

v.5 *“Now the goal of our instruction is (divine) love.”*

We want love to result, from a relationship to Christ and of course that’s John 13:34-35

“By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love one for another.”

Divine love is an evidence, that the Spirit of God is at work.

Back to verse 5.

Primary goal: As a result *of our instruction* we want *divine love* to manifest itself among the believers. But, that *divine love* needs to flow from (1) *a pure heart*, (2) *from a good conscience*, and (3) from *a genuine faith* that is honest and *without hypocrisy*.

One writer said: God’s truth always purifies the human spirit, while error putrefies it.

Yes, such is the case. There is a desire for *a pure heart and a good conscience*. Paul often focused, on that very thing.

You want to be, a difference maker? You want to be, a leader? Then get and keep, a right mind-set. Keep working to clear sin, out of your life, and set your goals and stick with them.

Then he goes on to list several other things.

Verse 6

v.6 *“From which things certain ones, having missed the mark, have turned away to fruitless discussions.”*

Timothy, you got a tuff assignment, cause there are some people, in your church there in Ephesus, that have *missed the mark*. Not only have they *missed the mark*, they’ve *turned away to fruitless discussions*. They are individuals, who are teaching error, in the midst of the church in Ephesus, and it’s affecting it.

You see, it’s so easy to get off track, and they’re off track in Ephesus.

Verse 7

v.7 (These false teachers are) “desiring to be teachers of the law, not understanding neither what they are saying nor about which they are speaking so confidently.”

Now, you'll notice, there are 3 key phrases, in verses 6 and 7:

1. They *missed the mark* v.6
2. They *turned away to fruitless discussions* v.6
3. They're *desiring to be teachers of the law* v.7

But Paul says negatively in verse 7, “They *don't understand what they're saying*. And #2, They *don't understand about which they are speaking so confidently*.”

A local businessman, put a big sign, in the front of his store: “For sale. One set of encyclopedias—never used.

Teenage son knows everything.”

That's the kind of feeling, you get sometimes, when you're dealing with people, in the religious realms, and the study of the scriptures.

Verse 8

v.8 “Now we are knowing that the law is good if anyone is using it lawfully (that is for the purpose it was designed),”

What was the Law given for?

It was to convict us, of the holiness of God!

And drive us to the righteousness, which is ours, in Jesus Christ, when by faith we receive Him, we’re accepted not on the performance of the Law, but by grace through faith.

Now Verses 9 & 10

Knowing this, that the law is not laid down for a law-abiding person but (and he lists 14 groups here with an all inclusive statement in number 15, in these 2 verses) but for the lawless, rebellious, undisciplined, disobedient, for the ungodly, the sinners, for the unholy and the profane, for those who murder fathers and those who murder mothers, for murderers. (And then when he gets down, to the all encompassing statement he says) and whatever else is contrary to the correct or sound teaching.

Now pretend, as we look at these groups, for just a second, that you've got the 10 commandments, in the back of your mind.

Because the 10 commandments, are kind of being spelled out here, in these verses.

I'm gonna take these words, for just a minute, and we'll use Barclay, because he's one of the best writers, on individual words, and describe them, in just a sentence.

The purpose of the Law is to, convince and to convict us of sin.

It's for the *lawless*.

That is those, who know the laws of right and wrong and who break them deliberately.

For the *rebellious*.

They are unruly and insubordinate. They refuse to accept and to obey, any authority.

For the *ungodly*.

This is the spirit which deliberately and defiantly withholds from God, that which is His, right.

For sinners.

This describes character, describes the person, who has no moral standards left.

It's for the *unholy*.

He is the man, who violates, the ultimate sanctities.

For the *profane*.

This is the man, who desecrates God's day, and disobeys God's laws, and belittles God's worship.

Murders of fathers.

Murders of mothers.

Listen to what Barclay says:

"The words describe a son or daughter, who is lost to gratitude. Who is lost to respect, and lost to shame. And it must ever be remembered, that this most cruel of blows, can be a blow, not upon the body, but upon the heart."

v.10 *for the sexually immoral, for homosexuals, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers, and what else is contrary to the correct sound*

teaching. That word *sexually immoral*, of course, is the word ponia, fornication, any illicit sexual relationship.

And it's quite clear, that he speaks to the issue of homosexuality, here in verse 10.

Kidnappers.

Liars, they'll twist the truth, to gain dishonorable ends.

Perjurers, men who will do anything, to accomplish what they desire.

And that last statement in verse 10, "*Whatever else is contrary to the correct or sound teaching.*"

And our study ends, with verse 11,

v.11 "*According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, with which I was entrusted.*"

That little phrase "*glorious gospel*" occurs in 2 Corinthians 4:4

“In whom the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel, the glorious gospel of Christ.”

