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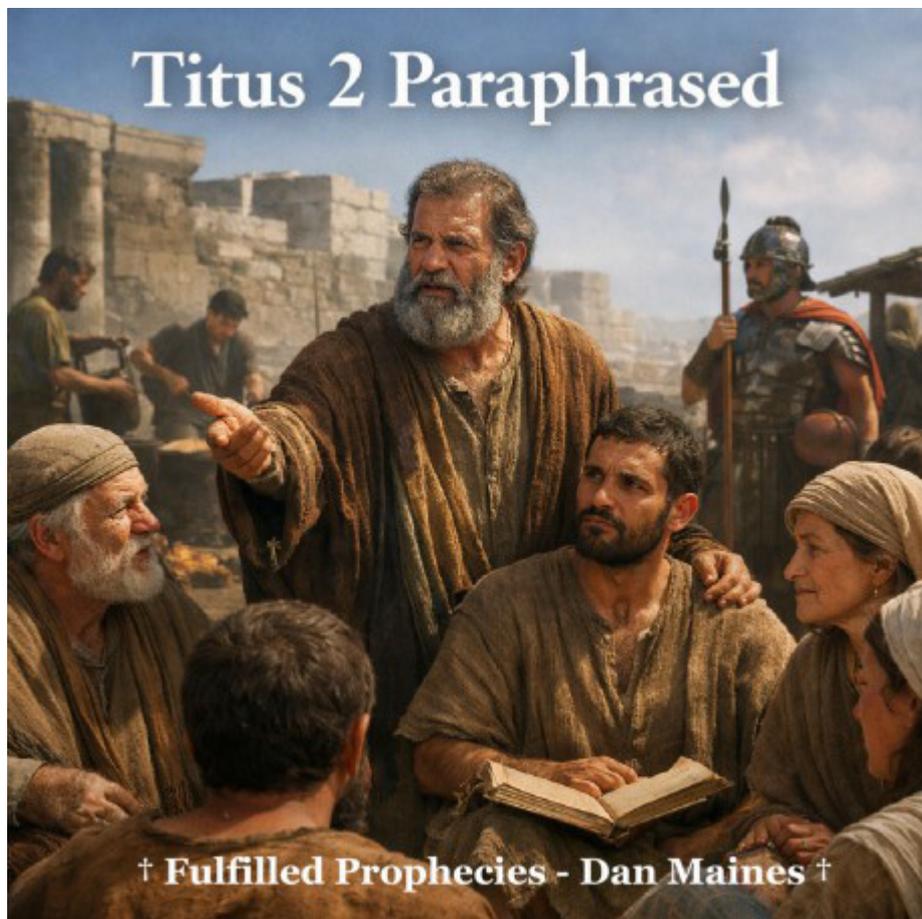
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## Titus 2 Paraphrased



By Dan Maines

## Titus 2 Paraphrased

### Introduction

† Paul wrote this letter to guide the churches in Crete so that believers would live in a way that matched the truth they had received. Sound teaching wasn't just about doctrine, it was about how people lived every day. Paul showed that the gospel shapes the conduct of older men, older women, younger women, young men, and even servants. The message of Christ produces a life of discipline, love, and godliness.

† The early church understood this connection between

doctrine and daily living. Clement of Alexandria wrote that true knowledge of Christ produces a life that reflects His character, not just words or claims. Christianity was never meant to stay in the mind, it was meant to transform behavior.

† This chapter shows that grace doesn't excuse sin, it trains believers to live differently. The grace that saves is the same grace that teaches us to live upright lives.

### **Titus 2:1**

But you must teach what agrees with healthy and truthful teaching.

† Paul told Titus that leadership in the church must be built on sound doctrine that produces righteous living. Truth and behavior are tied together. False teaching always leads to corruption, but healthy teaching produces godly lives (1 Timothy 1:10).

† Irenaeus explained that the apostles delivered teaching that preserved both faith and conduct, showing that the church must guard both belief and practice.

### **Titus 2:2**

Older men should be sober minded, dignified, self controlled, strong in faith, love, and endurance.

† Older men were expected to set the example for the whole community. Their maturity was meant to stabilize the church and show the fruit of a life shaped by the gospel (1 Timothy 5:1).

† The church fathers often spoke of elders as living examples of the faith. Their conduct gave credibility to the message of Christ.

### **Titus 2:3**

Older women in the same way must live in a way that shows reverence, not slandering others or being controlled by wine. They should teach what is good.

† Paul recognized the important role older women played in the church community. Their wisdom and example helped guide

younger believers.

† Clement of Alexandria taught that Christian women were to display dignity and holiness so the gospel would be honored in the community.

### **Titus 2:4**

They are to train the younger women to love their husbands and love their children.

† The Christian home was a powerful testimony in the ancient world. A loving and stable family reflected the transforming power of Christ.

† Early Christian writers often emphasized the household as the first place where the faith was demonstrated daily.

