

*Paul's Letter to  
the Disciple*



# I Timothy

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1 Tim. 1:12-20

1. His Thanks to Christ (12-17)
2. His Charge to Timothy (18-20)



# His Thanks to Christ

## A. For His Ministry (12)

- The fact that he had been entrusted with the gospel prompted him to express thanks to Christ (1:11)
  1. Strength – the ability to perform the task assigned to him (Phil. 4:13; cf. Eph. 1:19; 6:10; Col. 1:9-12)



# His Thanks to Christ

## A. For His Ministry (12)

2. Stewardship – Jesus trusted and entrusted him (1 Cor. 4:1-2; 7:25)
3. Service – his ministry as an apostle to the gentiles (1:1; Acts 20:24; 21:19; Rom. 11:13; 2 Cor. 5:18-20; Col. 1:23-25)



His Thanks to Christ

B. For His Mercy

- Past (13a) – *formerly*:
  - *Blasphemer* – verbal abuse, slander (yet see Acts 26:11)
  - *Persecutor* – physical violence (Acts 22:4-5; Gal. 1:13)



His Thanks to Christ

B. For His Mercy

- Past (13a) – *formerly*:

- *Violent aggressor* – “arrogant sadism;”  
a bully inflicting violence for pleasure  
(Acts 26:9-11)



His Thanks to Christ

B. For His Mercy

- Past (13b) – *yet*:

- “Because I acted ignorantly in unbelief”

- Paul thought he was serving God!  
(Acts 22:3; 26:4-5; Gal. 1:13-14)

- But then he learned the good news –  
*the message of truth* (Eph. 1:13)



His Thanks to Christ

B. For His Mercy

- Past (14) – *and*:

- He was saved by *superabounding* grace  
(Rom. 5:20-21; Eph. 2:8-9)

- He found faith and love in Christ (1:5; cf.  
Gal. 5:6; Eph. 1:15; 3:17; Col. 1:4)





His Thanks to Christ

B. For His Mercy

- Purpose (16)

- An example: “If Christ could save me,  
He can save anyone!”

- Demonstrate His *longsuffering* –  
forbearance under provocation,  
waiting for repentance (2 Pet. 3:9)



# His Thanks to Christ

## B. For His Mercy

- Purpose (15)
  - Because Jesus came to save sinners
    - “It is a trustworthy statement” – a maxim demanding assent (see 3:1; 4:9; 2 Tim. 2:11; Titus 3:8)
    - This is sound doctrine



# His Thanks to Christ

## B. For His Mercy

- Purpose (15)
  - Because Jesus came to save sinners
    - “Among who I am *foremost* of all”
      - *Am*, not *was* (i.e. - *a saved sinner*)
      - *Foremost* – rank; *head of the line* (1 Cor. 15:9; Eph. 3:8; cf. Luke 7:40-47)



# His Thanks to Christ

## B. For His Mercy

- Praise (17; see also 6:15-16)
  - *King of the ages* – sovereign over all time and space
  - *Immortal* – incorruptible; unchanging
  - *Invisible* – distinct from creation
  - *The only God* – there is no other



His Thanks to Christ

B. For His Mercy

- Praise (17; see also 6:15-16)
- To Him be honor and glory forever!
  - “... we exist to glorify God”
  - That’s all that matters (Phil. 1:20; cf. Acts 20:22-24; 21:10-14)



# His Charge to Timothy

- Charge: *remain & instruct* (see 3:4)
- *In accordance with the prophecies*
  - Like Acts 13:1-3?
  - *War the good warfare* (see 6:12)
    - Timothy was engaged in *spiritual warfare* (see 2 Cor. 10:3-6; Eph. 6:17)



# His Charge to Timothy

- According to 2 Cor. 10:3-6...
  - Where is the battlefield?
    - The human mind (heart)
  - What are the targets?
    - Corrupt thinking and feelings/passions that are not in line with God's revealed truth



# His Charge to Timothy

- Charge: *remain & instruct* (see 3:4)
- *War the good warfare* (see 6:12)
  - The weapons are *sound doctrine* from the revealed gospel (1:10-11), i.e. - truth of/about God (*Word of God* – Eph. 6:17)





# His Charge to Timothy

- Charge: *remain & instruct* (see 3-4)
- *Keeping faith and a good conscience*
  - Holding to apostolic truth (*the faith*)
  - Maintaining a clear conscience (*obey*)
    - Your conscience holds you to what you believe to be true (cf. Rom. 14)
    - It is important to know the truth!



## His Charge to Timothy

- Charge: *remain & instruct* (see 3:4)
- *Keeping faith and a good conscience*
  - Which some have rejected (see 4:2)
    - Hymenaeus (2 Tim. 2:16-19)
    - Alexander? (2 Tim. 4:14; Acts 19:33)?
  - *And suffered shipwreck* – when God's truth is rejected, disaster follows



# His Charge to Timothy

- Charge: *remain & instruct* (see 3:1-4)
- Re: Hymenaeus and Alexander
  - *Whom I have handed over to Satan*
    - Excommunication, chastisement (see 1 Cor. 5:1-5)
    - To teach them not to *blaspheme* (teach false doctrine? 2 Tim. 2:16-19)



# So What?

- We should remember our past
  - But focus on God's redemption!
    - "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery." (Ex. 20:2)
    - "But God ... even when we were dead ... made us alive..." (Eph. 2:1-10)



# So What?

- We should remember our past
- But focus on God's redemption!
  - "For I am the Lord who brought you up from the land of Egypt to be your God; thus you shall be holy, for I am holy." (Lev. 11:45)
  - 1 Pet. 1:13-2:3



## So What?

- We should remember our past
- But focus on God's redemption!
  - "Yeah, but it's bad for our self-esteem"
  - But it's great for our God-esteem! (17)
    - Eph. 1:3-14 (*to the praise of His glory*)
    - 1 Pet. 2:9-12; cf. Col. 1:12-23
    - 1 Cor. 6:9-11



## So What?

- We are at war! (2 Cor. 10:3-6)
- Take every thought captive!
  - Compare/conform our thoughts & desires with God's revealed truth
  - Help others consider their thoughts & desires in light of God's revealed truth
  - Weed out *strange doctrine*

