

① HOW TO CHOOSE LEADERS

② COMBATING ERROR

TITUS

GOD'S BLUEPRINT FOR THE CHURCH

③ MODEL OF DISCIPLESHIP

④ HOW TO BE A CHRISTIAN IN
AN UNCHRISTIAN WORLD

Believers Live at Peace

- Believers should live at peace with all people and be ready for every good work
- Titus 3:1-2
- “Remind them” (verse 1) shows us that these are all things they have been taught before.
- This is what every church should be taught.

Believers Live at Peace

- Be submissive – Blind, unquestioning obedience to human authority over God is not biblical (Acts 5:29).
- But believers are not exempt from submission to rulers and authority figures in this present age, even if those authorities are not Christians (Romans 13:1–7; 1 Peter 2:13–17).

Believers Live at Peace

- Be ready for every good work – The word for is more literally translated “to do”—be ready to do every good work. Commentary: “This extends the Christian’s responsibilities from a mere passive posture (obeying laws) to an active, positive involvement in society.”
- We are called to be in our communities, bringing light to the darkness (Matthew 5:13–16).

Believers Live at Peace

- Verse 2 broadens the command to include how believers should treat all people of the outside world.
- This is how believers should treat all people of the secular world, similar to Romans 12:18—“If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.”
- We should be the peacemakers (Matthew 5:9).

Believers Live at Peace

- Speak evil of no one – This is the word blaspheme, which is typically used of blaspheming God. But because all people are created in the image of God, to speak evil against someone is also to blaspheme.
- Avoid quarreling ... Be gentle – In the Greek, these two verbs go together, and they have another object. It more literally reads, “be peaceable and gentle to all.”

Believers Live at Peace

- Show perfect courtesy –The phrase more literally means “showing humility toward all,” which would point to our lives as a reflection of Christ’s humility (Philippians 2:6–8).
- This last phrase reads like a summary of the ones before it.
- If we live in humility toward all people, we will speak evil of no one and be peaceable and gentle to all. Humility means putting others’ needs ahead of your own.

Believers Live at Peace

- As believers, we know we shouldn't be the ones starting gossip about someone or starting a fight.
- But it can be so easy to get caught up in it when someone else starts it.
- But imagine what kind of witness for Christ it would be if you refused to take part in the gossip around you?

God Saved Us

- God saved us not by our works, but by His mercy
- Titus 3:3-7
- Here Paul restates the theological basis for our good works from chapter 2.
- The interplay of faith and works has been a theological debate for all of church history.

God Saved Us

- Passages such as this one in Titus do a good job of explaining the interplay of faith and works. Again, if we break this passage down, it makes it a bit easier to digest.
- For we ourselves were once, foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.

God Saved Us

- But when the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, Not because of works done by us in righteousness, But according to his own mercy, By the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, Whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, So that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

God Saved Us

- Verse 3 describes the twin theological concepts of original sin and total depravity.
- The expression “original sin” names the alienation of every human from God (Romans 5:12).
- The expression “total depravity” names our complete brokenness. We are powerless to fix the problem of sin ourselves.

God Saved Us

- But when Jesus saved us, He put us in right relationship with God.
- When He poured out His Spirit on us, we were washed from our sins and regenerated in the Holy Spirit (verse 5).
- This is the key to understanding how we can do good works. We have been regenerated. We have been made new creations (2 Corinthians 5:17).

God Saved Us

- But remember the interplay between faith and works.
- We are able to do good works now, but we have to make the choice to do so.
- Paul is exhorting these Cretan believers, just as James did, not just to say they believe, but to live out their faith.

Good Works

- Believers should be careful to devote themselves to good works, not stirring up division
- Titus 3:8-11
- Paul tells Titus to insist on these things (verse 8).
- “These things” referring to the truths he just expounded.

