

STUDY #8 IN THE BOOK OF TITUS

"The Partners of Godliness" 3:12-15

TEXT:

- v.12 When I shall send Artemas or Tychicus to you, make every effort to come to me at Nicopolis. For there I have decided to spend the winter.
- v.13 Diligently set forward on their journey Zenas the lawyer and Apollos in order that nothing be lacking for them.
- v.14 And let those also who are ours learn to be engaging in good works to meet pressing needs, in order that they may not be unfruitful.
- v.15 All those with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in faith. Grace be with you all.

INTRODUCTION:

We have been making a study of the subject of Growth Toward Godliness in the little book of Titus. We have seen together the Process of 1. Godliness in the first 4 verses. The key to the process was seen in verse 1, whereby the apostle tells us that it is from faith to the truth to the godly life. It is from faith to food to fruit.

In chapter 1:5-9 in study #2 we have seen the Picture of Godliness. 2. Paul outlines 15 characteristics of the godly lifestyle in that particular study. Closing that study challenging Titus to be clinging to the trustworthy message, that is the message of the word of God.

In study #3 we saw the Perversion of Godliness, as the apostle described those who confess with their lips one thing, but with their lives live something completely different. Such was the case on the island of Crete. The residents were dishonest, selfish or brutal, and unmotivated. 3.

In study #4 we saw the Parish and Godliness. Here we looked at godliness in relationship. It is one thing to be godly in isolation, and another in relationship. The apostle describes 5 different groups in this particular study in showing the responsibilities to manifest the godly life. 4.

In study #5 we looked at the Platform of Godliness, which is the grace of God. We cannot legislate the godly lifestyle. It comes through the training experience of the grace of God through an ever-deepening relationship with the Lord Jesus. 5.

Produces the
Godly life!!

1. Submission to His will
2. Obedient to His word
3. Available for His work
4. "in" & "Through"

Rocks in the Path

- ① Controversy
- ② Genealogy
- ③ Contention
- ④ Law

Paul is living like this or these Men wouldn't be hanging around for the time of day!!

In study #6 in chapter 3 we saw the Path of Godliness. Here the apostle teaches us that the godly life will manifest itself in submission to authority. He paints a picture of what we were before we became Christians and then describes the marvelous plan of salvation so that we might become heirs and joint heirs with Jesus Christ.

6.

In study #7, our last time together, we saw the Proof of Godliness in chapter 3:8-11. It is manifested by those who are careful to engage in good works because these things are good and profitable to men.

7.

One's Attitude toward the word determines progress toward Godliness

We now in our last study come to the personal part of the letter, as the apostle gives some final instructions.

8.

I would like to begin our study with a consideration of Lock's paraphrase of these verses:

"As soon as I shall send Artemas or Tychicus to you, make haste to come to Nicopolis to join me. For that is where I have decided to winter. Help forward on their journey with all diligence Zenas and Apollos. See that they have everything they want. Yes, and let all of our brethren learn to make a real business of honorable works, that they may be able to help in such cases of need, that so they may not deserve the taunt of being idle drones. All my companions send you greeting. Do give my greetings to all who love us in a common faith. God's grace be with you all."

In this particular passage under consideration we are going to see what I have called the Partners of Godliness, along with the apostle Paul. He is dealing with the personal matters here. It is faith in shoe leather as these are just like Titus has been described back in chapter 1:4 - "My true child in a common faith."

Stable
Steady
Solid
Sound
Sure

These men who step before us in this final study are some of the real solid stuff. These are the good men that God has raised up to assist and help the apostle Paul in the work of the ministry.

v. 12 When I shall send Artemas or Tychicus to you, make every effort to come to me at Nicopolis. For there I have decided to spend the winter.

- ① Paul
- ② Titus
- ③ Artemas
- ④ Tychicus
- ⑤ Zenas
- ⑥ Apollos

Paul has been talking a lot about principles of godliness in this little book. He has talked about the pretenders or those who profess to know God, but by their lives prove that they are living by a perversion of godliness. Now we are going to have the privilege of looking into the lives of 5 of the men that the Lord has raised up to assist the apostle in his ministry.

