

The Normal Christian Life is an Answerable Life

Titus 1:5-15

⁵ This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you— ⁶ if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. ⁷ For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, ⁸ but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. ⁹ He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

¹⁰ For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party. ¹¹ They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach. ¹² One of the Cretans, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons." ¹³ This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, ¹⁴ not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth. ¹⁵ To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. ¹⁶ They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

The Necessity and Normalcy of a Plurality of Elders

"... put what remained in order ..."

"... elders (plural) in every town (singular) ..."

The requirement of "blamelessness"

In _____ and _____ life ...

In _____ and _____ ...

In _____ and _____ ...

Why "put in order" with "above reproach" elders?

"For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers ..." (v. 10)

5 things every healthy Christian needs (but too many Christians seem to resist):

1) _____.

2) _____.

3) _____.

4) _____.

And sometimes ...

5) _____.

All for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness, in hope of eternal life!

(From Titus 1:1-2)