Good Works

- Paul tells Titus to “insist on these things” in the same way that he told him to “declare these things” at the end of the last chapter, and to “let no one disregard you” (2:15).
- He says something similar to Timothy – “Let no one despise you for your youth...” (1 Timothy 4:12).
- Both Timothy and Titus were relatively young and yet were put in positions of authority over entire congregations.

Good Works

- He also explicitly gives Titus authority to impose these things on the church by telling him to “rebuke with all authority” (2:15).
- This was Titus’s responsibility, to insist on these things, “so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works” (3:8).

Good Works

- Paul makes a very explicit contrast in these verses:
- These things are excellent and profitable for all people. They are unprofitable and worthless.
- The things Paul tells them to do in verses 1–2 are excellent and profitable. But the things he tells them not to do in verse 9 are the exact opposite – worthless and unprofitable.

Good Works

- These things are: “foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law” (verse 9).
- These are all the things that the false teachers have been doing, very similar to what Timothy was dealing with in Ephesus (1 Timothy 1:3–4).

Good Works

- As for a person who stirs up division – Paul tells Titus to avoid all of these theological discussions with these false teachers (verse 9).
- Instead warn them once, and then twice, and then “have nothing more to do with them” (verse 10).
- This method is in line with what Jesus taught the disciples (Matthew 18:15–17).

Good Works

- Church discipline is a difficult but necessary part of maintaining a healthy church, and we must take it seriously.
- He uses very strong language with Titus when it comes to training and rebuking people in the church at Crete: silenced, rebuke, insist, have nothing to do with them.

Final Instructions

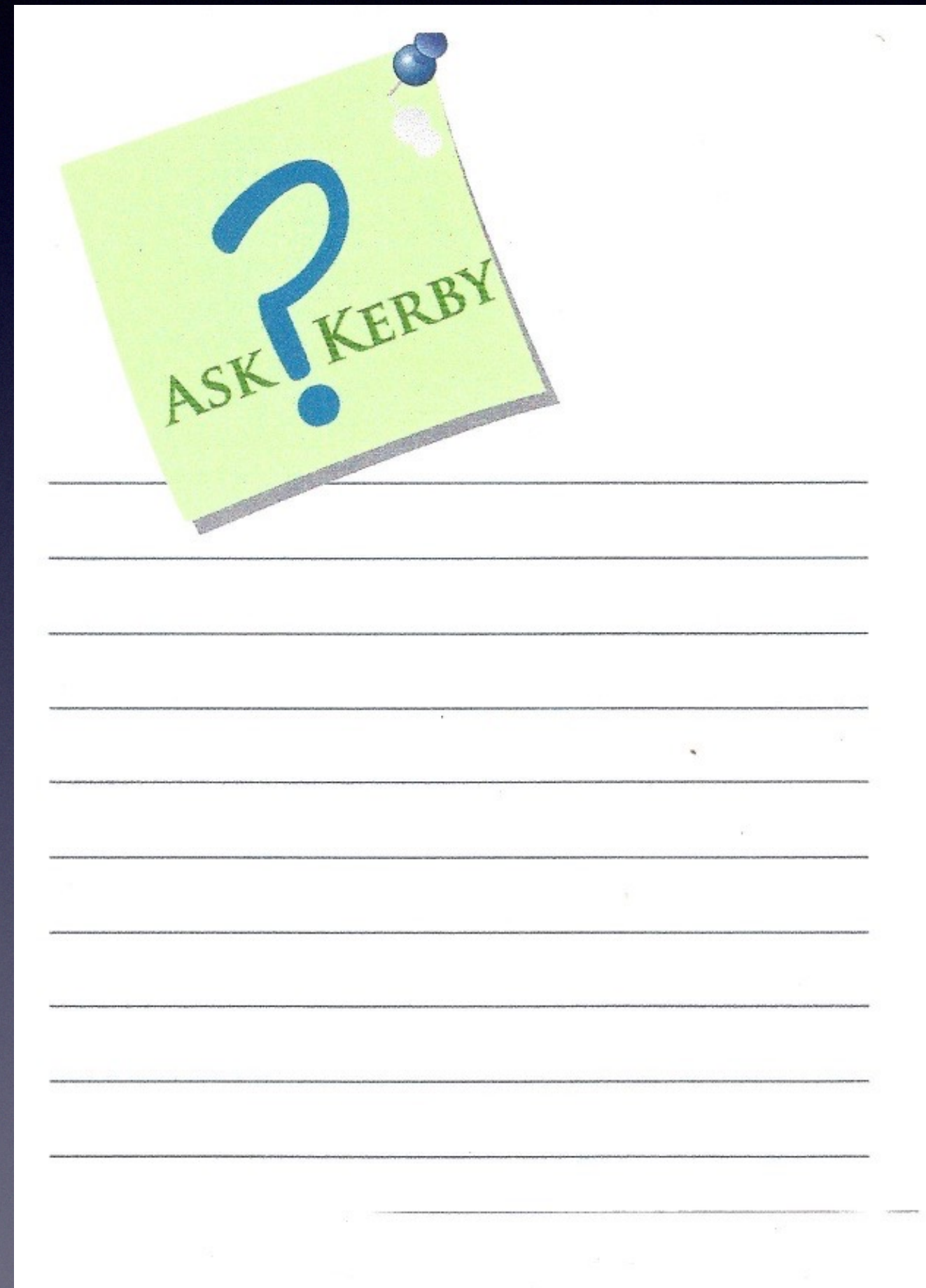
- Final instructions and conclusion
- Titus 3:12-15
- Paul tells Titus to come to Nicopolis to meet him there in the future, when he sends for him (verse 12).
- Paul tells Titus to send two others on their way and see that they lack nothing.

