

Titus

Lesson #5, Chapter 1:3-4

Be sure to stop and ask the Lord for His help as you study His Word. He will give you insight and wisdom into *His* Word.

1. What happened at the *proper time* (vs. 3)?
2. What is the *proper time* being contrasted with back in vs. 2? (Take note of that contrasting word “but” at the beginning of vs. 3; NIV uses “and”).
3. What other insights and observations can you make about the *proper time* from the following verses? See Mark 1:14-15; Rom. 5:6; Gal. 4:4-5; Eph. 1:9-12; 3:4-10; 1 Tim. 2:6; 6:13-15.
4. You cannot read the Scriptures without gaining a sense of timing, a sense that God has a definite plan and that all things will be accomplished in due time. How does knowing this truth help you to wait patiently for the “proper times” in your life?
5. Titus 1:3 says, *but at the proper time* (at the right time, in due or full time). God has His own timetable in which to accomplish His purposes. Do you sometimes feel impatient at the slow pace in which God seems to be moving in your life? Cultivate a patient, waiting heart by focusing on the following verses: Ps. 37:1-11; 57:2; 138:8; Phil. 1:6.

6. What did God *manifest* (reveal, make known) at the proper time (vs. 3)?

7. What part did Paul play at the proper time in God's plan (vs. 3)?

8. *Proclamation* (kerigma) expresses both the *content* and the *method* of conveying the message. Look up the following verses to see what and how Paul was proclaiming. See 1 Cor. 1:21-24; 15:1-5; Phil. 1:15-18.

9. Paul was "entrusted" with the gospel. He was to be a steward of God's message to the lost and to build up the church. Define *entrusted* and *stewardship*.

10. Now look up the following verses: 1 Cor. 4:1-2; 9:16-17; Gal. 2:7; Eph. 3:1-7; Col. 1:25-27; 1 Thess. 2:3-4; 1 Tim. 1:5-11. What do you learn about how Paul viewed his ministry from these verses?

11. Paul took seriously his responsibility to preach the Word. What responsibilities have you been entrusted with? How would you characterize your attitude towards those God-given responsibilities? (If you're not sure what your responsibilities are read Titus 2:3-5 for starters.)

12. In vs. 3 how does Paul refer to God? See also 1 Tim. 1:1; 2:3; 4:10; Titus 2:10; 3:4. Notice the context of these verses. What subject is being discussed each time God is referred to in this way?

13. Whose Savior is He (vs. 3)? Think for a moment about the implications of that truth.

14. Paul calls Titus his true child. If you claim someone outside your family as your child, what are you wanting to communicate to them and to others?

15. What kind of man was Titus? Look at the following verses in light of that question: 2 Cor. 7:5-7, 13-15; 8:1-6, 16-24; Gal. 2:1-5; Titus 1:4; 3:12.

16. What bond holds Titus and Paul together from vs. 4?

17. Look up the following verses. What do you observe about Paul's ministry? What is the common denominator in all these verses? See Rom. 16; 1 Cor. 16:10-20; Eph. 6:21-22; Col. 4:7-17; 2 Thess. 1:1; 2 Tim. 1:2; 4:9-13, 19-21; Titus 1:4; 3:12; Philemon 1-2, 23-24.

18. Paul's ministry was multiplied because he not only shared his message, he also shared his life. At its most basic level, discipleship is simply telling another to "follow me as I follow Christ." Who are you following? How closely are you following? Is it possible that you need to speed up in order to keep up?

19. Who is following you? What are they seeing in your life that would help them grow in their own relationship with the Lord? Do you need to make more effort to open your life up so they can follow more easily?

20. Amy Carmichael said, "Friendship is a golden thing only if it be kept free from undisciplined attachment. We are not here to enjoy each other. We are here to do the will of God." What ways do you and your friends encourage one another to follow the Lord? What needs to be done if there are some areas in your friendships that do not aid you in walking with the Lord?