

WE AGREE TO DISAGREE

(Part 1 of 2)
January 24, 2022

TITUS 3:9 NKJV – (9) But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless.

Many of us have heard the above term, time and time again. People who cannot, refuse to or even have not seen or heard the revealed word of God. And it is usually based on pride, arrogance and selfishness (all about them). Therefore, we often come to the term, "We agree to disagree." And it's just one of the reasons according to mankind, we don't see eye to eye on the matters of God. But yet, they have not sat down together, prayed or identified its true meaning. Are both blind? Possibly and possibly it could be one. For the next two weeks I'll be addressing this conflicting behavior and giving you scripture on how the Apostle Paul addressed such matters.

In the meantime, Paul is giving Titus many positive instructions on how to handle such dilemmas. Paul tells him four areas which he should avoid.

First, Titus is to avoid "foolish controversies," or "foolish debates." Bickering over certain issues is poisonous to the Christian life. Paul took this so seriously that, in verse 10, he commands Titus to completely cut off a divisive person after giving them a second warning.

Second, Titus was to avoid genealogies. This sounds like an odd point, but certain false teachers took great pride in proving that they were direct descendants of Abraham. Yet God is not concerned with who one's parents are—He is concerned about our salvation. Titus was a Gentile and had no Jewish lineage. Instead of comparing family history, Titus is to preach the good news of Christ.

Third, Titus was commanded to avoid "dissensions," "strife," or "quarrels." This comes from a Greek word *ereis*, referring to arguments or debates. In other words, Titus is not to be known for being argumentative. The New Testament gives many positive instructions to contend for the Christian faith (**1 Peter 3:15–16; Acts 17:3; Acts 18:28; Acts 19:8**). This, however, is different from arguing for the sake of arguing.

Fourth, Titus is to avoid "quarrels [or disputes] about the law." The [false teachers](#) of Crete were using the law of Moses to make accusations against Titus and fellow Christians. Paul tells Titus not to lose focus by arguing about details of the Jewish law. Instead, he is to center his ministry on the good news of Jesus, promoting sound doctrine in the local churches.

Paul again tells Titus "**How**" to handle such matters, but next week we will look at the "**What, Why** and **When**" such debates or disagreements occur and as well, **How** they should be handled.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 TIMOTHY 3:13

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

You have to believe that God knows what He is doing when He is not doing what you want.

"A JOURNEY OF THE HEART"