- Godliness
- * ① Principles
 - * ② Pretenders
 - * ③ Partners

The first thing that Paul mentions to Titus in this last section is that he is planning on sending him some relief. And when he does this, he is asking Titus to make every effort to come and be with the apostle in Nicopolis because he is going to be spending the winter there.

300 M.
N.W. of
Crete

There are three men that I want us to consider as partners of godliness in this 12th verse:

- 1 Artemas
- 2 Tychicus
- 3 is referred to by the "you" in the passage, and of course this is Titus.

The first one that we will be considering is Artemas.

This is the only time that his name appears in the sacred record. He is evidently one of the companions of the apostle Paul and is with him there in the city of Nicopolis.

His name means "whole" or "sound." The name Artemas also refers to the Greek goddess of hunting.

Artemas had evidently come to know Jesus Christ as personal Savior through the apostle's ministry. And as a result of being taught the truth of the word of God, he had developed to the point where the apostle had great confidence in his ability to go in and give some relief to Titus on the island of Crete.

Philippians 4:1-3 "Therefore my beloved brethren, whom I long to see, my joy and crown. So stand firm in the Lord, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to live in harmony in the Lord. Indeed, true comrade, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in the cause of the gospel, together with Clement also; and the rest of my fellow workers whose names are in the Book of Life."

The second name that the apostle mentions here in verse twelve is Tychicus. His name means "fortunate". He is a Christian in Asia Minor who traveled in advance of the apostle Paul as well as with him at times.

We see his name occurring in Acts 20, verse 4 where he is a traveling companion of the apostle Paul. He is seen in Ephesians 6:21: "But that you also may know about my circumstances, Tychicus the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord will make everything known to you".

Colossians 4:7 "As to all my affairs, Tychicus our beloved brother and faithful servant and fellow bondsman in the Lord, will bring you information."

Spending
Time
Evaluating
Strategy
Setting Goals

I.

II.

II Timothy 4:12 "But Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus."

Paul speaks in a very affectionate way of Tychicus. He is "a beloved brother," he is "a faithful servant" and "a fellow bonds slave in the Lord."

Tychicus is the man with the message who has a shepherd's heart and a prophet's spirit. God often chooses the insignificant person, a nobody, to do His work. Tychicus is a lot like Timothy in that he was willing to go anywhere to do anything at any cost for the glory of God.

brother
consistent
servant

We need to recognize the fact that every person has a contribution to make to our lives and that God has brought Tychicus into the life of the apostle Paul to assist him in the ministry. He is "a beloved brother" because he is a part of the family of God. He is "a faithful servant" because of his willingness to serve in any capacity. And he is "a fellow bonds slave" in that he has the desire only to do what God would want him to do.

✱ I Corinthians 1:26 "Notice among yourselves dear brothers that few of us who follow Christ have big names or power or wealth."

✱✱✱ I guess you could say that Tychicus is a lot like one of the great power generators that operates behind the scenes, that keeps things going and without which the City could not operate. It is Barker who says, "He is one of those people who are there all the time humming with power but whom you do not notice. He is one of those upon whom the world depends so much, yet he did nothing to call attention to himself. He was no thundering orator, he was no inspired organizer. He plugged away day by day in a quiet but effective way. Tychicus acted as a combination letter carrier and trouble shooter. The letters each carry a few words about Tychicus at the close. Paul knew these Christians in Asia Minor would want to have the latest reports on how he was and how the church was doing elsewhere. Tychicus was to fill them in on all the news."

Since Tychicus' name means "fortunate", for us it suggests that anyone bearing God's good news and anyone bearing comfort will find himself fortunate. Anyone being of comfort finds that God's presence and power become so real that he knows he is fortunate. Perhaps more important, how fortunate for others when you are a "Tychicus" a bearer of good news and a bringer of comfort.

The apostle in the twelfth verse says "When I shall send Artemas or Tychicus to you," that is to Titus.

III. 1:4 The third man who has been fleshed out for us in this particular letter, displaying the Godly Lifestyle, is Titus. He is mentioned in verse four of chapter one, "To Titus, my true child in a common faith, grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Saviour."

