



TITUS

A STUDY THRU PAUL'S LETTER TO TITUS



The Elder's Heart - 2

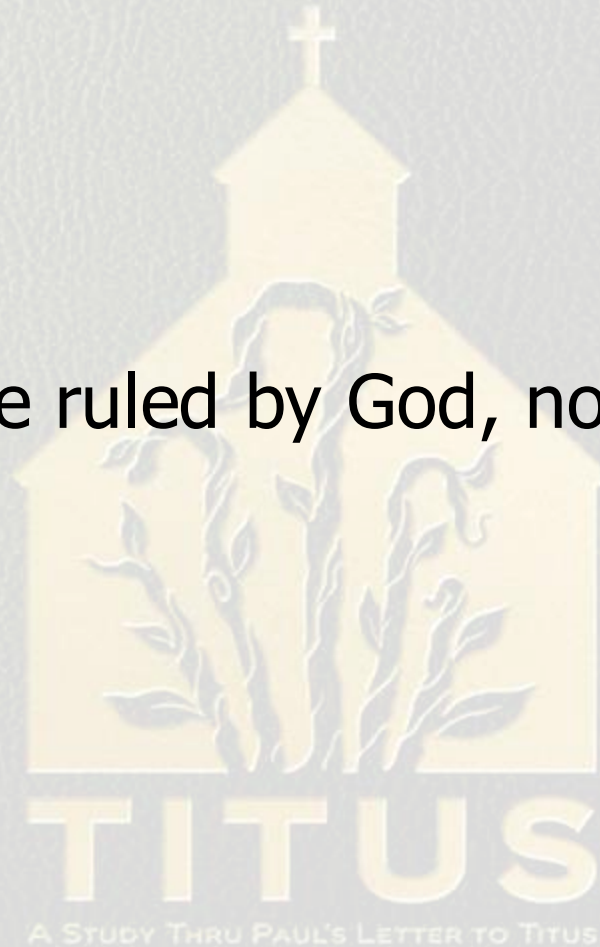
Titus 1:7d-f

October 01, 2025



Lesson Theme:

A leader's heart must be ruled by God, not by ungodly passions.

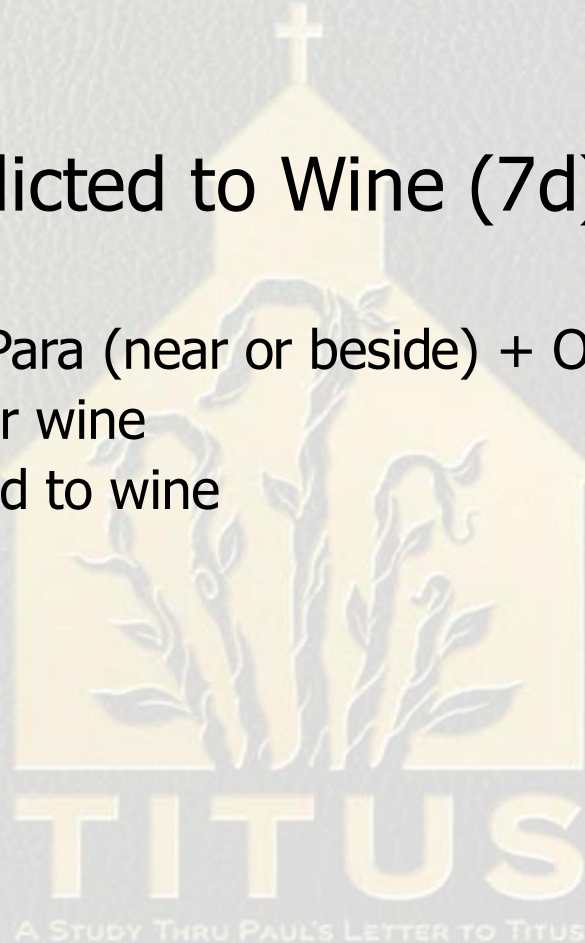


The Elder's Heart

I. The Elder is Not Addicted to Wine (7d)

A. What it Means

- παράοινος (paroinos) – Para (near or beside) + Oinos (wine)
- The one who stays near wine
- The one who is addicted to wine



“The Jews for instance, used it of the conduct of Jews who married Midianite women; Christians used it of the conduct of those who crucified Christ. It describes the character of the man who, even in his sober moments, acts with the outrageousness of a drunken man.”

