

1st Timothy 1

Preach the Word!

I. Greeting

1 Paul, an **apostle of Jesus Christ...**

- **Apostle of Jesus Christ:** Sent out one. 12th Apostle
- Judas hung himself leaving 11 Apostles

Acts 1:23... they proposed two: Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. 24 And they prayed and said, "You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which of these two You have chosen 25 to take part in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place." 26 And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

- Matthias never heard from again. Good guy. Likable fellow but...
- **12th Apostle:** Part of the foundation our eternal dwelling, the New Jerusalem

Revelation 21:14 Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the **twelve apostles of the Lamb.**

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ **...by the commandment of God our Savior and the Lord Jesus Christ, our hope...**

- By the commandment of **God our Savior** and...
- By the commandment of **Lord Jesus Christ**

Q. Who is Savior? God the Father or the Lord Jesus Christ
A. Yes.

Isaiah 43:10 [Father speaking]...Before Me there was no God formed, Nor shall there be after Me.11 I, even I, am the Lord, **And besides Me there is no savior.**

Isaiah 45:21 [Father speaking]... there is no other God besides Me, A just **God and a Savior;** There is none besides Me.

- **One Savior:** God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: "I and the Father are One"
- Paul called to be an Apostle **by the commandment of God**

Acts 9:15 ... Lord said to [Ananias], "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. 16 For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake."

Romans 1:1 ... called to be an apostle, **separated to the gospel of God**

1 Corinthians 1:1 ...called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ **through the will of God**

2 Corinthians 1:1 ...an apostle of Jesus Christ **by the will of God**

Ephesians 1:1 ...an apostle of Jesus Christ by the **will of God**

Colossians 1:1 ...an apostle of Jesus Christ by the **will of God**

2 Timothy 1:1 ... an apostle of Jesus Christ by the **will of God**

- **Apostle by God's grace**

1 Corinthians 15:3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that He was seen by Cephas [Peter], then by the twelve. 6 After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. 7 After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. 8 Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time. 9 For **I am the least of the apostles**, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But **by the grace of God I am what I am**, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

- **Paul begins by establishing his:**
 1. **Credentials:** An Apostle
 2. **Authority:** Apostle by the "Commandment of God" Appointed/Anointed

2a To Timothy, a true son in the faith...

- **Recipient:** Timothy
- **Paul's "true son" in the faith:** Spiritual Son Paul led to the Lord

2b Grace, mercy, and peace...

- **Grace:** Receiving Unmerited favor/Undeserved kindness
 1. Blessing begins with Grace
- **Mercy:** Not receiving the judgment we deserve
 1. **Only added in the Pastoral Epistles;** i.e. 1st, 2nd Timothy and Titus
 2. Pastors need a "little extra prayer"
- **Peace:** 2x
 1. Peace **with God the Cross**
 2. Peace **of God** [in view]

2c...from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

- 2nd equivalence of the God the Father and God the Son in this epistle

John 5:22 ...the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, 23 that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

SUMMARY Greeting: Paul the Apostle [12th Man] written to his spiritual son Timothy...**Grace, Mercy and Peace**

II. Rightly Dividing the Word: Limits of the Law

3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia—remain in Ephesus that you may charge some that they teach no other doctrine, 4 nor give heed to fables and endless genealogies...

- **Remain in Ephesus:**
 1. Paul began the correction process in Ephesus with Timothy

2. Paul leaves Timothy in Ephesus
3. Young Timothy becomes Pastor of the church in Ephesus

...remain in Ephesus? Did Timothy want to leave?

4. **Charge**; i.e. give strict orders to those who claim to be followers...
 - a) **Continue in the Teaching** of Jesus and Apostles
 - b) **Teach no other Doctrine**
 - *No fables: gr. Mythos; i.e. Stories/Inventions/Myth*
 - *No endless genealogies: Never finished records of descendants*

Absurd/Bizarre distractions are dangerous: **Simply teach the Word Simply**

▪ **Timothy is to:**

1. Stay in Ephesus
2. Correct false[perverse] teaching
3. Discipline a church in heading for trouble as prophesied...

Acts 20:29 ...I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.

▪ **Stand firm against those who may:**

1. Rise up
2. Try to intimidate
3. Try to Bully
4. Draw people to themselves and away from Jesus

Give strict orders to **Teach the Word of God and nothing else!**

2 Peter 2:3...His divine power has **given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness**

**Stray from the Word and end up a United Methodist Church
Garbled impotent mush that cannot save and will cause division...Fables**

4b... [anything in place of the Word of God] ...cause **disputes** rather than godly edification which is in faith.

