

The First Letter Of St. Paul To Timothy Chapter 1

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Authorship

- St. Paul (1 Tim 1:1)

Recipient

- St. Timothy the Bishop of Ephesus (1:2)

Date

- After the events of Acts 28 (63–65)

Purpose

- To refute false teachings (1:3–7; 4:1–8; 6:3–5, 20–21)
- To supervise the affairs of the growing Ephesian church
 - Church worship, chapter 2
 - Appointment of clergy (3:1–13; 5:17–25)

Theme

- Pastoral Care
 - Role of the clergy
 - Combating heresy
 - Care for women, widows, and slaves
 - Money and the ministry

Greeting (1 Tim 1:1, 2)

- Reminder of his calling to give weight to his words
- Our Savior: St. Paul is called to be an apostle to preach the good news of salvation.
- Our Hope: The anticipation of the salvation which is yet to be revealed.

Greeting (1 Tim 1:1, 2)

- St. Paul led him to Christ.
- Timothy behaves as a dutiful son to St. Paul (Philippians 2:20-22).
- St. Paul prays for Timothy that he would receive grace, mercy and peace.
- These gifts come from God.

Opposing False Doctrine (1 Tim 1:3-5)

- False doctrines are like cancer (2 Tim 2:16, 17) or leaven (Gal 5:9).
- Things which are highly speculative (fables) invite vain disputes.
- Godly edification of the true doctrines results in:
 - Pure heart
 - Good conscience
 - Sincere faith

Opposing False Conduct (1 Tim 1:6-11)

- “Idle talk” is that which is vain, meaningless, and empty.
- St. James warns of not taking the role of teaching lightly (James 3:1).
- To use it lawfully is to interpret and apply it using proper Biblical interpretation.

Opposing False Conduct (1 Tim 1:6-11)

- St. Paul associates a “righteous person” in accordance with his behavior.
- Righteousness is not only regarded with respect to faith in God.
- The Bible teaches that there is also a connection to the person’s behavior.

Opposing False Conduct (1 Tim 1:6-11)

- It does not lie against a righteous man; because he does not transgress it.
- St. Paul made no attempt at prioritizing these sins.
- In evaluating whether doctrine is sound, one must test it to identify how the doctrine applies to one's behavior.

Opposing False Conduct (1 Tim 1:6-11)

- Even among Christians there are those who are angered by or otherwise reject what St. Paul teaches
- The fact is that if one rejects the gospel which St. Paul preaches, one rejects the Lord Jesus.
- St. Paul's gospel is the gospel of Christ.

Exhortations To Be Faithful (1 Tim 1:12-20)

- God put him into the ministry because he was faithful.
- He was sincere in his persecution of the Church. He thought he was doing God's will.
- Not that his ignorance was an excuse.
- But rather to contrast himself with apostates.

Exhortations To Be Faithful (1 Tim 1:12-20)

- St. Paul's conversion revealed just how exceedingly abundant God's grace was.
- Faith and love accompanied God's grace.
- Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
- For St. Paul, this was not simply theological concept, but his very real experience.

Exhortations To Be Faithful (1 Tim 1:12-20)

- Salvation is available to everyone no matter how sinful their background.
- St. Paul's conversion is a pattern for repentance and changed life.
- King: His kingdom started on the cross.
- Eternal: It is an eternal kingdom.

Exhortations To Be Faithful (1 Tim 1:12-20)

- Immortal: He trampled death by His death.
- Invisible: God cannot be seen.
- Wise: (1 Cor 1:30)
- Honor: We honor God for the salvation He has provided.
- Glory: God is glorified in His salvation.

Exhortations To Be Faithful (1 Tim 1:12-20)

- Prophecies made of Timothy: “He was well spoken of by the brethren who were at Lystra and Iconium” (Acts 16:2)
- “By them you may wage the good warfare”:
By the commands he has given him.
- Shipwrecks occur because of shallow faith.

Exhortations To Be Faithful (1 Tim 1:12-20)

- Alexander is mentioned in (2 Tim 4:14) and Hymenaeus in (2 Tim 2:16-18).
- Handing someone over to Satan may mean that Satan had permission to inflict some illness or disability (Job 2:6)
- It may also picture life outside the fellowship of the church as Satan's sphere (1 Cor 5:5)

Conclusion

- What two things did St. Paul want Timothy to charge some?
- What was the three-fold purpose of this commandment?
- When is something considered “sound doctrine”?
- What is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance?
- Why did St. Paul obtain mercy, and Christ show all longsuffering toward him?
- What is the purpose of discipline?