Paul is describing here, the message that he has to preach. The law convicts the sinner.

The sinner is driven to an answer, and the righteousness of Jesus Christ.

The law convicts, then it drives me, where I am converted and changed, by relationship to Christ, and that calls me to a holy walk, and it clarifies my future.

That's why *it's blessed*.

It was Mahatma Gandhi who said there are 7 things that are gonna destroy us:

#1 wealth without work, pleasure without a conscience, knowledge without character, commerce without morality, science without humanity, religion without sacrifice, and politics without principle

Tony Compolo in his book, *Who Switched the Price Tags?* relates the story of a black Baptist pastor, who was speaking to a group of college students, in his congregation. This is what he said:

“Children,” he said, “you’re going to die! One of these days, they’re gonna to take you out to the cemetery, drop you in a hole, throw some dirt on your face, and go back to the church and eat potato salad.”

“When you were born,” he said, “you alone were crying and everybody else was happy. The important question I wanna ask is this: When you die, are you alone going to be happy, leaving everybody else crying?”

The answer depends on whether you live, to get titles, or you live to give testimonies. When they lay you in the grave, are people going to stand around reciting the fancy titles you earned, or are they going to stand around giving testimonies of the good things you did for them? Will you leave behind just a newspaper column telling people how important you were, or will you leave crying people who give testimonies of how they’ve lost the best friend they ever had?”

“There’s nothing wrong with titles. Titles are good things to have. But if it ever comes down to a choice between a title or a testimony—go for the testimony.”

Well said isn't it?

Goals are kinda like a compass, aren't they?

A compass can determine direction, when you're lost.

And so can goals.

Paul was an intense, goal oriented individual.

Paul can say, *"I've fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I kept the faith."*

That's a result, of goal orientation!

Now there are 10 lessons that come out of the study.

Lesson #1: Our hope resides in a Person, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lesson #2: Timothy is a "true child in the faith."

Lesson #3: Paul's wish for Timothy is 3-fold: grace, mercy, and peace.

Lesson #4: Goals are a vital ingredient, in a growing relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lesson #5: A pure heart, a good conscience and a genuine faith are a picture of the authentic Christian.

Lesson #6: It's easy to miss the mark, and to turn away and to desire those things that are not of truth.

Lesson #7: The law is good when it is used properly.

Lesson #8: The law is not for the righteous, but for the unrighteous.

Lesson #9: The law is for the sinner, not for the saint.

Lesson #10: The glorious gospel, makes it possible for us to be declared righteous, by the work of Christ, upon the cross.

QUESTIONS :

1. Read 1 Timothy 1:1-11 and summarize in your own words what Paul is saying in this section.
2. How does Paul characterize Timothy in verse 2?
3. Why did Paul urge Timothy to stay longer in Ephesus, according to verse 3?
4. What is the goal of Paul's teaching, according to verse 5?
5. How does Paul characterize these false teachers, according to verse 7?
6. How does Paul characterize the Law in verse 8?
7. For whom is the Law given, according to verse 9?
8. What was Paul entrusted with, according to verse 11?
9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

STUDIES IN THE FIRST EPISTLE TO TIMOTHY

PART I — 1 TIMOTHY 1-3

"The Laws of Leadership"

Key verse 4:12: *"Let no one look down on you (think little of) because you are young; but keep on becoming an example of the believers in word, in behavior, in love, in faith, in purity."*

LAW NUMBER ONE - A Statement of Goal Is Essential in Leadership — 1 Timothy 1:1-11

Key verse 1:5

Notes

v. 1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by command of God our Savior and Christ Jesus our hope;

v. 2 to Timothy, my true child in the faith: Grace, mercy, peace from God our Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

v. 3 Even as I urged you to remain longer in Ephesus when I was going to Macedonia, in order that you might instruct certain ones to teach a different (or heretical) doctrine,

v. 4 nor to pay attention to legends and endless genealogies, which give rise to endless speculations rather than (acceptance in faith of) God's administration) the divine training that is in faith.

v. 5 Now the goal of our instruction is (divine) love out of a pure heart and a good conscience and a genuine faith (without hypocrisy).

v. 6 From which things certain ones, having missed the mark, have turned away to fruitless discussions,

v. 7 desiring to be teachers of the law, not understanding neither what they are saying nor about which they are speaking so confidently.

v. 8 Now we are knowing that the law is good if anyone is using it lawfully (for the purpose it was designed),

v. 9 knowing this, that the law is not laid down for a law-abiding person but for the lawless and rebellious (undisciplined, disobedient) for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane (godless) those who murder fathers and those who murder mothers, for murderers (manslayers),

v. 10 for the (sexually) immoral, for homosexuals, kidnappers, liars, perjurers and whatever else is contrary to the correct (sound) teaching,

v. 11 according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, with which I was entrusted.