

Sound Doctrine

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[0:00] Titus 2 But speak thou the things that become sound doctrine, that the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.

! The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not the false accusers, not given too much wine, teachers of good things. That they may teach their younger women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

Titus 3 Titus 4 Titus 5

Titus 1-10 Doctrine is not a subject that is popular in some quarters. Doctrine is yet something the word of God holds in high esteem.

Titus 5

[3:37] Titus 5 Titus 5 Titus 5 In 1 Timothy 4 verse 6 it says, Nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine.

It's like the rain. It's like the dew. It's like the showers upon the grass. Who likes to have a bit of that now and again? I'm sure your garden does. And doctrine is just like that.

It's something that enriches us, it nourishes us. Doctrine is very practical and it translates into action in our lives as we see especially in this passage we just read.

And we'll refer to each verse one by one. From verse 1. But speak thou the things that become sound doctrine. Paul urges Titus to make the teaching real.

Paul urges Titus to give instruction that is wholesome. Likewise he says to Timothy, 1 Timothy 6 verse 3. If any man teach otherwise and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ and to the doctrine which is according to godliness.

[4:48] There's consequences to that. Paul says to Timothy. But he says to Timothy, we want to have wholesome words. And this word wholesome is the same word we get sound.

It's translated wholesome. It's translated as sound. It's sound doctrine. It's wholesome. It's healthy. It's nourishing. It's health giving.

We know when our Lord healed people, he made them sound. He made them well. He made them healthy again. That's the sense of sound doctrine. It's good for us.

Sound, we can be sound. In other words, well. Well physically or mentally. Sound means not having disease or weakness or malfunction.

It means healthy. Having full strength and vigour. Being free from disease. So being sound in body and sound in mind is good for you.

[5:48] As sound doctrine is good for you. It's wholesome. It's healthy. It's going to be health giving. Wholesome. Giving health.

So sound doctrine is commended in God's words. Sound doctrine. It's teaching that it's spiritually healthy. And our Lord commends it to us. Health giving words.

Wholesome words. As opposed to, what's the opposite of that? Unhealthy words. Unsound words. Sick words, you could say. Some people like having a sick church.

They think it's the youth that kind of speak. They want things to be sick. Sick. But God doesn't want his church to be sick. Amen. He wants his church to be sound.

He wants the doctrine, the teaching that we have to be sound. I'm not sick. Sound, healthy, wholesome. Paul warns of a time when there will be a falling away from the faith.

[6:44] 1 Timothy 4 verse 1 it says of people who will hold on to demonic doctrines. Doctrines of devils. Now I used to consider, well, people can have different views.

Some people might have wrong teaching. Some people have false doctrine. But this is going even beyond having a wrong idea or viewpoint of something. Doctrines of devils.

That's pretty serious stuff, isn't it? We want to avoid that for sure. Stuff that contradicts the truth of scripture. Satan loves that. He loves to contradict the word of God as he did from Eden.

And so we want to be guarded. When there's such doctrines of devils. We should want to be very careful about such things as that. We don't certainly want to be biblically shallow and at risk of deception.

And these are the days on Timothy 4 verse 1 we can say these are the days that we're in. Paul urges Titus 2 to impart biblical teaching. And this teaching is very relevant, very practical, very down to earth.

[7:46] And it's across different dimensions. So different groups of people we read here in Titus 2. And impacting people in their everyday, day by day, real lives.

And friends, doctrine is for all ages. It's interesting in Isaiah 28 verse 9. The question is asked, whom shall he teach knowledge? And whom shall he make to understand doctrine?

Them that are weaned from milk and drawn from the breast. That's pretty young, isn't it? Amen?

That's a pretty young age to be starting to learn doctrine. That's when God says he wants to teach knowledge.

That's when God says he wants them to know and understand doctrine. Teaching. Biblical truth.

And so even youngsters, even the very young, need training in biblical truth.

That's why we've got a Sunday school where they can get biblical truth. I know in times past we've had more Bible stories. But I know that our teachers here are committed to imparting biblical truth.

[8:51] Biblical truth. Likewise, Mario. Biblical truth. The young people need biblical truth. Biblical teaching. I know I've got a little sticker in the front of one of my Bibles that says, Fight truth decay.

