

Beware Those Who Contradict

Titus 1:10-16

I. Elders of the churches protect the content of the faith. (Titus 1)

- A. The qualifications of elders (1:5-9)
- B. The reason for appointing elders (1:10-16)

The Main Point of Titus 1:10-16

Interpretation: There are unqualified men who want to influence believers.

Implication: God's design for elder rule in local churches is full of wisdom and is designed for the health of every believer.

Application: Seek to put yourself under the leadership of qualified elders as a way to pursue a healthy life.

- Clarifications:
 - Not because elders want to control you; but because God's design is to protect you by means of elders in a local church.
 - Not that all your good works must be within the local church context; God can use you within your local church, God can use you in the lives of believers outside of your local church, and God can use you in the lives of unbelievers. However, God has established the order of authority and responsibility of recognized elders over local churches as a way to provide you with safety for flourishing.
 - Not that elders have authority to micromanage your life; but recognized elders do have the authority to teach you how to understand and apply Scripture. You are unwise to give this authority to those who are unqualified for this role in your life.

The Reason Some Men Must Be Silenced (1:10-12)

vs 10 summarizes the problem with those who contradict God's word

vs 11 stresses the urgent problem: these people are ruining lives

vs 12 identifies these people as typical of the worldly culture of Crete

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The Goal of Rebuking Those Who Contradict God's Word (1:13-16)

vs 13 tells both how and why to confront the contradictors

vs 14 describes what a healthy faith is not

vs 15 contrasts the healthy life of the pure and the unhealthy life of the contradictors

vs 16 argues that if their ideas make them unfit, the ideas will make you unfit too