

PAUL, A PATTERN CONVERT

I Timothy 1:12-17

Intro:

- A. There were "some" in the church who taught false doctrine. Vs 3
  - 1. They emphasized heroic figures and minute genealogical details. Vs 4
  - 2. This did not build up the saints.
  - 3. They were blind leaders. Vs 7
  
- B. These same would be teachers misapplied the Law of Moses.
  - 1. They did not use it lawfully. Vs 8
  - 2. The Law was given to identify sin and not to be a set of rules to live by.
  
- C. Paul now uses himself as an example of what happens when one allows the law to be used lawfully. Paul was a Jew.
  - 1. He was a violater of God's will.
  - 2. He was forgiven.
  - 3. He was entrusted with God's work.

I. Paul's Position And Work By Grace.

- A. Vs 11 He had the gospel committed to him.
  - 1. "Committed" = πιστευομαι = "to be committed to me"
  - 2. "which was given unto my care".
  
- B. Vs 12 God was his enabler.
  - 1. "Enabled" = ενδυναμω = "to impart strength to".
  - 2. Paul knew that God was the source of His power.
  
- C. Vs 12 God believed Paul was trustworthy.
  - 1. "Counted" = ἡγεομαι = "to view", "to regard".
  - 2. "Faithful" = πιστος = "one on whom we may rely"
  - 3. "He thought I could be trusted." - BECK

- D. Vs 12 God had put Paul in his office.
1. "Putting" = τιθημι = "to place", "to appoint".
  2. "Ministry" = διακονια = "service".
  3. Acts 26:16-18
- E. Vs 12 Paul was especially thankful.
1. "Thank" = χαρις εχω = "to have gratitude".
  2. Paul did not believe that God had dishonoured him or that the Lord had ruined his life.

II. What Paul Was By The Law. Vs 13

A. "Who was before a blasphemer..."

1. "Blasphemer" = βλασφημος = "abusive", "reviling", "destroying one's good name".
2. Paul did this in regard to Jesus.
3. Acts 26:9-11

B. "...and a persecutor..."

1. Διωκτης = "a pursuer, as a hunter".
2. Acts 26:22c - "even unto strange cities".

C. "...and injurious..."

1. υβροστης = Sadist, a violent person. The word indicates one who in pride and insolence deliberately and contemptuously mistreats and wrongs and hurts another person just for hurting sake and to deliberately humiliate the person. It speaks of treatment which is calculated publicly to insult and openly to humiliate the person who suffers it. The word is used in Romans 1:30 to describe a man of arrogant insolence, and pictures one of the characteristic sins of the pagan world (MNTW, 77-85;s)
2. Paul felt good when he injured Christians because he thought he was doing God's will.

### III. What The Law Could Not Do.

- A. Vs 13b "...but I obtained mercy..."
1. "Obtained mercy" = ΕΛΕΟΣ = "a desire to relieve the miserable", "active compassion" Since Paul obtained mercy from God, who is all powerful, it was effective.
  2. "God had mercy on me."
- B. "...because I did it ignorantly and in unbelief."
1. Paul was a law-keeper. He was ignorant of the person of Christ and therefore was in a state of unbelief.
  2. "Ignorantly" = αγνοεω = "without knowing".
  3. "Unbelief" = απιστια = "faithlessness", "distrust", "without faith".
  4. **Numbers 15:27-31**
  5. On the basis of his ignorance and his unbelief, God did not bring His wrath down upon Paul.

### IV. What The Grace Of God Did For Paul.

- A. Vs 14 "And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant..."
1. "Exceeding abundant" = υπερπλεοναζω = "to abound over and above", "super abundance".
  2. "...and the loving-kindness of our Lord was boundless" - TENT
- B. "...with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus."
1. "Faith" = πιστεω = "belief or trust".
  2. "Love" = αγαπης =
  3. "Along with the faith and love that Christ Jesus inspires" - MOF

### V. This Grace Is For All. Vs 15

- A. "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance,..."
1. Πιστος ο λογος = "Faithful is the word"

2. "Reliable is the message" - BER
  3. "Worthy" = αξίος = "worthy of".
  4. "Acceptation" = αποδοχη = "reception".
  5. "Entitled to our total reception".
- B. "...that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief."
1. "Save" = σωζω = "to rescue".
  2. "Chief" = πρωτος = "first" In the ranking of sinners, Paul put himself in the first rank. He was up there with the worst of them.

VI. Paul, A Pattern Convert. Vs 16

- A. "Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering..."
1. "Yet mercy was shown me for the express purpose"  
TENT
  2. "Shew forth" = ενδεικνυμι = "to point out with the index finger".
  3. "Longsuffering" = μακροθυμια = "patience".
  4. "Give the extreme example of His patience" - KNOX
- B. "...for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting."
1. "Pattern" = υποτυποσις = "a primary sketch to be afterwards filled in" To trace and show a pattern.
  2. "...as an illustration for those" - MOF
  3. "That should afterwards have total confidence in Him with a view to receiving life that never ends."

VII. The Source Of Life Everlasting. Vs 17

- A. "Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible; the only wise God..."

1. "Eternal" = αιων = "immeasurable time".
2. "Immortal" = αφθαρτος = "not liable to corruption"
3. "Invisible" = αορατος = "unseen".
4. "Now to the King of all ages, without corruption, who is not seen".
5. He is the only God who possesses these characteristics. Therefore, He can have mercy and He gives eternal life.

B. "...be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen."

1. "Be ascribed honour and glory..." - TENT
2. "for ever and ever. So be it." - BAS

