

How to Study the Bible, 12/5, 9
Dr. Ken Hanna

Doing a “walk through” in the Book of Titus

A. Read Titus through at least three times (the more times the better). Each reading should be at one sitting. It helps to read the book in more than one translation.

B. Glean the following information by first-hand observation. Pay special attention to the opening paragraph, it is often the key to understanding the author’s reason for writing, his central idea, and logical argument (development of thought).

1. The **author**: what does the book tell us about Paul? What does the book reveal about Paul’s life and ministry, his personal history, situation, plans, etc.?
2. The **recipients**: What do we learn about Titus, his ministry, and assignment?
3. The **church**: What do we learn about the leaders and members, their spiritual and social status? What challenges do the church and individual believers face?
4. The **community**: What is Crete like? How would you characterize the spiritual and moral conditions surrounding the church?
5. The **occasion**: What problem, event, or idea occasioned this letter? Is Paul’s purpose for this letter stated?
6. The **main** theme of the book: What’s it all about? What does Paul emphasize?
7. The **peculiarities**: Is there anything unusual or noteworthy about this letter?

C. Analyze each paragraph in the book and write a summary statement for each.

1:1-4

1:5-9

1:10-16

2:1-2

2:3-10

2:11-15

3:1-11

3:12-15

D. Central Idea: Write a short sentence that states the essential message of Titus.