- Straying from the Word **causes disputes** [causes questions/debate]
- Teaching the Word leads to **Godly edification** [To build up]

2 Timothy 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth.**

5 Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith...

- Purpose of what Commandment is love? Teach no other doctrine!
- Instruction in the Word of God will lead the hearer to...

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. Love from a pure heart: | Confess our sins |
| 2. Love from a good conscience: | Forgiven/cleansed from sins |
| 3. Love from a sincere faith: | Trusting in Jesus alone |

Matthew 22:35 ... a lawyer, asked [Jesus] a question, testing Him, and saying, 36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" 37 Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 **On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."**

Q. What is the chief end of man?

A. To love God and enjoy Him forever

Q. What is the chief end of holding on to True Doctrine?

A. To get us there; loving God and enjoying Him forever. Know Him to Love Him

2 Timothy 4:1 I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: **2 Preach the word!** Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

- **Church of Ephesus began to do this...**

6 from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk, 7 desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm.

- **Drifted from the Word of God**

1. **Turning to idle talk:** Vain Jangling or empty chatter
2. **Desired** [covet] to be teachers of the Law

- Don't know what they are talking about
- Don't understand what they passionately uphold as truth

... they teach error with assurance [JVM]

- Error such as the purpose of the Law:

Acts 15:1 ...certain men came down from Judea and taught the brethren, "Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, **you cannot be saved.**"

- Error with assurance
- Truth: No one has or ever will be saved by keeping the Law

Romans 3:19 ...we know that whatever the law says, it **says to those who are under the law**, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. 20 Therefore **by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified** in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

8 But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully, 9 knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, 10 for fornicators, for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers, and if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine, 11 according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust.

- Condemning legalists is NOT condemnation of the Law
- We know the Law is GOOD...the Law is Perfect

Romans 7:7 ... Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law.

- Purpose of the Law is not Salvation but Condemnation

Galatians 3:24 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. 25 But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

...the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless

Reason the 10 Commandments is taken off buildings? It works. Condemns

- **Law cannot save but the Glorious Gospel can!**
 1. God's righteous Law condemns us before a Holy God

2 Corinthians 3:9 ...if the ministry of condemnation [Law of Moses] had glory, the ministry of righteousness [Grace] exceeds much more in glory.

2. We understand God's Good Plan of sending His Son to die in our place
3. Appropriate God's promise...

Romans 2:4 ...the goodness [kindness] of God leads [us] to repentance

4. Repentance
5. Salvation
6. Sanctification
7. Glorification

SUMMARY Rightly Dividing the Word: Limits of the Law. Condemnation not Salvation. Only the Glorious Gospel saves.

III. Rightly Dividing the Word: Grace

12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry...

- **Thanks to Jesus:**
 1. **Enabled** by Jesus
 2. **Counted faithful** by Jesus
 3. **Minister of the Gospel** by the command of Jesus

13 ...although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.

- **Paul [Saul] BC**
 1. Blasphemer
 2. Persecutor
 3. Insolent [Brazen]

Paul is reminding Timothy that the Gospel has the power to change his hearers

14 And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

- **Exceedingly Abundant in Jesus!**
 1. Grace
 2. Faith
 3. Love

15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that **Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.**

1 Corinthians 15:9 For I am the **least of the apostles**, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God

Ephesians 3:8 [I] am less than the **least of all the saints**, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ...

- **I am Chief of sinners?**
 1. Faithful saying
 2. Worthy of ALL acceptance...you need to listen up!

In Acts 26 Paul said of believers, "I punished them often in every synagogue and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly enraged against them, I persecuted them even to foreign cities." He compelled others to blaspheme Jesus. "This, indeed, was a very horrible part of Saul's sinfulness. To destroy their bodies was bad enough, but to destroy their souls too-to compel them to blaspheme, to speak evil of that name which they confessed to be their joy and their hope, surely that was the worst form that even persecution could assume. He forced them under torture to abjure the Christ whom their hearts loved. As it were he was not content to kill them, but he must damn them too."

"Despair's head is cut off and stuck on a pole by the salvation of 'the chief of sinners.' No man can now say that he is too great a sinner to be saved, because the chief of sinners was saved eighteen hundred years ago. If the ringleader, the chief of the gang, has been washed in the precious blood, and is now in heaven, why not I? Why not you?" [Spurgeon]

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners!