Titus is seen in three critical pressurized situations and his Godly lifestyle bears up under the scrutiny and under the stress of those critical times and he is able to be victorious because of God's work in his life. He is seen first at the Council in Jerusalem. Secondly at

Counsel
Corinth
Crete

Corinth and third on the Island of Crete.

② At the Council Titus is in the middle of a hectic, high pressure situation. The squabble in the church is whether or not we have to keep the Jewish Law to be a Christian. And Titus was put under pressure as being the test case for salvation apart from the Law.

Then as we have already scrutinized, he is sent into the critical situation in Corinth with a church that is fragmented in several directions, and he has to deal with the problems of immorality, drunkenness at the Communion Table, carnality among the believers and the lawsuits and mixed up theology only served to put him into a very delicate situation. And then on top of all that he had to take a collection for the poor people back in Jerusalem. Titus was successful in Corinth and it only shows the quality of this man.

③ The next time that Titus is seen is here on the Island of Crete, and this too is a very difficult assignment. Barker points out the people of Crete were a tough independent breed. They had some of the jealousy that any isolated Island people feel toward the ruling mainland. Most of them were seamen and farmers. They clustered in the densely overpopulated ring of cities along the coast because the interior of Crete is impossibly mountainous. These cities were unbelievably pagan and bred every crime imaginable, and it was here that Titus was left to fulfill the assignments of the apostle that we have already looked at in the first chapter.

Barker points out that "1900 years later archaeologists excavated Crete. They came across remains of chapels and churches dating back to early Christian times. These bore the inscription, 'Dedicated to our beloved saint, Titus.'"

He is a man who is a great illustration of one who can be godly under stress. In a pressurized situation, he can be consistent with his conviction, courageous in the circumstances, and live a godly life that reflects the power of the gospel.

Will not Surrender his Principles + Priorities under pressure!
Paul goes on to tell Titus that when he does send his relief, either in Artemas or Tychicus, he is to make every effort to come to him at Nicopolis. The apostle is planning on spending the winter there and wants to have some time with Titus to get a report on what is going on on the island of Crete and to lay their strategy for the coming days.

VERSE THIRTEEN: "Diligently set forward on their journey Zenas the lawyer and Apollos in order that nothing be lacking for them."

Paul is making reference here in the phrase, "Diligently set forward", the caring for their physical and financial needs before they go on further in their traveling and teaching ministry.

Changed
life without

law.

by

Grace!

IV

The fourth man that comes to our consideration here, is Zenas the lawyer,

This is the only time that Zenas is mentioned in the Scripture. He evidently is a Christian lawyer. He is one who is skilled in Jewish law and Paul asks Titus to see to it that his needs are cared for as he goes on his way.

One is reminded of another legal expert among the Jews who stood up in the presence of Christ and asked, what he must do to gain eternal life. And the Lord allowed him the privilege of answering his own question, and then in answer to a further question, "Who is my neighbor?" Jesus tells the story of the good Samaritan.

Luke - Medical

- ① Had compassion
- ② Cares
- ③ Convicting

Zenas is the illustration of a man, who with a professional background is being used for the glory of God and the spread of the Gospel. He serves as a great encouragement to the Christian layman. To use his talents and abilities in the furtherance of the Gospel of Christ.

Our verse goes on to say, "And Apollos, in order that nothing be lacking for them."

IV

Our fifth personality in these verses, is Apollos.

He is an eloquent and learned Jew and much is said about him in the Scriptures.

He was born and educated in Alexandria. And deeply versed in the Old Testament Scriptures.

He is mentioned in Acts 18:24-28. "Now a certain Jew, named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus and he was mighty in the Scriptures. This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately the things concerning Jesus, being acquainted only with the baptism of John; and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. And when he wanted to go across to Achaia, the brethren encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him; and when he had arrived, he helped greatly those who had believed through grace; for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ."

Apollos also had some ministry in the city of Corinth.

I Corinthians 1:12 "Now I mean this, that each one of you is saying, "I am of Paul", or "I am of Apollos", and "I am of Cephas", and "I am of Christ". Has Christ been divided? Paul was not crucified for you was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?"

I Corinthians 3:5 and 6 - "What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave opportunity to each one. I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth."

