

CHRISTIAN CONDUCT

Titus 2:1-10

The church moves forward when Christian conduct exudes from its congregations.

I. SOUND DOCTRINE DICTATES DUTIES (1)

A. CONSIDER

- Romans 12:1-2, Ephesians 4:1 and Colossians 3:1-2

B. REMEMBER

1. God tells us what He expects
2. God uses pastors to proclaim these practical truths

II. AGE-RELATED EXPECTATIONS (2-6)

A. OLDER MEN (2)

1. Should be controlled
 - a. Temperate (sober) > Avoiding extravagance
 - b. Dignified > Respectable, honorable
 - c. Sensible > Demonstrating mature judgment and proper restraint
2. Should be wholesome (sound)
 - a. In godly faith: Relying on God and His truth
 - b. In neighborly love: Being tender rather than bitter
 - c. In patient endurance: Bearing up under difficult circumstances

B. OLDER WOMEN (3-4a)

1. Her Lifestyle: Reverent or suitable to what is sacred
2. Her Lips
 - a. Not sowing discord: No hatred, malice or envy
 - b. Not enslaved to wine: Under its influence
 - c. Teaching what is good: Providing instruction about virtue
 - d. Encouraging the younger: Advising them in wisdom and decorum

C. YOUNGER WOMEN (4b-5)

1. Her Affections
 - a. Being her husband's friend and confidante
 - b. Attentive to each child's particular needs
2. Her Actions
 - a. Sensible: A self-controlled moderation (not vain or rash)
 - b. Pure: Without moral defect (not flirtatious)
 - c. Workers at home: Not neglecting domestic matters
3. Her Attitudes
 - a. Kind: Being upright and not irritable or cruel
 - b. Submissive: Willingly putting herself under her husband's headship

D. YOUNGER MEN (6)

1. Be Sensible: Self-controlled, able to reason and think sanely
2. Be Careful: Guarding against being led astray by one's sinful nature and the prevailing culture

III. OCCUPATIONALLY-RELATED EXPECTATIONS (7-10)

A. FOR PASTORS (6a, 7-8)

1. Exemplary passion: Urging the young men (6a)
2. Exemplary conduct: Genuine and without hypocrisy
3. Exemplary teaching: Providing the whole truth untainted by falsehood
4. Exemplary attitude: Dignified indicates that he brings respect to the office
5. Exemplary speech: Saying wholesome things in holy ways

B. FOR SERVANTS (9-10)

1. Attitudes
 - a. Submission: Complying with the master's requirements
 - b. Well-pleasing: Committed to excellence
2. Prohibitions
 - a. Not argumentative: Being critical, obstinate or stubborn (being respectful)
 - b. Not pilfering: Wasting, misappropriating or stealing goods (being honest)
3. Conduct: Demonstrating faithfulness and being trustworthy (having integrity)

IV. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

A. TESTIMONY FACTORS (5b, 8b, 10b)

- Taken from the "so that" purpose statements
1. Young women can make God's Word respectable (5b)
 2. Pastors should make God's man admirable (8b)
 3. Workers can make God's teachings attractive (10b)
 4. Christian conduct makes Christianity credible

B. SENSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS (2, 5, 6)

1. Older men (2), young women (5) and young men (6) are all encouraged to be sensible
2. The emphasis is on disciplined living and self-control

C. CONGREGATIONAL RAMIFICATIONS

1. Mentoring is important > “Encourage” (4), “urge” (6), “be an example” (7)
2. Multigenerationalism is important
 - a. If the younger leave the church or attend churches without older saints – something is lacking
 - b. If the older and younger never interact within the church – something is lacking
 - c. If the older ignore the younger – something is lacking

CONCLUSION:

If you were charged with being a Christian is there enough evidence to convict you?

- If not ... repent and change your behavior
- If so ... rejoice and let your light shine! (Matt. 5:16)