

SERMON NOTES JANUARY 3, 2010

The Light, the Leaders & the “Culture of the Lie”, *Bob McCoy*

Introduction – letters compared and contrasted

- A. Similar content – Different context - Ephesus vs. Crete
- B. Similar purpose – Different personality - Timothy vs. Titus

Text – Titus 1

Main Idea

This chapter plunges us into a theological and cultural thicket right from the start. Paul reminds Titus of three central realities:

[1] The Light’s Command – v. 1-5 – visualizing the voice of God ...

- A. His Status
- B. His Sense of Duty
- C. His Source of Salvation
- D. His Significance as Messenger
 - 1. the appointment – at just the “right time”
 - 2. the appearing – “brought to light”
 - 3. the authority – by the command of God

[2] The Leadership Challenge – v. 6-9 – straightening the unfinished work of God

- A. the purpose of Christian Leadership – to straighten out
- B. the pictures of Christian Leadership – blameless, people of integrity
- C. the practice of Christian Leadership

...an extended application to “leaders” and “the lead” ...

[3] The Lying Culture – v.10-16 – protecting the vulnerable in the household of God

- A. the Character of “Course” Culture
 - 1. Culture of “the Lie” - I – the “circumcision group”
 - 2. Culture of “the Lie” - II – dishonest gain group
 - 3. Culture of “the License” – liars, brutes & gluttons
- B. the Call for a Christian Response
 - 1. Silencing the ruinous
 - 2. Rebuking (& Restore) the repentant
 - 3. Recognizing the right/wrong way – purity vs. corruption

Concluding thoughts