Apollos probably had a PhD. in philosophy from Alexandrian University, and a ThDegree in theology from the Alexandrian Jewish Seminary.

He is a very gifted and learned young man who is very capable of expressing himself.

Alexander White says of Apollos, "A great ^{Mind} alone will not make a man mighty in the Scriptures. A great gift of oratory alone will not do it. It is the moral and spiritual qualities of the sacred orator when they are added to his intellectual qualities, that make men confess his might when he handles the Holy Scriptures. The acknowledged might of Apollos in the pulpit was the might of conviction and of character. It was the might that had its seat in the conscience and the heart of a good man taken together with that other might of a great intellect and real eloquence."

Lockyer in summarizing the life of Apollos points out, "First, his was the influence of eloquence. Apollos wielded an ever powerful instrument of blessing, a consecrated eloquence. Second, his was the influence of exposition. Apollos was mighty in the Scriptures. What a tribute it is to be mighty in the mightiest of books. Three, his was the influence of spiritual knowledge. Apollos taught by word of mouth the things of the Lord. Fourth, his was the influence of fervency. Apollos was also fervent in spirit. A lively, affectionate preacher as Matthew Henry calls him. Five, his was the influence of accuracy. Apollos taught carefully or accurately the truth of Christ. Incorrectness in teaching is detrimental to all concerned. Sixth, his was the influence of courage. Apollos spoke boldly, he had no hesitation in his tone. Courage flashed in his eyes. Yet with all his excellent and godly influence, Apollos had a distinct limitation. He knew that Christ was coming, but his was only a partial Christianity. Yet, what he knew and taught profoundly impressed many in the synagogue. Under the tuition of Aquila and Priscilla, two deeply taught believers, Apollos was led into a deeper understanding of the truth. Instructed in the way of the Lord, Apollos went out to expound the truth more fully and accurately. And thereafter became an unashamed herald of the Christian faith, especially among the Jews. Later on, Apollos became an apostle and one of Paul's trusted friends and companions and remained active in his ministry during Paul's life. So effective a preacher did he become that some of the Corinthians put him before both Peter and Paul."

You can just almost imagine what it would have been like for Priscilla and Aquila after one of the services to ask Apollos to come to their house for dinner. And after dinner was over, they began to have conversation. Priscilla and Aquila sat down and shared with Apollos the message that John the baptist was dead, and that the Lord Jesus Christ had been crucified. And then, continued to share the glorious message that Jesus Christ had risen from the dead, that he had gone back to heaven, and that now in this new age He has sent His Holy Spirit to reside in the hearts of those who will accept His sacrifice by faith. Jesus has also promised that He will come back again and set up his kingdom one day. But right now, He is calling out a body of redeemed believers in his shed blood on Calvary from every tribe and nation.


① boiling
② lukewarm

The conversation and instruction went on for many hours, if this is true Apollos wanted this to be true of him. And I'm sure it was right there that he opened his own heart and understood the Scriptures that he had been preaching. And now, Isaiah 53 came to real focus and had real meaning.

"Surely he hath born our griefs and carried our sorrows. Yet, we did esteem him stricken smitten of God and afflicted."

All the pieces begin to fall together.

The beauty of the life of Apollos is that he is not only mighty in Scriptures, and a man fully capable to express himself in a beautiful way, but he was humble enough to receive instruction from a couple of layman who were deeply concerned about increasing his effectiveness.

 Alexander White says, "I admire all the three so much, that I really do not know which to admire the most; Aquila and Priscilla in their quite extraordinary wisdom and tact and courage, and especially love. Or Apollos in his still more extraordinary humility, modesty and mind of Christ. A shining student of Alexandria, a popular and successful preacher, not standing room when he preached in the synagogue; followed about by admiring crowds and with many seals to his ministry among them, such a famous man to be taken to task about his pulpit work by two old workers in sailcloth and carpets. And to be instructed by them how to preach and how not to preach, the whole thing is laughable, if it were not for its impudence. So I would have said, had I been in Apollos' place, and like the true Alexandrian he was, and the true preacher, and true coming colleague and successor of Paul, Apollos instantly saw who and what he had in Aquila and Priscilla. In a moment he felt they were by far his superiors in the things of the pulpit at any rate, and he at once made it both easy and successful for them to say to him all that was in their minds and hearts. I would far rather have Apollos' humble mind and quiet heart, at that supreme of his life than all his gold medals, first class certificates and all his crowds to boot. The noble young Christian gentleman that Apollos at that moment proved himself to be."

