

PARTNERSHIPS

Titus 3:12-15

There are some things you cannot or should not do alone!

I. TITUS WITH ARTEMAS OR TYCHICUS (12a)

- For the Cretans

A. IT WAS A TIME OF TRANSITION

- Titus has apparently finished his work - See Titus 1:5

B. PAUL ASSISTED WITH THE TRANSITION

1. By asking Titus to leave
2. By having two qualified replacements

II. TITUS WITH PAUL (12b)

- For the winter

A. PAUL WANTED CHANGE

- A new place and person

B. TITUS COULD BE AVAILABLE

- He was strongly encouraged to join Paul

III. ZENAS WITH APOLLOS (13a)

- For a stopover

A. THEY WERE MAILMEN

B. THEY WERE MESSENGERS

1. Zenas: A Lawyer
2. Apollos: A Lecturer (See Acts 18:24-19:1 and I Cor. 3:6)
3. Together: A Leverage (Myth-busters!)
 - They were able to speak out against those focused on Jewish myths - Titus 1:10, 14, 3:9

IV. **LAYMEN WITH MISSIONARIES** (13-14)

- For fruitfulness

A. PROVIDING FOR NEEDS (13)

- Diligently helping so that nothing is lacking

B. LEARNING TO ENGAGE (14)

1. This is something that must be learned and therefore taught

2. They needed to learn generosity

- Like the Macedonians and II Cor. 9 and Gaius' church in III John 5-8

C. AVOIDING FRUITLESSNESS

- Being unproductive, barren and useless

V. **PAUL'S COMPANY WITH THE CRETANS** (15a)

- For congeniality

A. GREETINGS FROM US

- Paul's people know about Titus and his work

B. GREETINGS TO YOURS

- Paul acknowledged the love of those in Crete and wished them the best

VI. **PAUL WITH BELIEVERS** (15b)

- For a blessing

A. GRACE

1. A customary close would have been "farewell" which is literally "be strong" - See Acts 15:29

2. Paul's wish was a much more personal "grace" or literally "be blessed!"

B. TO ALL

1. Includes those he's leaving as he moves to Nicopolis

2. Those at Nicopolis who are believers

3. Those on Crete where Titus has served, and another will replace him

4. Other congregations and even modern-day Christians who will read this epistle

VII. OBSERVATIONS

- For consideration

A. THE WORK OF GOD IS DONE IN VARIOUS WAYS

1. Some are goers like Artemas, Tychicus, Zenas and Apollos
2. Some are givers like those on Crete and the greeters
3. Some are goers and givers like Paul and Titus

B. THE WORK OF GOD IS NOT ACCOMPLISHED BY SOLO SERVANTS

C. THE WORK OF GOD INVOLVES VARIOUS LOCATIONS AND CONGREGATIONS

- Crete, Macedonia, and Nicopolis

CONCLUSION:

We should never attempt the work of God without partners