- William Barclay

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1 – Medicinal Use (1 Tim. 5:23)

2 – Gladdens the Heart (Ps. 104:14-15)

3 – Symbolizes Blessing and Abundance (Prov. 3:9-10)



The Elder's Heart

I. The Elder is Not Addicted to Wine (7d)

A. What it Means

B. Why it Matters (when Elders ARE addicted to Wine)

1. It impacts their judgment (Prov. 23:29-35)
2. It damages their testimony (Prov. 20:1; Ps. 14:1)
3. They lose self-control (Prov. 23:19-21; 31:4-5; 1 Tim. 2:2-3)

C. How it Marks the Church (when Elders are NOT addicted to Wine)

1. They provide Spirit Filled Leadership (Eph. 5:18; Col. 3:16-17)
2. They display a readiness for Christ's Return (Luke 21:34-36)



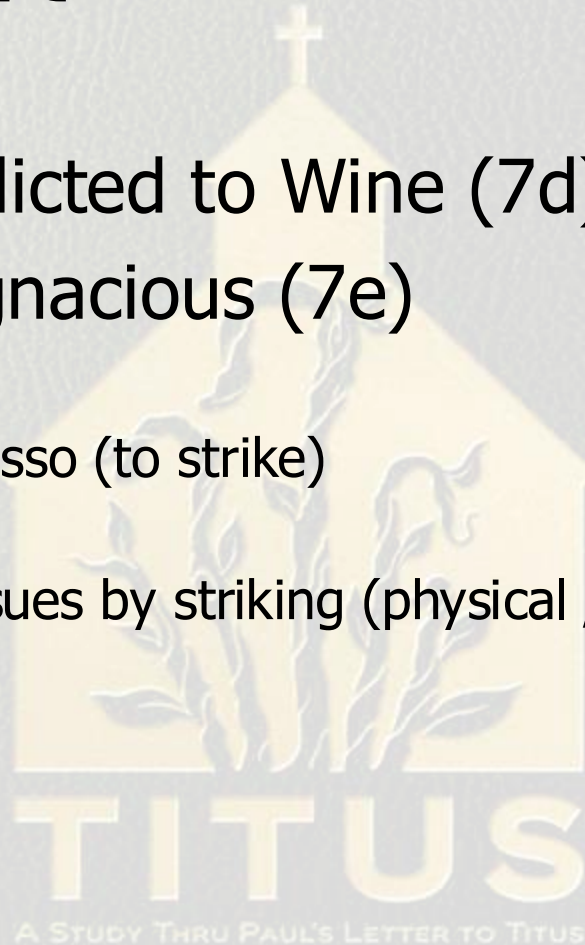
The Elder's Heart

I. The Elder is Not Addicted to Wine (7d)

II. The Elder is Not Pugnacious (7e)

A. What it Means

- πλήκτης (Plektes) – Plesso (to strike)
- A striker / A fist fighter
- A man who resolves issues by striking (physical / verbal)



“..being pugnacious means physically hitting others. But it may legitimately be expanded to refer to a man who is verbally combative. It should be needless to say that an elder should never strike anyone, especially his wife or children.”