Read the Bible. That's what we need. Study the Bible. Fight truth decay. It's one of the perils of our age. Truth decay. We need to study the Word of God.

Doctrine. It's good for you. It's good for you to learn doctrine. That's why we want to encourage one and all to come to the training that we offer as a church.

It's important that we're grounded. Friends, doctrine matters. It's healthy for you in every stage of your life. If you're a young Christian, there's lots to learn.

If you're an older Christian, you've got lots to teach. Come on. Doctrine. It's good for you in every stage of your life. And friends, in Titus 2 we see five groups addressed.

[9:52] Five groups of people spoken to. Firstly, we see the older men. The older men. Verse 2. The older men are exhorted to be about sound doctrine.

To be men of solid character. Sound men. Sound men. Verse 2. That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate.

Now the aged men. People like Brad's age and above. You know, aged men. Actually, I read somewhere. Where it's the word aged men can be spoken of as people that are 49 and above.

So that includes me. You know, 49 and above. They're aged men. Alright? So, you that think you're not quite aged yet, maybe you already are. But, no.

It's talking about aged men. Older men. And what are these older men to be? They're meant to be wise and honourable. Worthy of respect. Older men. And you are looked up to.

[10:52] You are looked up to. Think of some older men in the scriptures that stand out from the crowd. Men like Moses. In Exodus 7 verse 7.

Moses was four score years old. And Aaron four score and three years old. When they spoke unto Pharaoh. Moses was 80. Aaron was 83.

God really used them in those later years of their lives. In those later years, the Lord really grabbed a hold of Moses and of Aaron for his glory. In those later years.

Where are the older men? Who will be like Moses. Be like Moses, you older men. God expects older men to be some things. Here it says, sober, grave, temperate.

Sober, grave, temperate. Now, grave doesn't mean glum, grouchy and grumpy. Grave means serious. We need to be serious.

[11:50] We need to handle this seriously. Seriously. That's a good thing to have. To be serious about the biblical truth that we love. That we hold fast to. Sober.

We need soberness. In these days of drunkenness. As we know, our world is on this free ride to hell. The helter-skelter ride.

There's a lack of soberness. And temperate. Again, along the same line. And Titus says that these men are to be sound. To be sound. We read in Titus 2, verse 2.

Sound. Sound. Sound in a number of areas. In three areas. In three aspects. Sound in faith. In charity. In patience. Sound.

Sound. In other words, again, referring to that healthy state. That state of being protecting and preserving life. Of health-giving. Sound.

[12:48] In other words, strong and grounded and true. In these three aspects. Faith, charity and patience. Paul tells Titus to urge the older men to be men of substance.

Men of substance. Men who will go the distance. Men who will finish strong. Finish strong in that race. Who will be like Paul. I've finished the race.

I've run the race. I've finished my course. And the prize is just moments away. He wants the older men to go the distance. To be men with those qualities of faith.

Of love. Of endurance. Older men. Men of character. Secondly, Titus is exhorted to relate to the older women.

The older women. These older women are addressed now. To be women of holy conduct.

Teachers of good things. The aged women. Verse 3.

[13:47] Likewise that they be. In behaviour as becometh holiness. In behaviour as becometh holiness. Friends, for one and all. Your belief ought to affect your behaviour.

It ought to happen that your life is evident. That it shows who you belong to. And it is said of women. And in behaviour as becometh holiness.

So older women. You older women here today. The word of God exhorts you to be examples to the younger. To be examples. Not worldly. But godly.

Women who carry themselves with character. Who will live lives that show holiness. What a testimony it is. To see senior saints. Who are glowing witnesses. Of the saviour they claim to love. What a blessing. What a joy it is. To see senior women. To see older women. With lives that shine. With lives that shine. As a testimony. Anna was such a woman as this.

[14:46] Anna in the word of God. In Luke 2. Verse 36. It says. There was one Anna. A prophetess. The daughter of Phanuel. Of the tribe of Asa. She was of great age.

And had lived with a husband. Seven years from her virginity. And she was a widow. Of about four score. And four years. Which departed not from the temple. But served God.