VERSE FOURTEEN: "And let those also who are ours learn to be engaging in good works to meet pressing needs, ^{ON OUR STAFF} in order that they may not be unfruitful."

Paul admonishes Titus to let those also who are ours, which refers to those who are in the Heavenly family and who have come to know Christ as Savior through their ministry. These are to learn to be engaging in good works, to meet pressing needs.

This has been an epistle, of good works, and as a man begins to grow up in the truth, so he's going to have a desire to share in order to meet pressing needs.

"IN ORDER THAT THEY MAY NOT BE UNFRUITFUL"

Philippians Chapter 4, beginning with Verse 10: "But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that not at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned before, but you lacked opportunity. Not that I speak from want; for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. Nevertheless, you have done well to share with me in my affliction. And you yourselves also know, Philippians, that at the first preaching of the gospel, after I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving but you alone; for even in Thessalonica you sent a gift more than once for me needs. Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account. But I have received everything in full, and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God. And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

VERSE FIFTEEN: "All those with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in faith. Grace be with you all."

Now the Apostle concludes the letter, by sending a greeting from those who are with him, as he writes this letter, sending greetings to Titus on this lonely island.

It's a real difficult set of circumstances to be isolated away on an island in a ministry, and in adverse circumstances. Titus has been faithful, he stuck it out. He accomplished the task the apostle had given him, but I know he really appreciated the letter and the greetings that have come to him on this occasion.

He then is commanded to greet those who love us in faith.

This is all of those who have come to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, born again by his Spirit they are in the family, and the apostle wants those who love them in the faith to receive his greetings at this time.

The apostle ends the letter as he began, and he has spoken of it often and that is, "Grace be with you all."

He wished in the beginning of the letter, that (Grace and Peace) from God the Father and Christ Jesus Our Savior, be the experience of Titus, and now it is his desire that this grace be with all those who are there on the Island of Crete. He has mentioned the fact that we are those who were disciplined by God's grace. It is a grace which has appeared bringing salvation to all men, disciplining us that denying ungodliness and worldly desires, we should live sensibly and righteously and godly in the present now age. And it is in order that having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

It is as a result of God's grace, that He has acted in our behalf to provide the gracious gift of His Son. And it is when by faith we receive this gift of His Son, His grace continues to act, training us in the Scriptures, training us through the Scriptures in the godly lifestyle. And it is that godliness, and growth in godliness, that is going to make an impact upon the world around us, which is our witness for Jesus Christ.

CONCLUSION: Grace = He's Coming to take me home !!

What are the lessons that we can learn from this particular study?

1. Godliness is for the layman and the preacher alike.
2. The Lord can use professional, secular training in the ministry.
3. Authentic godliness never displays the spirit of knowing it all.
4. Godliness is manifested in supplying the needs of those who are preaching and teaching the Gospel.
5. We are challenged by the Apostle to learn to meet pressing needs.

The Challenge is to keep on changing ; keep growing ; becoming more Christ-like .

To Don —
NFL World Record Punt — 98 Yards
Sept. 21, 1969
New York Jets v.s. Denver Broncos
But the Greatest Kick For Me
came on February 6, 1978
Born Again
Steve O'Neal

