

Titus 2:3-4 — “The Value & Importance of Older Women Actively Serving in the Local Church!”

Far from rejecting or isolating or shoving aside older women, we need you -- desperately!

“Titus 2 is one of the most politically incorrect passages in the NT — it flies in the face of everything our culture says men and women of all ages should be living for & pursuing!” (Steven Davey)

THESIS — In this section, God exposes 4 vital areas of ministry for OLDER WOMEN. We’ll see 4 qualities & then the reason.

The **CONDUCT** of older women — *Be holy!*

The **CONVERSATION** of older women — *Speak Truth!*

The **CONTROL** of older women — *Live Controlled!*

The **COUNSEL** of older women — *Disciple Others!*

I. THE CONDUCT OF OLDER WOMEN -- *be holy!* (3a)

- Paul begins with the women’s **life & example & actions!**

Reverent in behavior: the word connotes the outward expression of inner character.

This is a short way of saying “what is fitting for women who claim to be godly” (1 Tim 2.10)

All ladies must take seriously the fact that they really belong to God & are owned by Him.

- ✓ We should put more attention on FAITHFULNESS more than FIGURES or FASHION or FORMS.
- ✓ We should put more attention on PIETY more than on POPULARITY.
- ✓ We need women prioritizing FEARING Christ more than FITTING with the culture.

HOW? (1) prioritize your heart (2) pursue your God (3) practice your position

II. THE CONVERSATION OF OLDER WOMEN -- *speak truth!* (3b)

Helpful reminders on how we as Christians must speak:

Speak what is TRUTH.

Speak what is TIMELY.

Speak what is EDIFYING.

Speak what is NECESSARY.

III. THE CONTROL OF OLDER WOMEN -- *live controlled!* (3c)

Historians tell us that Crete was known for its production of wine. Drunkenness was rampant (like our day).

But this is a call to *not* fit into the cultural stereotype. Paul says: Don’t let the godly women be like the pagans in the culture! The goal is not to be like *the culture* but like our *Christ*.

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Interestingly: Drunkenness, talkativeness, or slanderous talk are common in typical descriptions of older women in Ancient Near East.

IV. THE COUNSEL OF OLDER WOMEN -- *disciple others!* (3d)

Older women should teach what is good (not public preaching; but discipling younger women one on one, small group, on practical duties about biblical womanhood. (George Knight)

We vitally need women of God! This godly woman invests in other women impacting households, children, generations & cultivating godly legacies!

For a married woman, she's not to be replacing the husband *but* contributing & supplementing what is already going on his the home. That is to say, discipling woman should not replace the husband for the young woman's trust, but should supplement it. We need you women to come alongside of other women (married & single)!

This section (Titus 2.3-4) pictures the older women, those who are experienced in life, marriage, and child rearing, taking the younger women in the congregation under their care and helping them to adjust to their responsibilities in life. It is a blessed and needed ministry that cannot be accomplished by the men alone (1 Tim 5.2b). (Bill Mounce)

JESUS WHAT A FRIEND FOR SINNERS

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners!
Jesus! lover of my soul;
friends may fail me, foes assail me,
he, my Savior, makes me whole.

Hallelujah! what a Savior!
Hallelujah, what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
he is with me to the end.

Jesus! what a strength in weakness!
Let me hide myself in him;

tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,
he, my strength, my vict'ry wins.

Jesus! what a help in sorrow!
While the billows o'er me roll,
even when my heart is breaking,
he, my comfort, helps my soul.

Jesus! what a guide and keeper!
While the tempest still is high,
storms about me, night o'ertakes me,
he, my pilot, hears my cry.

SPEAK O LORD

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity.

Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail—
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us—
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises,
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory.