



April 11, 2021

Proverbs 25:28(ESV)

A man without self-control
is like a city broken into and left without walls.

Titus 2:1–14

But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. ² Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. ³ Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, ⁴ and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, ⁵ to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. ⁶ Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. ⁷ Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, ⁸ and sound speech that cannot be

condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us. ⁹ Bondservants are to be submissive to their own masters in everything; they are to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, ¹⁰ not pilfering, but showing all good faith, so that in everything they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

INTRODUCTION:

Is Canadian culture more prone to asceticism or hedonism?

“An overseer . . . must be . . . self-controlled.” Titus 1:8

“Older men are to be . . . self-controlled.” Titus 2:2

“Older women . . . are to . . . train the young women . . . to be self-controlled.” Titus 2:3

“Urge the younger men to be self-controlled.” Titus 2:6

“training us . . . to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives.” Titus 2:11

1. Wake up! The walls are for your freedom.

Proverbs 25:28

“He that has no rule over his own spirit is an easy prey to the invader. . . . He yields himself to the first assault of his ungoverned passions, offering no resistance. . . . Having no discipline over himself, temptation becomes the occasion of sin, and hurries him on to fearful lengths that he had not contemplated.” —Charles Bridges

2. Watch out! The walls have fallen.

Proverbs 25:28

a) Anger

“A fool gives full vent to his spirit,
but a wise man quietly holds it back.” Psalm 29:11

b) Gossip/slander

“Whoever goes about slandering reveals secrets,
but he who is trustworthy in spirit keeps a thing covered.” Proverbs 11:13

c) Gluttony

“If you have found honey, eat only enough for you,
lest you have your fill of it and vomit it.” Proverbs 25:16

d) Alcohol

“Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler,
and whoever is led astray by it is not wise.” Proverbs 20:21

e) Spending money

f) Lust

3. Hurry up! The walls must be rebuilt.

a) You must do it by the power of the Holy Spirit

“work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.” Philippians 2:12

“You put to death the deeds of the body.” Romans 8:13

“People may talk of self-control, as if the reins were in their own hands. But the person who has been “born of the Spirit” and taught “to know the plague of his own heart,” is made to feel, that effective self-control is God’s grace, not one’s own natural power.” —*Charles Bridges*

“Have not repeated defeats taught us the need of calling in better strength than our own?”
—*Charles Bridges*

“¹² Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.” Philippians 2:12-13

“If by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body you will live.” Romans 8:13

b) Strengthen your heart in the gospel

“¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.” Titus 2:11–14