



“The Church That Guards the Gospel”
PERSECUTOR TO PROCLAIMER
1 Timothy 1:12-17

*The saving grace of Christ transforms the worst sinner
into a living testimony of God's mercy and glory.*

INTRODUCTION

I. THE CALLING OF GRACE (v. 12)

“I thank him who has given me strength...”

A. The Source of the Calling — **Christ Jesus our Lord**

- **John 15:16** – *“You did not choose me, but I chose you.”*

B. The Strength for the Calling — **“who has given me strength”**

- **2 Corinthians 12:9** – *“My grace is sufficient for you.”*

C. The Service of the Calling — **“appointing me to his service”**

II. THE CONDITION BEFORE GRACE (v. 13a)

“though formerly I was...”

A. A Blasphemer Against Christ

- **Acts 26:11**

B. A Persecutor of the Church

- **Acts 8:3**

C. An Insolent Opponent

III. THE COMPASSION OF GRACE (vv. 13b–14) *“But I received mercy...”*

A. The Mercy That Pardoned Him

B. The Grace That Overflowed for Him

“The grace of our Lord overflowed for me...”

- **Romans 5:20** – *“Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more.”*

C. The Faith and Love Produced in Him

IV. THE CORE OF THE GOSPEL (v. 15) *“The saying is trustworthy...”*

A. The Mission of Christ *“Christ Jesus came into the world”*

B. The Message of Salvation *“To save sinners”*

C. The Model of Grace *“of whom I am the foremost”*

V. THE PURPOSE OF HIS CONVERSION (v. 16)

“But I received mercy for this reason...”

A. A Display of Christ’s Patience

“Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience”

B. An Example for Future Believers

“As an example to those who were to believe”

VI. THE CELEBRATION OF GOD’S GLORY (v. 17) *“To the King of the ages...”*

A. The Majesty of the King *“King of the ages”*

B. The Nature of God

- Immortal
- Invisible
- The only God

C. The Worship of the Believer *“be honor and glory forever and ever”*

Grace always leads to **doxology**.

Conclusion

Paul’s testimony teaches us three great truths:

1. **Grace can reach the worst sinner.**
2. **Grace transforms lives completely.**
3. **Grace leads to worship and glory to God.**

The persecutor became a preacher.

The enemy became an apostle.

The sinner became a servant.

That is **the power of the gospel**.