Mark 2:17 "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

"Even those who recognize that Christ's work is to save admit that it is more difficult to believe that this salvation belongs to sinners. Our mind is always prone to dwell on our own worthiness and, as soon as our unworthiness becomes apparent, our confidence fails. Thus the more a man feels the burden of his sins, he ought with greater courage to betake himself to Christ, relying on what is here taught, that He came to bring salvation not to the righteous but to sinners." [Calvin]

16 However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ

might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.

- When you see me you see the patience of Jesus working through me

1 Corinthians 11:1 Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:7 ...we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power **may be of God and not of us**. 8 We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— 10 always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. 11 For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. 12 So then death is working in us, but life in you.

17 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

- **To the...**
 1. King
 2. Eternal
 3. Immortal
 4. Invisible
 5. One who alone is Wise

....honor and glory forever and ever. Amen!

- **Honor:** Value
- **Glory:** Magnificence, excellence, preeminence, dignity and grace resulting in praise

SUMMARY Grace: Unmerited Favor. The Eternal, Immortal, Invisible, Wise King stepped out of Glory came to save sinners **of whom I am the worst**. Go get 'em Timothy!

IV. Fight the Good Fight: Stay in Ephesus!

18 This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare...

- **Charge:** Order by a commanding officer; Paul passes the torch to Timothy
 1. My son
 2. According to the prophecies? **You will be a powerful man of God**

Judges 6:11 Now the Angel of the Lord came and sat under the terebinth tree which was in Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon threshed wheat in the winepress, in order to hide it from the Midianites. 12 And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him, and said to him, **"The Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor!"**

3. By these words you WAGE the GOOD Warfare

Fight the Good Fight. Don't leave your post. Don't sit down, back down or bow down.

Finish well my son! Stay in Ephesus!

...3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia—remain in Ephesus

No surrender. Never give up. Never, ever give up.

19 ...having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck

- **Hold onto:**
 1. Faith in God
 2. Good conscience from living Godly
- **Those who do not will be Shipwrecked**

...20 of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander 20 whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.

- **Blaspheme:** Dragging God's Name through the mud but their hypocrisy
- **Church discipline:** 1st Timothy meant to be read to all churches in Ephesus

1 Corinthians 5:1 It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles—that a man has his father's wife! 2 And you are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he who has done this deed might be taken away from among you. 3 For I indeed, as absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged (as though I were present) him who has so done this deed. 4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered together, along with my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, 5 **deliver such a one to Satan** for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. 6 Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?

- **Reasons for ejection:**
 1. Destruction of the flesh
 2. Salvation of the spirit
 3. Protection of the Church

7 Therefore **purge out the old leaven**, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. 8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

- **True Double standard:** Eat with sinners/Not with sinning, self-proclaimed believers

9 I wrote to you in my epistle not to keep company with sexually immoral people. 10 Yet I certainly did not mean with the sexually immoral people of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world.

- Keep company with sinners who act like sinners
- Break fellowship with Saints who act like sinners

11 But now I have written to you **not to** keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner—not even to eat with such a person. 12 For what have I to do with judging those also who are outside? Do you not judge those who are inside? 13 But those who are outside

God judges. Therefore **“put away from yourselves the evil person.”**

- Removed from *under protective umbrella* of the Church; body of Christ
 1. **Time to think and recalibrate:** Don't know what you have until its gone
 2. **Time for Holy Spirit to grant Repentance**
- **Restoration the Goal but not always the result:**

2 Corinthians 2:3 And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is the joy of you all. 4 For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you. 5 But if anyone has caused grief, he has not grieved me, but all of you to some extent—not to be too severe. 6 This punishment which was inflicted by the majority is sufficient for such a man, 7 so that, on the contrary, you ought rather to forgive and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one be swallowed up with too much sorrow. 8 Therefore I urge you to reaffirm your love to him. 9 For to this end I also wrote, **that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things.** 10 Now whom you forgive anything, I also forgive. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, 11 lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.

- **Gods heart:** Restoration

2 Corinthians 7:10 ...godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.

- **No Restoration without True Repentance**
 - Don't cater to sin by comforting the sinner before repentance**
- **What True Repentance looks like:**
 1. Submission to God-given authority/discipline
 2. Humility
 3. Contrite heart
 4. Service

SUMMARY Fight the Good Fight: Stay in Ephesus. Hard is not a synonym for bad.

1. Correct those in error
2. Teach true doctrine
3. Discipline those who will heed the Word of God

Watch God work!