Ask Kerby



Is it known whether Jesus Christ rose from the dead before or after the angel of the Lord rolled away the stone from the tomb where his body was laid (Matthew 28:2)?

Ask Kerby



Did Jesus Christ come out of the tomb through the door after the angel of the Lord rolled way or did He walk through the tomb wall before the angel of the Lord did that?

Resurrection Questions

- The historic Christian position is that the angel of the Lord rolled the stone away NOT to let Jesus OUT, but to let witnesses INTO the tomb.
- The angel said, “He has risen” (Matthew 28:5). That is in the past tense.
- Jesus did rise on the “third day” (Luke 24:7).

Ask Kerby



Why does Matthew 28:1 talk about “the other Mary” if she was Mary, the mother of Jesus?

The Many Marys

- Mary Magdalene (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)
- Mary, the mother of James and Joseph
- Mary, the wife of Clopas
- Mary, the mother of Jesus
- Mary, “who is the other Mary”

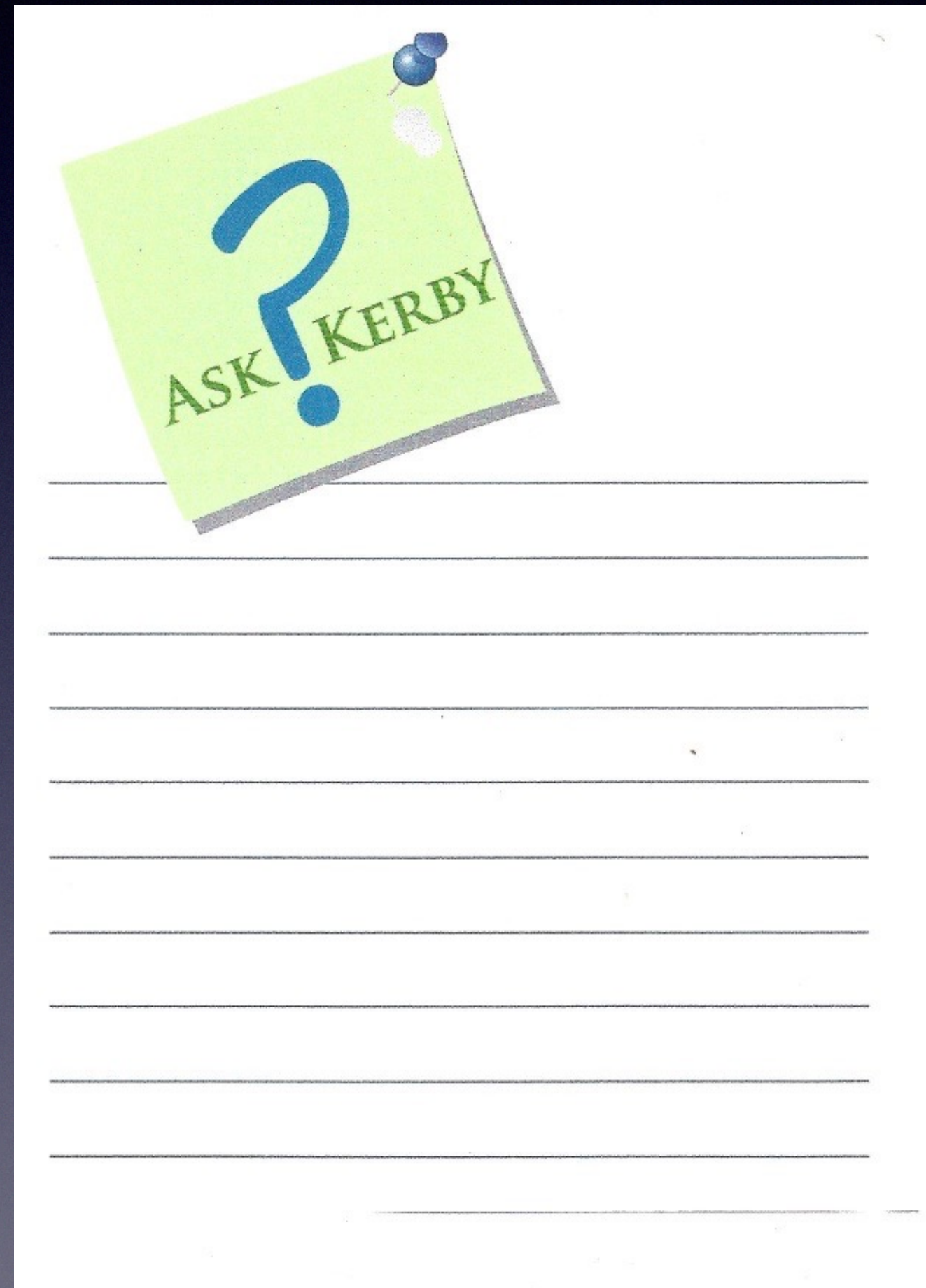
The Many Marys

- Many women were watching the crucifixion from a distance. They were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother (Salome) of Zebedee's sons (Matthew 27:56).
- The other Mary could be the mother of James and Joseph, who is also mentioned as the wife of Clopas. The other Mary is likely the same person.

The Many Marys

- When the stone was rolled in front of the tomb, it says Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there opposite the tomb (Matthew 27:61).
- After the Sabbath, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to the tomb (Matthew 28:1).
- Mary, the mother of Jesus, was with the disciples.

Ask Kerby



Did the disciples go to Galilee before Jesus ascended into heaven (Luke 24:50-53)?

Jesus in Galilee

- Matthew 28:16-17 - documents that the eleven disciples went to a mountain in Galilee as Jesus instructed them. There they saw and worshipped Him.
- John 21:1-23 - records that Jesus appeared to His disciples by the Sea of Galilee where He reinstated Peter as apostle.

Jesus in Galilee

- Matthew, Mark, and John record that Jesus told them to rendezvous with him in Galilee. But Luke and Acts record that Jesus met them in Jerusalem.
- Jesus met with His disciples both in Jerusalem and in Galilee, since He was on Earth for 40 days.
- The disciples went back to Galilee and then came back to Jerusalem for Pentecost.

Resources: Bible Difficulties