- Steven Cole

The Elder's Heart

I. The Elder is Not Addicted to Wine (7d)

II. The Elder is Not Pugnacious (7e)

A. What it Means

B. Why it Matters (when Elders ARE Pugnacious)

1. Fear replaces trust (Ezek. 34:4; Prov. 29:25)
2. There is Division in the Body (Ezek. 34:4-6)
3. There is Divine discipline (Ezek. 34:10; Heb. 13:17)

C. How it Marks the Church (when Elders are NOT Pugnacious)

1. Builds Unity (James 3:17-18; Eph. 4:3)
2. Provides an Example for the flock (Matt. 5:9, 11:29; Prov. 15:1; James 1:19)

The Elder's Heart

I. The Elder is Not Addicted to Wine (7d)

II. The Elder is Not Pugnacious (7e)

III. The Elder is Not Fond of Sordid Gain (7f)

A. What it Means

- αἰσχροκερδής (Aischrokerdes) – Aischros (filthy, shameful, indecent or dishonorable) + Kerdos (gain or profit)
- A person who is shamelessly greedy

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III. The Elder is Not Fond of Sordid Gain (7f)

A. What it Means

B. Why it Matters (when Elders ARE Fond of Sordid Gain)

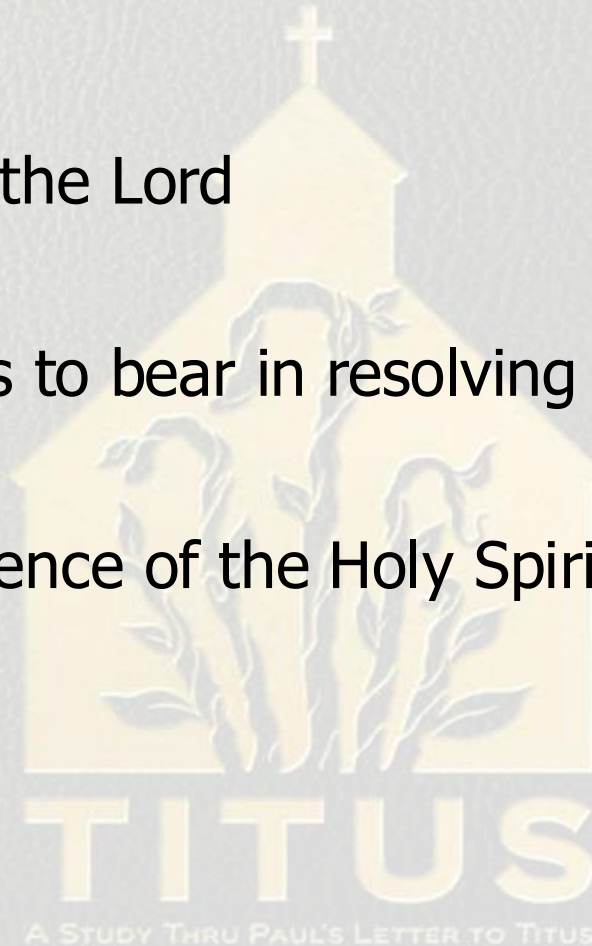
1. It exploits the flock (Ezek. 34:2-3; Micah 3:11; 2 Pet. 2:3)
2. Loss of Integrity and Trust (Tit. 1:11; 1 Pet. 5:2)

C. How it Marks the Church (when Elders are NOT Fond of Sordid Gain)

1. There is Faithful Stewardship (Isa. 33:15)
2. There is Generous Spirit (Acts 2:44-45; 2 Cor. 9:7; 1 Tim. 6:17; Heb. 13:5)
3. He cannot be bought (Prov. 17:23; Acts 8:20)

Make sure...

- I. Your contentment is in the Lord
- II. You bring the scriptures to bear in resolving conflicts
- III. You are under the influence of the Holy Spirit



Small Group Discussion

1. What are ways believers today can be alert to subtle forms of dependency or excess?
2. What is the difference between contending for the truth (Jude 3) and being argumentative?
3. How can we guard our own hearts from greed and cultivate contentment?

Personal Reflection - Which of these qualifications (in v. 7) challenges you most in your own walk with Christ?