
Detective Dan's (Shorter/Simpler) Version of Bible Story for Big Question 3, Bible Truth 4

The Case of the Changes in Cruddy Crete Titus

(Numbers correspond to Bible story picture pages in Detective Dan's Big Question Box)

1. This story takes place on the island of Crete. Do you know what an island is? It's a little piece of land stuck out in the middle of a big piece of water, such as a sea or an ocean.
2. Crete was very famous for something: its BAD, island people doing lots of bad things. There were liars and cheaters and lazy over-eaters, just to name a few. And that's why, most people thought of Crete as "Cruddy Crete." (Cruddy is a word that means something is no good.)
3. Most people didn't want to go to Crete, but Paul and Titus did. They wanted to share the good news about Jesus. He could even save these bad people from their sins.
4. So, Paul and Titus sailed over the sea to share the good news of Jesus with the bad people on Cruddy Crete.
5. This is what they shared: "God is the good King and Creator of the world. He made us and gave us His good laws to live by. But we have chosen to disobey Him and deserve His punishment!"
6. "But God sent His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. Jesus lived a perfect life, then on the cross He suffered and died to pay for the sins of God's people," Paul told them. "On Day Three, Jesus rose from the dead. He had beaten sin and death for God's people."
7. "Now, all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will be saved! They become God's special people. Come, repent! Believe in Jesus! Be saved!" Paul told the people of Crete.
8. God worked in the hearts of many as they listened to Paul preach. They could see they were sinners who needed a Savior. They wanted God's forgiveness through Jesus. They BELIEVED!
9. But would they REPENT? Would they turn from their WAY of life and choose to live for God, instead? Yes! God's Holy Spirit helped the believers do that, too. How happy Paul and Titus were!
10. Paul left Crete, but Titus stayed as their pastor. Titus loved them, prayed for them, and taught them the Bible, but it was hard for these new believers to keep on loving God and living for Him. They thought about going back to their bad, old ways.
11. Paul heard about their struggles and wrote them a letter: "Keep repenting and believing! Love God and one another. Hold onto God's Word, the Bible. God will help you keep on believing in and living for Him. Signed, Paul."
12. God is always faithful to His people. He helps them repent, believe, and live for Him their whole lives. He would help these believers, too.