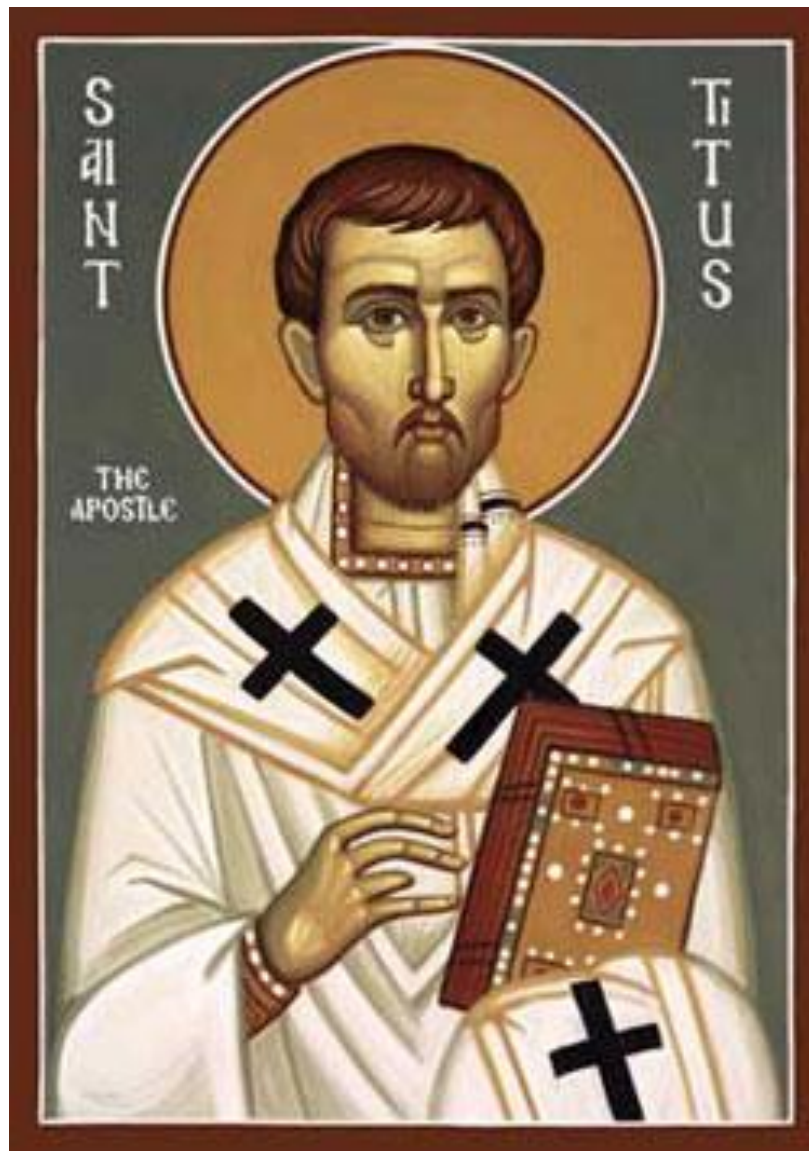


LIVING GODS WILL

The Disciple

TITUS



Saint Titus

The Disciple **TITUS**

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Born: 13 AD, Crete, Greece
Died: 107 AD (Aged 94), Gortyna, Greece
Death: Died of natural causes

He was a co-worker to the **Apostle Paul**

He was a friend to **Barnabas**

He was **Bishop of Gortyn**

He was a **born-again** Gentile Christian converted by **Paul**

Titus was an early church leader, a trusted companion of the **apostle Paul**, and a faithful servant of the Lord. **Titus** was a Gentile (**Galatians 2:20**) who was led to faith in Christ by **Paul** (**Titus 1:4**).

He was drawn to the ministry and became a co-worker with **Paul**, accompanying him and **Barnabas** from Antioch to Jerusalem (**Titus** is included in the "other believers" of **Acts 15:2**).

At the Jerusalem Council, **Titus** would have been a prime example of a **born-again Gentile Christian**. **Titus** was living proof that the rite of circumcision was unnecessary for salvation (Galatians 2:3).

Later, **Titus** went to Corinth to serve the church there (2 Corinthians 8:6, 16-17).

On **Paul's** third missionary journey, which took place from **A.D. 53 to 57**, **Paul** arrived in Troas and expected to meet **Titus** there (2 Corinthians 2:12-13). Not finding his friend, **Paul** left for Macedonia.

Titus rejoined **Paul** in Philippi and gave him a good report of the ministry in Corinth (2 Corinthians 7:6-7, 13-14). When **Titus** returned to Corinth, he hand-delivered the Epistle of 2 Corinthians and organized a collection for needy saints in Jerusalem (2 Corinthians 8:10, 17, 24).

Several years later, **Titus** and **Paul** traveled to the island of Crete, where **Titus** was left behind to continue and strengthen the work. **Titus's** task was administrative, mostly: he was to maintain sound doctrine and "**straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town**" (Titus 1:5).

When **Artemas** and **Tychicus** arrived in Crete to direct the ministry, **Paul** summoned **Titus** to join him in Nicopolis, a city in the province of Achaia in western Greece (Titus 3:12).

The last mention of **Titus** in the Bible indicates that he was with **Paul** during **Paul's** final Roman imprisonment. From Rome, **Titus** was sent to evangelize Dalmatia (2 Timothy 4:10), an area which later became known as Yugoslavia and is now called Serbia and Montenegro.

As a **Gentile Christian**, **Titus** would have been particularly effective in combating the heresy of the Judaizers. The Judaizers insisted that all Christians were bound by the Mosaic Law.

Usually, the Judaizers honed in on circumcision: Gentiles must be circumcised, they said, in order to truly be saved (see **Paul's** refutation of this teaching in Galatians 5:1-6). **Titus** knew this teaching well, for the subject had come up in Syrian Antioch, leading to the Jerusalem Council, of which he had been a part.

Titus was a faithful servant of the Lord and a dedicated aide to **Paul**. He must have been trustworthy and dependable, since **Paul** appointed him to lead works in Corinth, Crete, and Dalmatia.

Indeed, **Paul** calls him "**my partner and fellow worker**" (2 Corinthians 8:23). Knowing the difficult situations in both Corinth and Crete, we can infer that **Titus** was an insightful man who could handle problems with grace.

Scripture says that **Titus** had a God-given love for the Corinthian believers; in fact, in returning to Corinth, **Titus** went "**with much enthusiasm and on his own initiative**" (2 Corinthians 8:16-17).

May we have the same zeal for the Lord that **Titus** showed. Every believer would do well to model **Titus's** commitment to truth, fervor in spreading the gospel, and enthusiastic love for the church.

In 107 AD, the 94-year-old Titus died of natural causes in Gortyna Greece.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE

2nd Corinthians 2:13 My spirit was not at rest because I did not find my brother Titus there. So I took leave of them and went on to Macedonia.

2nd Corinthians 7:6 But God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus.

2nd Corinthians 8:23 As for Titus, he is my partner and fellow worker for your benefit. And as for our brothers, they are messengers of the churches, the glory of Christ.

Titus 1:4 To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.



Saint Titus Basilica, Gortyna Greece



Titus – Gortyna, Crete Greece