Titus; Necessary Endings

7-12-15

Titus 3:10–11 (ESV)

¹⁰ As for a person who **stirs up division**, after warning him once and then twice, **have nothing more to do with him**, ¹¹ knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is **self-condemned**.

We glory in God's love and forgiveness. However because people do not respond to God's love and forgiveness to have healthy, godly relationships, it is necessary to set boundaries and if those boundaries are violated necessary endings need to be put in place. Teaching on God's love and forgiveness without **understanding boundaries** leads to codependency, enabling bad behavior, dysfunctional relationships, abusive relationships, and idolatry because God and HIS truth is neglected; meaning holding to bad relationships to the exclusion of God. **Biblical facts**: God's love is an action and not sentimental permissiveness. There is a difference between forgiveness and trust. Forgiveness is given but trust is earned. Therefore with hearts full of God's love and forgiveness we must be willing to establish boundaries and even necessary endings to be healthy, have healthy relationships, and **contribute to the health of others**. All this is very helpful in discipleship, counseling, friends, and family.

At what point does this action "have" to take place?

- #1 They Rearrange the furniture.
- #2 They Promote their views.
- #3 They are Influencing others.

We will look at **three types of people**. As a note some of this material came from a book titled **"Necessary Endings" by Henry Cloud.** I encourage you to read it.

Wise – They hear truth and adjust to the truth: A Pastor and counselor's dream.

Fool – They hear truth and adjust the truth. This is the person we will discuss.

Evil – They want to harm you; need to call the police and get a lawyer

The person we are looking at is the fool. This is where the disputes, the confusion, and the uncertainties most often arise.

Fool - Hears truth and adjusts the truth. No matter what anyone else says, the fool adjusts the truth to his benefit to condone his behavior. **We all are guilty!**

Proverbs 18:2 (ESV) A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion.

When dealing with fools:

First lesson: Stop talking! You have proven talking doesn't help, so stop.

Second lesson: Establish boundaries! Since they only adjust the truth, clear boundaries must be established.

Boundaries are necessary to:

- 1-Provide separation For health and perspective, there must be separation from negative influence.
- 2-Determine heart attitude Are they trying; do they even care?
- 3-Determine real change Establishes a clear point of measurable reference to identify any progress.
- 4-Determine next step With a clear reference point, you can clearly determine the next step needed.

Failure to establish boundaries produces confusion evidenced by:

Codependency,
Enabling bad behavior,
Dysfunctional relationship,
Abusive relationships,
Idolatry because God and HIS truth is neglected.

We can function in a godly manner determining if Necessary Endings must take place.

#1 Recognize that perversion of grace, freedom, is in fact denying Christ and needs confrontation!

Jude 4 (NIV)

For certain individuals whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.

#2 With Fear and Trembling try to set boundaries to determine if restoration is possible.

Jude 22–23 (ESV)

²² And have mercy on those who doubt; ²³ save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

#3 Behavior is evidence of the heart and sincerity.

2 Corinthians 7:11 (ESV)

For see what **earnestness** this **godly grief** has produced in you, but also what **eagerness to clear yourselves**, what **indignation**, what **fear**, what **longing**, what **zeal**, what **punishment**! **At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter.**

Can't judge someone's heart, but can make decisions based on evidence. (Always in the wrong place.)

Proverbs 21:8 (ESV)
The way of the **guilty** is **crooked**,
but the conduct of the **pure** is **upright**.

Titus 1:15–16 (ESV)

¹⁵ To the pure, all things are pure, <u>but</u> to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled. ¹⁶ They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

God's actions are interrelated by the heart of People which is evidence by their response. Pay attention to a person's view of God.

Psalm 18:25-26 (ESV)

- ²⁵ With the merciful you (God) show yourself merciful; with the blameless man you show yourself blameless;
- with the purified you show yourself pure; and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous (struggle to see the above goodness).

Christian Reality!

Christ transforms us! This is why the relationship with Christ must be established. We must recognize that "no power" often because of "no relationship".

This is the same for us as it is for others.

Galatians 2:20 (ESV)

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.

John 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

PROPHETIC TEAM