With fastings and prayers. Night and day. And she coming in that instant. Gave thanks. Likewise unto the Lord. And spake of him.

To all them that looked for redemption. In Jerusalem. She was perceptive spiritually. She was one who. Was an older woman. Who lived with dignity.

And grace. She had become a widow. After just seven years of marriage. And then she devoted. The remainder of her life. And now at 84 years old.

[15:40] She gave word of the Messiah. She had served God. With fastings and prayers. Night and day. Anna was a testimony. Of what an older woman. Should be.

An older woman. An older woman. Should aspire to be. Like Anna. A glowing witness. For the Lord. Now it says. That the older women. Here in Titus 2. Are the numbers of things.

That these older women. Should aspire to. It says. That the older women. Not false accusers. Not false accusers. Now the word. Accusers.

False accusers. Is related to the word. For devils. It's talking about. Not being. Acting like a devil. In effect. Not false accusers.

In other words. Not gossips. Not malicious. Tale bearers. But speaking the truth. God wants older women. Not to be. Mean and sour. And tattletailing.

[16:34] And busy bodies. And disobedient. To sound doctrine. God wants older women. To be sweet. And godly. And speaking the truth. In love. Not false accusers.

Secondly. It goes on. Also. Not given. Too much wine. Not given. Too much wine. It's got the sense. Not addicted. Not addicted. Or enslaved.

By drink. How can we be a witness. To someone. When we have addictions. That are holding us. Enslaved. It's a challenge. To you. Older women.

Here today. What witness are you being. To those who are watching you. Older women. Younger women. Are watching you. Younger women.

Are watching you. When you have an obvious addiction. That you cannot get the victory over. What is that saying about the faith. That you profess. This is a challenge to all of us.

[17:28] Older ones. To set a stronger example. To set a strong example. Because others will follow you. We do not want to cause them to stumble. And so we ought to be an example.

In our behaviour. In all aspects of our lives. In every quadrant. In every dimension. Of our lives. We don't want to cause others to stumble. When others are looking to you.

They will follow your lead. You know. I can remember. In my mum and dad's older days. I certainly can remember my dad smoking. I can remember my dad smoking.

When he was a lost man. And he couldn't really say to me. Don't smoke. Thankfully I never did. But. People are watching you. Saint. People will see what you do.

And they will copy you. It doesn't matter what you say to them. They will look at what you do. That's the point. Not given to much wine. But rather. Teachers of good things.

[18:27] Teachers of good things. Older women. You are meant to be teaching the younger. What is right. And what is good. Oh for older women. Who will be teachers.

Of good things. Teachers of good things. Older women. What is it you are training others to do. Your family. Your children. The younger women who are watching you.

Be guarded. And be careful. And be wise. Thirdly it goes on. Titus 2. There is a third group. The younger women. The younger women are exhorted. To be women of pure devotion.

Women of pure devotion. Verse 4. That they may teach the young women. The young women. There is a place. For the older women. To impart. To the younger ones.

You are imparting. Whether you like it or not. Let's face it. We that are older. The younger look to us. And we are teaching them. No matter what it is. We are teaching them some way or another.

[19:23] So. Younger women. Are to be taught by the older women. To be trained. To be schooled. Younger women. Are exhorted. To learn from the older women.

Of good things. So think of the young women in the Bible. What are the young women who have a testimony of God's grace. Think of the younger women. Who stand out from the crowd. Women like young Esther.

Young Esther. In Esther 5 verse 2 it says. And it was so. When the king saw Esther. The queen standing in the court. That she obtained favour. In his sight. Here in the context.

Was Esther. Braving. The king's wrath. At the risk of her very life. Entering into the court of the king. To intervene.

On behalf of God's people. Where are the young women. Who will be brave and bold. Like Esther. Where are they today. I pray that there will be some.

[20:18] In our number here today. Young women. Who will be bold and brave. In faith and grace. Esther had courage. And bold faith. And God gave her favour. What are the younger women to be schooled in.

In Titus 2. We read. To be sober. To be sober. There's that word again. Soberness is something to be sought after. In these perilous last days. Soberness.

