

1 Timothy Chapter 1

Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope; ² Unto Timothy, my own son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

Verse 1 – Paul qualifies himself. An apostle = a delegate or messenger, one sent forth with orders. He isn't a messenger for himself, not promoting self but instead Jesus Christ. Therefore, his role is to communicate messages from Christ to the intended audience. My goodness, Christ has a message for you so He sends a messenger to you with a message. Better listen to apostles from God.

- He didn't make himself an apostle....it was commanded by and from God.
- He reminds us that our savior and hope is in Christ who is in perfect alignment with God. Where is your hope today? Did he need to remind them of this? Yes, and notice where he puts the reminder....at the beginning of the letter. Good to start off with this kind of reminder in your communications....what a message.

Verse 2 – Timothy is treated like his own son....in the faith. Wonderful greetings from God. Grace = to have favor, undeserved kindness. Mercy = kindness or good will towards the miserable and afflicted, clemency. Peace = tranquility, absence of war, security, safety, assurance. Get these three from God.

³ As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine, ⁴ Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do. ⁵ Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned: ⁶ From which some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling; ⁷ Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm.

⁸ But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully; ⁹ Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, ¹⁰ For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be 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. ¹² And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;

Verse 3 – Paul asked Timothy to stay behind and make sure that someone doesn't come after he leaves and teaches a doctrine different from what he had laid down. So if that was a threat back then, there is still a real possibility that after you leave from teaching, someone might come behind you and teach a doctrine different than the foundation you laid.

- Be careful adding to or taking away from the gospel and doctrine of Jesus.
- This is a very real issue today where denomination and churches can fall into the self-righteous trap of inaccurately preaching the Gospel.
- Satan in the Garden uses this same trap by changing the word of God which quickly becomes a stumbling block for Adam and Eve. It still happens.

Verse 4 –Don't pay attention to fables, stories, which produce questions rather than building up our faith. So do those things that build up faith and drop the dumb stuff. Titus 1:14.

Verse 5 – The end of the story is simply this...it is again a commandment...we heard it before. Love out of a pure heart with the right motives, and with a clear conscience. Love associated with and involving faith. Love by and through faith. So there must be a wrong way to love.

- Unfeigned = without hypocrisy, undisguised and sincere.
- Be careful when they say they found something no one else has seen...takes you away from good doctrine. Don't try to be so creative...stick with the simple truths and basics that you've been taught. I even need to watch myself.
- I remember wanting to publish a story to encourage others. I started to write it in the form of a poem with fancy rhymes. There is nothing inherently wrong with a poem that rhymes. There was something wrong with me using my logic and wit to develop it to please others and get a pat on the back. My motivation was self-glory and not for His glory. When I changed my motives, what I ended up publishing didn't rhyme but it touched the hearts of many and God received the glory from a pure heart.
- Don't feel like you have to come up with something great that no one else has heard in order to validate yourself.

Verse 6 – Swerve = to deviate from or to miss the mark. If love is missing in the message, it might be the wrong message for you.

- Jangling = vain talking, empty talk.
- Some of them under his teaching have swayed and missed the mark. How did they miss the mark? They were headed in the right direction and doing the right things but they got off track by getting involved in worthless conversations. Don't lose focus. It must always be for His glory.

Verse 7 – Be very careful and watch out for want to be teachers of the law, but don't really know what they are talking about or the doctrine they really support. Be careful not to miss the mark which points back to love. Using the law the wrong way...to justify themselves and bring others into bondage. Law can't take you higher in attaining perfection.

- Paul in Romans 7 connects the Law to trying to satisfy God in the flesh. If my doctrine is based on self and if the motivation is not powered by the Spirit of God, then my preaching and effort is in vain.

Verse 9 – The law is not for a man who is in right standing (righteous) but for the lawless and lost, unholy folks. That is the advantage of the Law because it shows people where they are wrong and where they have failed. Without the Law instructing us on what is right and wrong, we continue in error thinking we are good and in right standing when we are not. That is a very dangerous place to be. Paul now provides a list of folk who could benefit from the Law. Rom 6:14 shows we are not under the Law.

Verse 10 – The list goes on...whoremongers...male gigolos, menstealers = steal slaves, false or faithless men...breaks faith, liars, and anything contrary to sound doctrine. Failure to the second side of the commandments.....relationship with others.

Verse 11 – Sound doctrine is according to the gospel of God which is committed to his trust.

Verse 12 – He gives thanks to God because Christ has enabled him and esteemed him as a faithful person who placed him in the ministry. He is not full of pride after delivering a good sermon or message but remains humble. This should be the charge for all believers no matter the level of maturity. We should never rise above the need to humbly pick up our cross and always give thanks.

- I would like to be counted as faithful. Not a one time or an instance of faith, but consistently walking in faith and in the Spirit.

¹³ Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. ¹⁴ And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

Verse 13 – Describes himself before he was a minister (Acts 26:9-11).

- Blasphemer – speaking evil, slander.
- Injurious = uplifted with pride, heaps insulting language, shameful acts or wrong doing on others
- But these acts didn't disqualify him from being a minister of the gospel. He received mercy. He did these things out of ignorance because he didn't believe.
- When you don't believe...you do dumb things.
- Caution....if Paul thought he was so right...we could make the same mistake (Acts 8:3, 9:1, 22:4).



Verse 14 – The grace of God was huge considering what he had done and being so unworthy; grace took care of his past mistakes. Key to grace....faith and love which is in and can be found in Christ.

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. ¹⁶ Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

Verse 15 – Saying of faith, everybody can and should receive this and it applies to all....Christ came into the world for the purpose of saving sinners like us....Paul says he was one of the worst. Now a minister...wow...look where he has come from. Sum of the whole gospel (Matt 9:13).

Verse 16 – He gives the reason why God showed him so much mercy....that Christ was patient a long time with him while he was in sin, as an example and pattern for others to follow and know that through his testimony others will believe and have everlasting life. Paul knows that when before he operating in his own strength in the flesh...he failed. But now in grace, he knows that God will work through him to lead others to everlasting life.

¹⁷ Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

¹⁸ This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare; ¹⁹ Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: ²⁰ Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.

Verse 17 – Awesome praise and honor to God. Understanding who God is...eternal, invisible, and the only wise one.

Verse 18 – Another charge to Timothy, he treats and considers him like a son; according to the prophecies concerning him...keep them in mind to help him fight a good fight.

- Ministry is warfare

Verse 19 – Hold on to faith...not just one time...hold on to it. Have a good conscience and peace. Important to have a clear mind about the work of Christ in you...some have put away faith in this great work of the Lord and have wrecked themselves....no progress, stranded.

Verse 20 – Paul ends by giving examples of shipwrecked folks who he gave over to the enemy to deal with so that they could learn a lesson and not commit this particular sin.



Hymenaeus – they started out saved but they started to fall away by speaking against the doctrine of God. We don't know for sure what they did but the nature of what they did was to:

- Speak against God. So he turned them over to Satan and asked that the protection be removed so they could repent and be restored (2 Tim 2:17-18).
- See also perhaps Acts 19:33, 2 Tim 4:14-15.