

Series: *Titus: The Gospel for Godly Living*
Lesson: *Dealing with Deceivers*
Text: Titus 1:10-16 (L3)
Date: Sunday, November 20, 2011

*Colonial Hills
Baptist Church*

INTRODUCTION

Regarding the pastor's chief responsibility, Paul has written in verse 9, "Holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict" (NASB). Paul's next major paragraph (vv. 10-16) answers the question "why?" aroused by verse 9. Why should the pastor "cling to" the faithful word? Why should he so diligently exhort people in sound doctrine? Why should he reprove those who contradict the truth? Why is this responsibility, above all others, singled out in this list of qualifications?

Before we answer those questions, let's consider the three phrases Paul uses to describe our active dealing with deceivers (i.e., those who contradict—the main topic in vv. 10-16). First, in verse 9, Paul obligates the pastors to "_____ " those who contradict.

Furthermore, verse 11 demands that their "mouths must be _____."

Finally, verse 13 call us to "rebuke them _____."

Now, in verses 10-16, Paul provides three reasons why we must deal so actively and aggressively with deceivers.

THEY DECEIVE OTHERS (vv. 10-12).

1. *Their* _____ *(vv. 10, 12)*
2. *Their* _____ *(v. 11d)*
3. *Their* _____ *(v. 11a-c)*

Application:

THEY ARE DEVOID OF TRUTH (vv. 13-14).

1. *They give themselves to* _____ *discussions.*
2. *They give themselves to* _____ *teachings.*

Application:

THEY DECEIVE THEMSELVES (vv. 15-16).

1. *Their* _____ *are corrupt.*
2. *Their professions are* _____.

Application:

CONCLUSION

In only the first 16 verses of this little letter, we are once again reminded that truth is not to be taken lightly, and the faith is not to be contended for passively. Where truth is on the line, lives are at stake; where truth has been rejected, foolishness and legalism are usually symptoms; and where truth has been denied, such heart-blindness must be confronted with the gospel.

The only way to cut through darkness is with _____; likewise, the only way to deal with deception is with _____.