### **Titus 2:5**

They should be self controlled, pure, busy at home, kind, and faithful to their own husbands so that the word of God will not be dishonored.

† Paul explained that the conduct of believers affects how the world views the message of God. A disciplined life protects the reputation of the gospel (1 Timothy 6:1).

† The early church understood that Christians were constantly observed by their neighbors and authorities, so their lives had to reflect the truth they preached.

### **Titus 2:6**

In the same way encourage the younger men to be self controlled.

† Self control was one of the defining marks of Christian maturity. The gospel trains believers to govern their desires rather than be ruled by them (Galatians 5:23).

† Early Christian teaching repeatedly emphasized discipline as evidence of genuine faith.

### **Titus 2:7**

In everything show yourself as an example of good works, with integrity and seriousness in your teaching.

† Titus himself had to model the message he preached. Leadership in the church always begins with personal example.  
† Eusebius recorded that early Christian leaders were expected to live lives that reflected the teaching they proclaimed.

### **Titus 2:8**

Use sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you will be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

† The integrity of Christian speech protects the reputation of the church. When believers live consistently with their message, critics have no legitimate accusation.

† The early church faced constant criticism, yet historians often noted the moral character of believers as a powerful defense of the faith.

### **Titus 2:9**

Servants should submit to their masters in everything, trying to please them and not arguing.

† Many early Christians were servants or slaves within the Roman system. Paul instructed them to live faithfully in their situation so the gospel would be honored.

† This wasn't an endorsement of slavery, but guidance on how believers were to live faithfully within the realities of the Roman world.

### **Titus 2:10**

They must not steal but show complete trustworthiness so that they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive in every way.

† Honest conduct was meant to display the beauty of the gospel. When believers acted with integrity, the message of salvation became visible in daily life (Matthew 5:16).

† Early critics of Christianity often admitted that Christians were known for honesty and reliability.

## **Titus 2:11**

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people.

† This refers to the appearing of Christ and the message of salvation spreading to the nations. God's saving grace had now been revealed openly through the gospel (John 1:17).

† The early church consistently taught that Christ's coming revealed the grace that had been promised throughout the Scriptures.

## **Titus 2:12**

It trains us to reject ungodliness and worldly desires and to live self controlled, righteous, and godly lives in the present age.

† Grace isn't permission to sin, it is a teacher that trains believers to live differently. True grace produces transformation.

† Clement of Alexandria wrote that grace educates the believer, shaping character and guiding conduct toward holiness.

## **Titus 2:13**

While we wait with hope for the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.

† The early believers lived in expectation of Christ's coming in judgment and vindication of His people, which would bring the end of the old covenant age (Matthew 24:30).

† This expectation strengthened believers to remain faithful despite persecution and hardship.

## **Titus 2:14**

He gave Himself for us to rescue us from every lawless act and to purify for Himself a people who belong to Him and are eager to do what is good.

† Christ's sacrifice wasn't only about forgiveness, it was about creating a purified people devoted to righteous living (1 Peter 2:9).

† The church fathers repeatedly taught that redemption creates a new community marked by holiness and devotion to good

works.

## **Titus 2:15**

Speak these things, encourage the believers, and correct when necessary with full authority. Don't let anyone disregard you.

† Titus was given authority to teach and correct so the churches would remain faithful to the truth delivered by the apostles.

† Early church leaders saw their role as guardians of apostolic teaching, preserving the truth handed down to the churches.

## **Historical References**

† Irenaeus explained that the apostles delivered teaching that formed both belief and conduct within the church community.

† Clement of Alexandria wrote that the grace of Christ trains believers to live disciplined and holy lives.

† Eusebius recorded that early Christian leaders were known for moral integrity and faithful teaching.

## **How It Applies To Us Today**

† The gospel still calls believers to live lives that reflect the truth they profess. Doctrine and daily conduct must always remain connected.

† Grace is not permission to live carelessly. It teaches us to reject sin and pursue righteousness in every area of life.

† When Christians live with integrity, discipline, and love, the message of Christ becomes visible to the world.

## **Q & A Appendix**

**Q:** Why did Paul emphasize sound teaching?

**A:** Because truth produces godly living and protects the church from corruption (1 Timothy 1:10).

**Q:** Why did Paul address different age groups?

**A:** Because every generation in the church has a role in modeling and teaching faithful living (Titus 2:2-6).

**Q:** What does the grace of God teach believers?

**A:** Grace trains believers to reject sin and live righteous lives (Titus 2:11-12).

**Q:** Why is Christian conduct important to the gospel?

**A:** Because the behavior of believers reflects on the message of God (Matthew 5:16).

**Q:** What was the goal of Christ giving Himself for us?

**A:** To create a purified people devoted to good works (Titus 2:14).

**† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †**

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## Source Index

† Titus 2

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History

† Clement of Alexandria, Stromata

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