

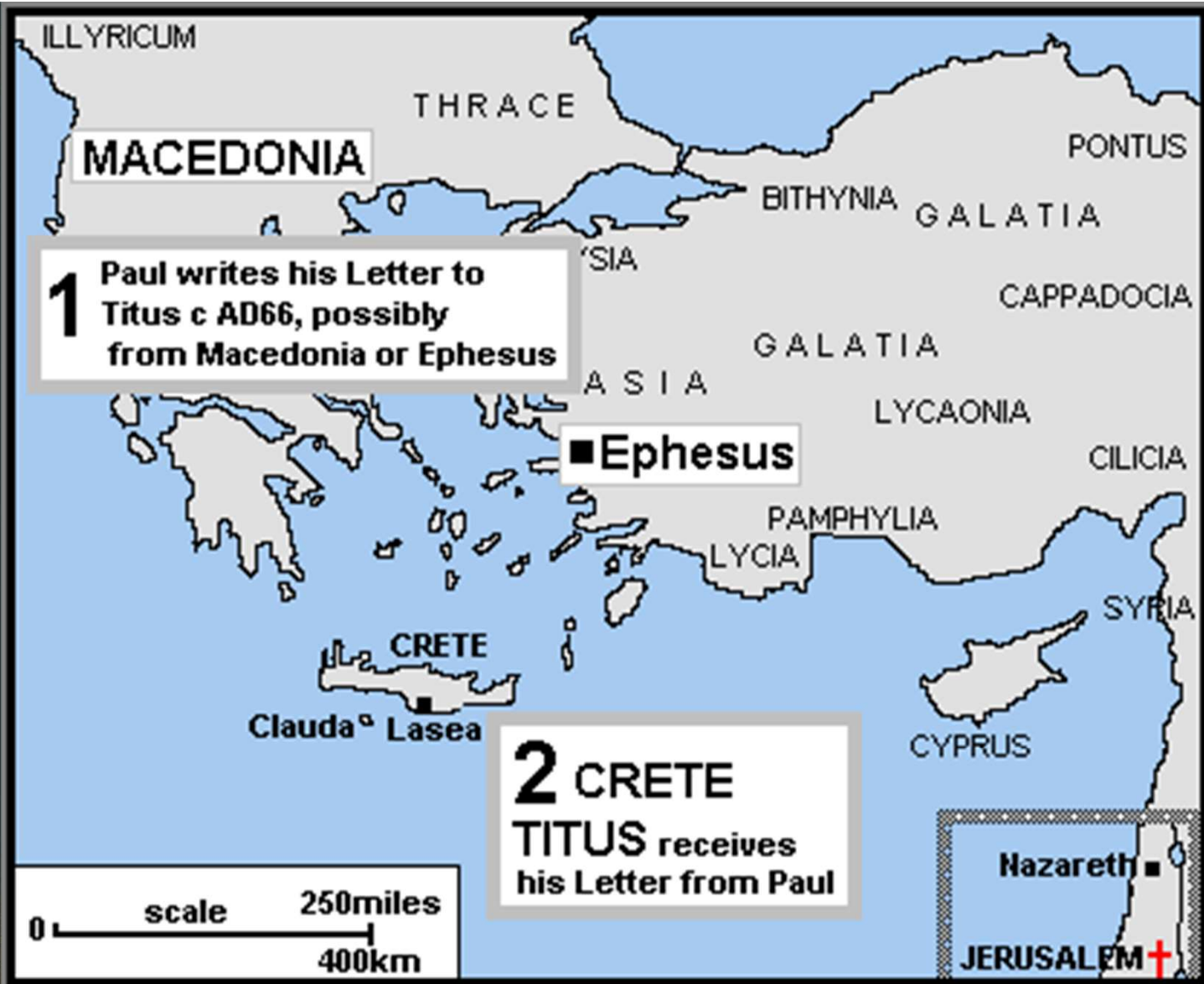


TITUS

His grace, inspiring change

Background

- Epistle written by the Apostle Paul
- Only 3 short chapters
- Written to Titus about his next assignment, Crete
 - Known for being a rough place—mercenaries
 - Crossroads of trade routes and culture
 - Meant for more than Titus



Titus 1:1–3

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ to further the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness—² in the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time,³ and which now at his appointed season he has brought to light through the preaching entrusted to me by the command of God our Savior,

Titus 1:4

⁴ To Titus, **my true son** in our common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

Titus 1: 5–6

⁵ The reason I left you in Crete was that you might **put in order** what was left unfinished and **appoint elders** in every town, as I directed you. ⁶ An elder must be **blameless, faithful** to his wife, a man whose **children believe** and are not open to the charge of being **wild and disobedient**.

Titus 1: 7–8

⁷ Since an overseer manages God's household, he must be **blameless**—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. ⁸ **Rather**, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. ⁹ He must hold firmly to the **trustworthy message** as it has been taught, so that he can **encourage others** by **sound doctrine** and **refute** those who oppose it.

Titus 1: 10–11

¹⁰ For there are many rebellious people, full of **meaningless talk** and **deception**, especially those of the circumcision group. ¹¹ They must be **silenced**, because they are disrupting whole households by teaching things they ought not to teach—and that for the sake of **dishonest gain**.

Titus 1: 12–13

¹² One of Crete's own prophets has said it: "Cretans are always liars, evil brutes, lazy gluttons." ¹³ This saying is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, so that they will be sound in the faith ¹⁴ and will pay no attention to Jewish myths or to the merely human commands of those who reject the truth.

Titus 1: 15–16

¹⁵ To the pure, **all things are pure**, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, **nothing is pure**. In fact, both their minds and consciences are **corrupted**. ¹⁶ They claim to know God, but by their **actions they deny him**. They are detestable, disobedient and **unfit for doing anything good**.

John 3:16–18

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God **did not send his Son** into the world **to condemn the world**, but **to save** the world through him. ¹⁸ **Whoever believes in him is not condemned**, but whoever does not believe **stands condemned already** because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

So What?

- Do the Hard Thing– Live Counterculturally
 - Are you like a Cretan?
 - Biblical Truth?
- Can you *build* an elder's character?
- What's your reputation? How do people know you?

Who are you?

TIME OF GIVING

Online giving is also available on our church website,
www.westmiddlebury.org, and on our Tithely app.

Offering boxes are
available at both entrances.

2 Corinthians 9:7

