

1 Timothy 1:1-20 **Paul's greeting and blessing – Charge to Timothy**

Paul's Apostleship – Greeting

¹ Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, by the commandment of God our Savior and the Lord Jesus Christ, our hope, ² To Timothy, a true son in the faith:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

Timothy's responsibility in Ephesus

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, which cause disputes rather than godly edification which is in faith.

Correct those who have turned aside

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

Value of the Law

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.

Mercy of God shown to Paul – Counting Paul Faithful

¹² And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, ¹³ although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. ¹⁴ And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

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 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.

Glory to God

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

Renewing Charge to Timothy

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, ¹⁹ having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck, ²⁰ of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.

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Facts Revealed:

Paul's Apostleship – Greeting [1 Timothy 1:1-2]

✚ Paul is an Apostle of Jesus Christ (an Apostle is one who is of the earliest advocates of a message). [1 Timothy 1:1]

✧ An Apostle of Jesus Christ is one originally commissioned by Christ to preach the Gospel.

✧ Paul received his commission by the command of God our Savior and the Lord Jesus Christ.

✧ Jesus is our hope for Salvation.

✚ To Timothy, a true son in the faith: [1 Timothy 1:2]

✧ Timothy is a true son of Paul in the faith, because he was an early convert of Paul when on his first missionary journey Paul preached in Timothy's home town of Lystra. [Acts 14:1-20, 16:1-5]

✧ Timothy was the son of a believing Jewess and his father was Greek. [Acts 9:1-3]

✧ Paul had Timothy circumcised so he would be acceptable to the Jews in the area. Being the son of a Jewish woman, Timothy was considered a Jew and circumcision was proper.

✧ The rules to keep they taught the Gentiles was the letter from the Apostles in Jerusalem saying Gentiles did not need to be circumcised to become Jews to be saved, but they needed to abstain from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality. [Acts 15:1-29]

✧ Timothy had a good reputation among the believers of his home territory. [Acts 16:2]

✚ Paul began his letter to Timothy with his customary blessing: "Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord." [1 Timothy 1:2]

Timothy's responsibility in Ephesus [1 Timothy 1:3-4]

✚ When Paul went to Macedonia, he left Timothy in Ephesus to guide the establishment of the Church and correct false doctrine that tended to creep in through erring Jews.

✧ As at Antioch of Syria, wherever the Gospel message went, the Jews attempted to require the Gentiles to become Jews by circumcision and adherence to all the traditions of the Jews to be saved. [Acts 15:1, 13:45, 50, 14:1-6, 19, 15:1, 21:20-21, Galatians 1:6-9]

✧ It is the **commandments of men** that Jesus had said made the commandments of God of no effect. [Matthew 15:1-9, Mark 7:1-13]

✧ Paul instructed Timothy to correct that error and make sure they teach no other doctrine than that of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

✧ Paul addressed some of the problems in Judaism as, giving heed to fables (commandments of men) and endless genealogies, which cause disputes.

Correct those who have turned aside [1 Timothy 1:4-7]

✧ The thing that is needed is godly edification which is in Faith.

✚ Now the purpose of the commandment is **love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith.** [1 Timothy 1:5]

✧ The influence of false doctrine has caused some to turn aside from these godly characteristics of faith and love.

✧ Desiring to be teachers of the law, the Judaizers indicate that they do not understand the purpose of the law which they attempt to affirm.

Value of the Law [1 Timothy 1:8-11]

✚ We know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully.

✧ The Law was given to help people to discern the difference between righteousness and sinfulness.

- ✧ Therefore the law was not given to the righteous person, but to the unrighteous to call them to repentance and back to God.
- ✧ The Law is: 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**, for **fornicators**, for **sodomites**, for **kidnappers**, for **liars**, for **perjurers**, and if there is **any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine**.
- ✧ Paul makes this statement "according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust."

Mercy of God shown to Paul – Counting Paul Faithful [1 Timothy 1:12-16]

- ✧ Paul praises Christ Jesus our Lord as he indicates how he came to this understanding.
 - ✧ Christ Jesus enabled Paul, because He looked on the heart and knew that Paul would remain faithful through much suffering. [Acts 9:10-16]
 - ✧ Paul was very sincerely zealous for God though he was terribly mistaken at the time Christ called him on the road to Damascus, fulfilling the words of Jesus, "They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service." [John 16:2, Acts 9:1-9, 22:3-5, Galatians 1:13-14, Philippians 3:4-6]
 - ✧ In all this, Paul sees the mercy and grace of God as he remembers his former time as a devout Pharisee. Paul said: "because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus." [1 Timothy 1:12-14]
 - ✧ "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 Timothy 1:15]
 - ✧ Paul acknowledged that Christ extended such mercy to him as an example of God's longsuffering patience for those who later will become believers on Jesus for everlasting life. [1 Timothy 1:16]
 - ✧ Therefore Paul is able to instruct the believers to follow his example. [Philippians 3:17, 2 Thessalonians 3:9, 1 Timothy 1:16]

Glory to God

- ✧ Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. [1 Timothy 1:17]

Renewing Charge to Timothy

- ✧ Prophecies had previously been made concerning Timothy.
 - ✧ Therefore Paul charges Timothy to wage the good warfare, in faith and a good conscience.
 - ✧ Some have suffered shipwreck concerning faith because they rejected the call of God through faith and attempted to force on the people the traditions of Judaism in works, among them Paul specifically names Hymenaeus and Alexander.
 - ✧ These Paul said he delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme.
 - ✧ The delivery to Satan is a warning against the danger of the error being addressed.
- ✧ This is the same concept Paul expressed to the Corinthians as he instructed them to put the sinner out of the Church. [1 Corinthians 5:5]
- ✧ Deliver the sinner to Satan for destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the Day of the Lord Jesus.
 - ✧ Public grief and mourning over the sinner as he is sent away by the Church body imploring him to repent and turn from the sin may be enough to cause him to realize the seriousness of his sin and cause him to turn from it.

- ✧ Thus he has been delivered to Satan for the destruction of the flesh and his pride as is pointed out at the time he is judged and dissociated by the Church.
- ✧ Being crushed and humbled in his flesh he may be open to repentance for being saved.
- ✧ The Day of Salvation for all of us is at the return of our Lord Jesus Christ.