To be modest. To be sober minded. To be sensible. It's interesting. This word sober. Has the sense of. In the underlying words.

That we translate from. It's got a combination of. Saved and mind. Saved and mind. It's got the sense of. A combination of the word. Sozo.

Saved. And friend. Mind. So what it's saying here. Is that younger women. Need to have saved minds. Saved minds. You know.

[21:14] If your mind gets saved. If you get right thinking. It'll show in right living. In good words. A saved mind. A saved mind. Will have the sense. To seek God's face.

To seek God's will. As to what is proper. And what is true. And what is right. And what is not. And it will guard us from extremes. Will have a saved mind.

In other words. A godly spirit. And godly desires. So younger women. Are firstly. To be sober. It goes on. The younger women. Are to love. Their husbands.

To love. Their children. There's a command there. It's important. Your home life is very important. As far as sound doctrine goes. Now we can talk about doctrine.

And have all our theology down pat. But if it falls apart. In the home scene. Then it doesn't say much about it. Does it? Our sound doctrine. Should translate. Into the home front.

[22:10] And so. To be discreet. Or self-controlled. And to be chaste. Chaste. In other words. Pure. There's a lot of women that are chaste. They're chaste by men. But that's not what it's talking about.

It's talking about chastity. It's talking about purity. And we're living in a world. Where there's a lack of chastity. There's a lack of purity. We're living in a world. Where there's forces summoned against the youth.

Of this generation. There's forces generated. By the world. And the things of the world. To attack the very purity. Of young people.

In our world today. Young people are under an onslaught. Under a vicious. Determined onslaught. Of the evil one.

Of the enemy of our souls. He's mounting a determined campaign. Against your young children. Parents here today. Your young people are under attack.

[23:06] By the enemy of our soul. And more than ever. I'll put it to you. There is a corrupting. There's a soiling. There is a force. There's being summoned against.

Young people today. So that the youth of our world today. must heed the instruction of chastity and purity. Young women who will save themselves in purity and resolve to be pure until marriage and beyond for their future spouse.

Young women, you're exhorted that way. The Word of God exhorts you that way. In this world in which there's a dismantling of all that is right and true, where there's a corrupting of culture and truth, where popular music is just intrinsically filled with such messages from the pit of hell.

Young people, guard your mind. Soberness, chastity, purity. We can't give an inch. Don't give an inch. And even the popular music that seems fairly harmless.

You see, I've seen some little clips of the dance moves. And you don't even need the words. It's filthy. It's vile.

[24:28] It stinks in the sight of God. And young people, don't touch it. Don't touch it. Touch not the unclean thing. Don't touch it with a barge pole. Keep a wide berth.

Keep a long distance between you and such things as that. Don't mess with it. It's a corrupting of culture. And popular music is pumping into young minds this barrage of filth.

Corrupting music and messages. It's the opposite of pure. What should young women aspire to be? To have purity. Purity. Purity. Younger women are exhorted to be chaste.

Or have chastity. And so it goes on. And also it goes on to be keepers at home. Young women are exhorted to be keepers at home. In other words, to be good homemakers.

Be good homemakers. Women who will take care of their duties at home. And with their own families. This is a good and godly thing. God's designed it that way.

[25:29] God's designed families to function with due order and blessing. And so younger women are exhorted to be such. It goes on to be good. In other words, to be kind.

And now we're going to hit a politically incorrect one. You know, you could preach this in some churches today. Obedient to their own husbands. Oh, did he just say that?

That's what God says. Obedient to their own husbands. In other words, willing to serve their husbands. It doesn't mean you're going to be a dog's body that's kicked around at his feet. But you'll have an obedient heart. You'll have a humble heart. Obedient to their own husbands. In other words, willing to serve and to be supportive to your husband. Why? That the word of God be not blasphemed. So that no one will speak evil of God's word. It'll show, it'll shine out of the testimony of your life. So the younger women are exhorted to purity, to love and to kindness.

[26:33] And the world speaks evil of the word of God when Christians don't measure up. That's why the media delight in stories that paint supposed Christians in a bad line.

