**

Acts 20:28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. Acts 20:29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Acts 20:30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.

Galatians 1:3 Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, Galatians 1:4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father: Galatians 1:5 To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Galatians 1:6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Galatians 1:7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. Galatians 1:8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. Galatians 1:9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

Colossians 2:3 In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Colossians 2:6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Colossians 2:7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

Colossians 2:9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. Colossians 2:10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

2 Peter 2:1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. 2 Peter 2:2 And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. 2 Peter 2:3 And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

Jude 3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. Jude 4 For there are certain men crept in unawares (παρεισεδυσαν γαρ τινες ανθρωποι), who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

2. False teaching is always **opaque!**

Almost always!

Matthew 7:15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Matthew 7:16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

Acts 20:29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Acts 20:30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.

2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 2 Timothy 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 2 Timothy 4:4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

➤ The message is opaque

Titus 1:10 For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision:

Titus 1:14 Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.

2 Timothy 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; **2 Timothy 4:4** And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

➤ Motives are...opaque... at least at the first

Acts 20:29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. **Acts 20:30** Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. **Acts 20:31** Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

Titus 1:11 Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.

Jude 4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness (*εἰς ἀσέλγειαν*), and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

3. False teachers & false teaching that must be opposed!

Titus 1:9 **Holding fast** the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine **both to exhort** and to convince the gainsayers.

Titus 1:10 For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision: **Titus 1:11** **Whose mouths must be stopped**, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake. **Titus 1:13** **This witness is true.**

Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith; **Titus 1:14** **Not giving heed** to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.

How do we do this?

➤ Preaching & teaching the truth

Titus 1:9 Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.

Titus 2:1 **But speak** thou the things which become sound doctrine:

Titus 2:15 **These things speak**, and **exhort**, and **rebuke with all authority**. **Let no man despise thee.**

Titus 3:8 **This is a faithful saying**, and **these things I will that thou affirm constantly**, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.

➤ Understanding truth

Titus 1:14 **Not giving heed** to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, **that turn from the truth**.

Deuteronomy 5:32 **Ye shall observe to do** therefore **as** the **LORD** your God hath commanded you: ye shall **not turn aside to the right hand or to the left**.

Deuteronomy 12:32 What thing soever I command you, **observe to do it**: thou shalt **not add thereto, nor diminish from it**.

➤ Stopping & excluding false teaching & teachers

Titus 1:11 **Whose mouths must be stopped**, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.

Titus 1:13 **This witness is true.** **Wherefore rebuke them sharply**, that they may be sound in the faith; **Titus 1:14** **Not giving heed** to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.

Titus 3:9 **But avoid** foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain.

Titus 3:10 A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject; **Titus 3:11** Knowing that he that is such is subverted, and sinneth, being condemned of himself.

Baptists in Kentucky & Tennessee⁺ in the 1810s-1860s

- Slavery
- Stone-Campbell movement
- Landmarkism
- Primitive / Hardshell Baptists