

## Titus Outline

**Introduction:** The last “pastoral epistle” (although sometime people include the Philemon) is Paul’s letter to Titus. Titus adds little to Paul’s views about church leadership that he has already shared with Timothy. Of great interest is Paul’s quoting what classicists refer to as the “Paradox of Epimenides.” Epimenides was a Cretan philosopher who lived during the 6<sup>th</sup> century BCE, and is famous for writing: “All Cretans are liars.” Given that Epimenides himself was a Cretan, logicians and philosophers have had fun trying to puzzle this one out for centuries. Paul cites this quote here not to engage in philosophy, but rather simply to support Paul’s view that the Cretan church required a firm hand. Paul’s ability to quote from philosophers like Epimenides demonstrates his versatility and general learning, much as he showed in Athens when speaking at the Areopagus.

Chapter 1: Paul’s greeting to Titus, why he’s writing, Paul’s criticism of the Cretan church

Chapter 2: Instructions for women, men, and slaves

Chapter 3: Instructions about government and avoiding needless argument

Stories/texts to know: The paradox of Epimenides (Chapter 1);