2/27/80 Wayne O'Neal 8:15
Don Matheny 8:20

TOPIC	REF #	TEXT
Laziness	852-11	<p>Listen to Scupoli again:</p> <p>This vice of sloth, with its secret poison, will gradually kill not only the early and tender roots that would ultimately have produced habits of virtue, but also habits of virtue that are already formed. It will, like the worm in the wood, insensibly eat away and destroy the very marrow of the spiritual life.¹¹</p> <p>11. Lorenzo Scupoli, <i>The Spiritual Combat</i> (1589; repr., Manchester, N.H.: Sophia Institute, 2002), 63.</p> <p>p. 109</p>
Suffering	852-12	<p>Kristin says the divorce initially led her to feel “like a woman after a house fire, sifting through burned treasures in the ashes,” but physical training helped her lift her eyes long enough to see that “sometimes it takes a pile of rubble to prepare the way for a major remodel.”</p> <p>After God began putting Kristin’s life back together and as she grew stronger and godlier and more in love with her Creator, she began hearing comments like, “Something’s different....”</p> <p>p. 155</p>
Suffering	852-13	<p>Kristin testifies, “There is no transformation more deep or mysterious than when the Holy Spirit takes up residence within and begins to shine through. You are softer and lovelier than ever, yet you have never been stronger or more certain and direct. You are becoming an amalgamation of all the facets of woman that God intended when he created Eve.”</p> <p>p. 156</p>
Finishing	852-14	<p>Isn’t this the kind of life we should all aspire to live, as God provides the ability and strength to do so? Let’s seek to embrace, within a Christian context, the life experience described by a friend of ultramarathoner Dean Karnazes: “Life is not a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming: ‘Wow!! What a ride!’”³</p> <p>3. Dean Karnazes, <i>Ultramarathon Man: Confessions of an All-Night Runner</i> (New York: Penguin, 2005), 263.</p> <p>p. 205</p>

IF -- For Christians

If you can turn your back on wealth and glamour
When getting these might tend to cause you shame;
If you can stand your ground amidst the clamor
When that will jeopardize your chance at fame;

If you can pause along your road to glory
To take a child and set him on your knees,
And tell those gathered 'round the Lord's great story
That heaven's kingdom's made of such as these;

If you can shield the sinner caught at sinning
And tell the hypocrite his stone to cast,
Or lose the race when how you'd gain the winning
Would cause a faster one to come in last;

If you can walk alone the straight and narrow
When those about you've fallen by the way;
If you can take the fiery dart and arrow
And pay the price the righteous have to pay;

If you can stand alone before the liar
And utter not a word in your defense,
Because you know that God's there in the fire
When torture's pain and death's your recompense;

If you can take abuse and yet not harden
And do without a meal to share your purse;
If you can bear your cross and ask for pardon
For those who drive the nail and shout the curse;

If you can lead the one who's lost his seeing
And hold the hand of one whose life's at end;
If you can love with all your soul and being
You'll be like Jesus Christ your Lord, my friend.

There are a couple of BUMPER STICKERS that I have seen:

- ✱ "TIME IS THE BEST TEACHER—UNFORTUNATELY IT KILLS ALL ITS STUDENTS." (8)
- ✱ "WARNING! DATES IN CALENDAR ARE CLOSER THAN THEY APPEAR!"

(Our Daily Walk: Daily Readings by F. B. Meyer)

We need to be more careful of our days, watching their decreasing number, with careful anxiety to make the most of those that are left. We need to be satisfied and replenished each morning with God's mercy, that we may have perennial springs of rejoicing and gladness. We long to help in the overthrowing of the power of evil, and as we grow older, we pray that the beauty of the Lord our God may be upon us, and may we feel that he has given permanence to the work of our hands.

(September 29)

(Though I Walk Through the Valley by Vance Havner)

I would say to every husband wife, "Count no day unimportant if you still have each other, for the day will come when you would give everything for just one day, any ordinary day, you once shared together."

p. 121

(That Cat Won't Flush: An Entertaining Country Dictionary by Wallace O. Chariton)

DYING He's fixing to promenade home □ he's fixing to gather up over yonder

p. 65

newbers

(Bubba Speak: Texas Folk Sayings by W. C. Jameson)

CRAZY

He's got cobwebs in his attic

One brick shy of a load

Two pickles short of a picnic

Overdrawn at the memory bank

The porch light's on but no one's home

Missing a few buttons off his shirt

She's got a hole in her screen door

Someone stole his rudder

North of his ears he was all snowdrift

His banjo ain't turned right

pp. 35-36

DUMB

There's a big gap in his hedge

p. 52

DUMB

There ain't nothin' under his hat but hair

He ain't the sharpest knife in the drawer

p. 53

Two French Fries Short of A Happy Meal

(Will Rogers: Wise and Witty Sayings Of a Great American Humorist
by Will Rogers, selected by Art Wortman)

