

A Study of the Epistles of Paul

(NT Survey Lesson 177--1 Timothy 1)

Introduction: It would appear that after Paul's first imprisonment, he passed once again through Asia Minor. While there he urged Timothy to continue to work at Ephesus, a church established by Paul many years before. In this letter Paul instructs Timothy about how God's people should behave themselves in the house of God (3:15). In this first chapter Paul focuses on Timothy's mission as a teacher of the word of God.

Lesson aim: To understand the real purpose of gospel teaching, and how it may be subverted improper teaching.

Introduction and greeting--1 Tim. 1:1-2

1. How does Paul describe himself? How does he describe the Father and Christ? Timothy?

Instructions concerning teachers of error--1 Tim. 1:3-11

1. Why had Paul urged Timothy to remain at Ephesus? How does Paul describe the doctrines of these teachers of error? This error involved paying attention to what?
2. These discussions gave rise to what? In contrast, the administration of God is furthered by what?
3. What then is the goal of the gospel preacher's instruction?
4. The teachers of error in Ephesus wanted to be teachers of what? But what did their teaching reveal about their knowledge of the Law?
5. Did Paul mean to say that the Law had no useful purpose? Paul affirmed that the Law is what? That is if it is used how? The Law was made for whom? Sinners who practice these things are not practicing what kind of teaching or doctrine?
6. For whom is the Law not made? Why? This is in according with what?

Paul praises God for his mercy toward him--1 Tim. 1:12-17

1. To whom did Paul give thanks? For what? Why did Christ put Paul into service?
2. How had Paul lived formerly? Why did God show mercy to Paul? How did Paul regard himself? What statement did Paul affirm was trustworthy and worthy of acceptance?
3. What qualities of God made it possible for Paul to be saved in spite of his many sins? What did Christ demonstrate in saving Paul? For whom would this serve as an example?
4. How does Paul express his praise toward God?

Paul charges Timothy to keep the faith--1 Tim. 1:18- 20

1. Paul's command to Timothy was in accord with what? What did Paul command Timothy to do?
2. What two things did Paul urge Timothy to keep? What had Hymenaeus and Alexander done?
3. What did Paul do to these men? Why?