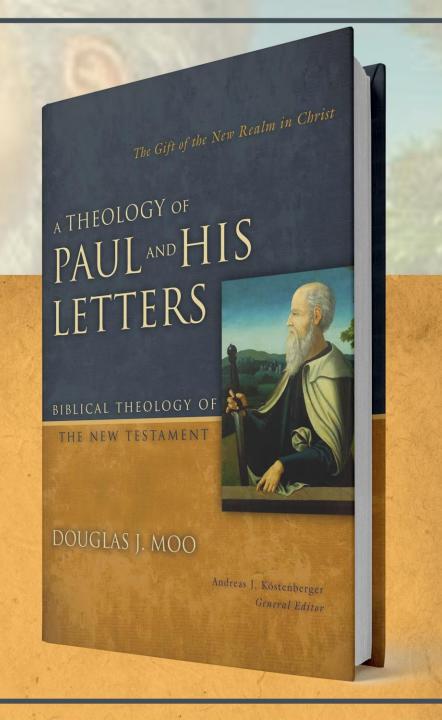


Titus



Locating the Letter

- Paul probably wrote the letter to Titus late in his ministry after his first Roman imprisonment.
- His purpose was to encourage Titus to find church leaders who would secure sound doctrine.

Isolating the Issues

- Paul wrote Titus because of false teachings that were pervading the churches in Crete.
- This appears to be similar to the issues that the church in Ephesus was experiencing.

Analyzing the Argument

• The theological teaching of this letter is similar to that of the letter to 1 Timothy.

The Occasion: False Teaching (1:1–16)

- Paul began by introducing the themes in the letter.
- He described the traits Titus should be looking for when selecting leaders for the church.
- These leaders would help counter the false teachings in the area.

Instructions about Maintaining "Sound Doctrine" (2:1–3:8)

- Paul exhorted Titus to teach sound doctrine.
- He also instructed Titus on how to deal with four groups in the church:
 - 1. Older men
 - 2. Older women
 - 3. Young men
 - 4. Slaves

- He also advised older women to teach younger women.
- Paul encouraged believers to maintain traditional roles in order to prevent people from accusing Christians of antisocial behavior.
- He may have also been trying to correct an imbalance in women's roles by reasserting biblical expectations.

- Paul then gave a condensed outline of the gospel.
- He encouraged Titus to teach newcomers to be subject to government rulers and authorities.
- Paul may have quoted a preformed creed about baptism and justification.

False Teachers and Logistics (3:9–15)

- Paul closed the letter by focusing again on false teachers.
- He warned Titus to avoid foolish controversies and divisive people.