I know horses are smarter than people. You never heard of a horse going broke betting on people.

p. 46

(Don't Dig for Water Under the Outhouse and Other Cowboy Commandments
by Texas Bix Bender)

FALL IN LOVE ONLY WHEN
YOU CAN'T HELP IT.

p. 15

THE ONLY GOOD REASON TO
RIDE A BULL IS TO MEET A NURSE.

p. 53

WORK HARD
TO LEAVE A BIG HOLE
WHEN YOU DIE.

p. 90

(All Hat & No Cattle: A Guide for New Texans and All the West of Us
by Anne Dingus)

PRETTY

She could make a preacher pitch his Bible in the creek.

pp. 49-63

(This Dog'll Hunt: An Entertaining Texas Dictionary by Wallace O. Chariton)

CHANCE, SLIM . . . □ there are two chances, slim and none and slim is saddling up to leave town . . .

p. 34

(More Texas Sayings Than You Can Shake a Stick At by Anne Dingus)

You look like you were sent for and couldn't go.
He looks like the cheese fell off his cracker.

p. 91

(An Encyclopedia of Humor by Lowell D. Streiker)

On a tombstone near Pigeon Forge, Tennessee:
Once I wuzn't, then I wuz, now I ain't agin!

p. 177

(The Medicine Keepers by J. B. Allen)

Purty Ain't Pardners

With a smidge of bakin' powder on the tip end of her nose
Or dust from ringy cattle in her hair,
A feller's female pardner puts to shame a blushin' rose,
Fer there never was another'n quite so fair.

Calvin' heifers in the moonlight or feedin' hungry hands,
The pardnership they planted blooms in fact,
Runnin' deeper than just *wife* or *friend* to mesh the toughest strands,
Cullin' out them foolish thoughts of turnin' back.

Rare indeed is that small creature sent to share a puncher's life,
Blendin' spirit, mind, and purpose to the task,
Prized much higher than them pompered pets more prone to simply take,
Hidin' mercenary ways behind a mask.

Fair maidens flit like butterflies too fragile for the work,
Leadin' men to chase a rainbow's lurin' hues,
Tradin' pride and joy of livin' for the means to gild their wings
Till the winter once agin reveals their ruse.

Sonnets penned to silken tresses fade as fevered flame subsides,
Hollow soundin' when the hoax has been revealed,
Longer lastin' is the love-light in her pardner's shinin' eyes,
Quietly signin' that the pardnership is sealed.

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TOPIC	REF #	TEXT
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Cowboy Poetry

520-14

Silver & Jade & Black Onyx

He was goin' to buy her them earrings,
if ever he got back that way . . .

Silver and jade and black onyx,
a present for her, Christmas Day.

But one thing led to another,
and work kept him out on the ranch.
He made her a frame out of barnboard,
said he'd paint it when he got the chance.

A Chinook cleared the road a month later,
as he hurried to town for some feed.
For Valentine's he got her the usual . . .
work gloves and a big sack of feed.

He spent Mother's Day under a tractor,
had to send her to town for a part.
But he slipped ten dollars in her pocket,
to get "somethin' special at K-Mart."

On her birthday he stopped by the jewelers,
happy to see them earrings still there.
But, he bought her two pair of wranglers.
She was pinin' for a new somethin' to wear.

Their anniversary always come durin' harvest,
and he could never get home until dark.
He welded her a sickle-blade lawn statue,
a cross between a duck and Noah's ark.

The holidays rolled around come December.
This time he would not let her down.
He sold that big hog at the auction
And high-tailed it back into town.

But the jeweler's case was plum empty.
The earrings sold earlier in the day.
And the trip to the ranch was a torment,
tryin' to figure the right words to say.

So you can imagine his total amazement,
when onto the front porch she came,
Decked out in silver, jade & black onyx,
With earrings exactly the same.

TOPIC	REF #	TEXT
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“I sold me some chickens and bought these.
I think that they look very nice.
The man had trouble sellin’ them.
Let me buy ‘em for one-half the price.”

Boys, I hope that you learn your lesson.
Buy your missus her gift without fail.
But there’s no reason to rush right into it,
‘cause they might put them earrings on sale!

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