So we've seen the older men. The older women and we've seen the younger women. And thirdly, we've seen the young men. Younger men are exhorted to being men of sober minds. Sober minds have the same sense of a saved mind in effect. Verse 6. Young men likewise exhort. Young men are exhorted. They're instructed.

Paul to Titus instructs them in these numbers of ways. And likewise Paul instructs Timothy. In 1 Timothy 4 verse 12. It says, Let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example of the believers. In word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. There's that word again. Paul says to Timothy, verse 6.

[27:39] Young men likewise exhort to being sober minded. One of the areas where young men seem to lack discipline is in the mind. In the mind.

The battlefield of the mind. Thoughts that are not always of God. And we ought to govern our minds. Young men. All of us really.

Govern your mind. Have a sound mind. A mind that has self-control. A sensible mind. Verse 7. The younger men. In all things. Titus then is instructed.

Showing thyself a pattern of good works. Paul ages Titus. Make yourself a model. Make yourself a model. An example. Be a template. A template.

You know. I've seen. I remember back in my. In my. Dim dark past as a school. School student. To the template.

[28:38] When you had the bandsaw. And you had to. Go around the templates. Make the model. And friends. Titus is urged to be a template. A template.

A model. An example. Something that shapes how others are. A template. That others can model their lives after. It's a huge responsibility. Isn't it?

The sense of the word here. Is of a pattern. Of a mould. As such that clay is poured into. Or wax. Is pressed into. It's a picture of how we are meant to be.

As God's men and women. As models to others. As those examples to others. And it's the same word that's used. Of the imprint. Of the nails.

In our Saviour's hand. In John 20 verse 25. That it says of the print. Of the imprint. Of the nails. In our Saviour's hand. Is that same word.

[29:33] Pattern. Pattern. Of course we know. Ladies in particular. Have those. Dress patterns. And they cut the fabric. Into the shape. And then sew it all together.

And voila. There it is. The wonderful clothes. That you can make. It's because. You followed the pattern. Followed the pattern. Friends. You are a pattern. You are a pattern.

Every single one of you. Is God's people. You are a pattern. Make your life. Such that you will create. An impression. That is a good one. An impression.

And I'm not talking about. Impress people. But an impression. An impression. That is a godly impression. People are watching you. And at a very practical level. And so.

Not for impressions sake. In terms of a sham. Or a show. But what is real. Be the real you. As God has created you to be. And as God is changing you to be. And shaping you to be.

[30:30] So Paul urges Titus. To make sure. That his actions bear true witness. To his faith. Be a pattern. He says. And speaking of doctrine. Again. Paul says. A pattern. In doctrine.

In other words. In what you teach. In what you teach. He says. Show these three things. To Titus. Three things he says. To Titus. To show in the doctrine. Showing uncorruptness.

In other words. Purity. Avoiding error. Uncorruptness. We don't want the doctrine to be corrupt. This is. Not corrupt. It's pure. It's pure.

And the doctrine we teach. Is unadulterated. It's not being played with. Or changed. It's true. It's trustworthy. It's avoiding error. Uncorruptness. Secondly. Gravity. In other words.

Honesty. And thirdly. Sincerity. Or in other words. Integrity. God wants us to have a soundness. Of our doctrine. That translates into. Uncorruptness. Gravity.

[31:25] And sincerity. And so. Sound faith. Is commended. In this passage. And the context. Sound faith. Sound doctrine. Is commended.

And thirdly. Sound speech. Sound speech. Is commended. Sound speech. Verse 8. How are we to speak? We are to issue a message. That is crystal clear.

Wholesome. And accurate. Sound speech. The word of God. Is such that we can speak it boldly. Without fear or favour. The word of God. Sound speech.

That cannot be condemned. If we speak in the Bible. We cannot be criticised for that. It's above criticism. But he that is of the contrary part. May be ashamed. Having no evil thing. To say of you. When we talk the truth. Those that are against us. Will have nothing to say. Against it. They will be ashamed. So our words are important. So let's not.

[32:21] Let's guard our words. Let not pasty words. Escape. From our lips. Paul urges Titus. To exhort. Beyond just the home life.

To the work life. It goes on. Verse 9. There's a fifth group. We've looked at the. Aged men. We've looked at the. Aged women. We've looked at the younger women. We've looked at the younger men.

And now lastly. The servants. Number 5. Number. Verse 9. Exhort servants. Exhort servants. Christianity should live. Not just in the. Home place.

But also. In the. Work place. Where the rubber. Hits the road. When you're amongst the people. That you rub shoulders with. Day by day. Day after day.

Will your Christianity. Stand the test. Will it be sound doctrine. That's evident. In your life. Or will we be a chameleon.

[33:19] What do I mean. You're one thing in church. And when you step outside. And you're down. On the shop floor. You're just like one of the boys. Or one of the girls.

There's no difference. In your life. Friends. If you're a real Christian. Your Christianity. Is 24. By 7. By 365.

A Christian. Employee. Is to be. Under authority. Not argumentative. It's got the sense of it there. Obedient. Unto their own masters. Not answering again.

Not purloining. Not pilfering. But showing. All good fidelity. In other words. Being trustworthy. Showing faithfulness. God commands faithful. Employees.

You know. You just wait. Till you feel. Oh. I feel a little cough coming up. I'll take a sick eat. Is that a good witness? Is that a good testimony? For the Christianity. That you profess.

[34:19] Or will you just join in. The dirty jokes. With the. With your mates at work. And there won't be anything. Different about you. Friends. Exhort servants. That they be.

A testimony. That they show. All good. Fidelity. In other words. Trustworthiness. And faithfulness. A faithful servant. That's what we ought to be. Down at the workplace. A faithful servant.

That your boss. Can have complete confidence in you. And it won't be with eye service. When he's watching you. But it will be because. Your real master. Is watching you. All the time. When you slack off.

Your real master. Your real boss. Is the Lord Jesus Christ. And we want to be like. The man commanded. In Matthew 25. Well done. Now good. And faithful servant.

That's what we want to hear. From our saviour's lips. To be such. As are faithful. It goes on. We're getting to a close. That they may adorn. The doctrine of God. Our saviour.

[35:14] In all things. The doctrine. Is the foundation. The life. Is the adorning. This word. Adorn the doctrine. The word adorn. Is the word. We get cosmetics from.

Interesting. Isn't it? That the doctrine. Should be adorned. With our lives. We should be just. The finishing touches to it. As it were. We should be just. That little bit of.

Extra finishing touch. That our Lord. Is shaping us. And making us. Such that our very lives. Will be. An adornment. To the doctrine. That we teach. Our very lives.

Will bring honor. And credit. Unto our Lord. And master. In all that we do. In every respect. So. Whether you are.

An older man today. Whether you are. An older woman today. Whether you are. A younger woman. Whether you are. A younger man. Whether you are. An employee.

[36:09] Adorn the doctrine. Adorn the doctrine. With your life. Sound doctrine. Doctrine that lives. In your everyday. Just to close. A quick. Little. Picture.

Of this. Because your life. Is. Speaking louder. Than your words. Sound doctrine. Is not some. Mental concept.

Or some. Theoretical. Theological. Learning. As much as that's. Important. It's. Lived. It's lived. Truth.

Truth. Truth that lives. In your life. And. To close. Here's a. Story that. Pictures this. You may have heard it before. The gospel. According.

To you. There's a gospel. According to Matthew. To Mark. To Luke. And to John. There's another gospel. That many are reading. The gospel.

[37:03] According to. You. All teaching. We find in the bible. All facts. We know to be true. You must live them. To make them. The gospel. The gospel.

According. To you. Many read not. The words of the bible. I will tell you. What some of them do. They are reading. The book. You are writing.

The gospel. According. To you. There's great power. In gospel preaching. The bible teaches. That this is true. But the sermon. Most likely.

To influence. Others. Is the gospel. According. To you. God. Help us. To be faithful. To Jesus. To live. All his teachings.

So true. So that all. May see. His spirit. In the gospel. According. To you. You are writing a.

[37:59] Gospel. A chapter. Each day. By things. That you do. By things. That you say. Others. Read. That gospel.

Whether faithless. Or true. Say. What. Is the gospel. According. To you. To you. To you. To you. Thank you.