

## Teach Sound Doctrine 1 Timothy 1:1-11

### 1 Timothy 1:1-11 Introduction

- Americans spend about \$300 Billion on entertainment each year.
- This is slightly more than we “spend” on charitable giving.
- We obviously love to be entertained.

### 1 Timothy 1:1-11 Introduction

- In a culture like this, how can the church ever expect to compete for people’s attention?
- The answer is simple: We can’t.
- But happily, we don’t have to compete.
- The church is not here to entertain people, but to teach sound doctrine.
- The entertainment industry can never hope to compete with us in that.

### Teach Sound Doctrine

- We have to make sound doctrine a priority within the church.
- It is not easy to find it anyplace else.

### 1 Timothy 1:1-11 Outline

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| I.   | Greetings from Paul to Timothy            | 1:1-2  |
| II.  | Sound doctrine encourages right beliefs.  | 1:3-7  |
| III. | Sound doctrine encourages right behavior. | 1:8-11 |

#### I. Greeting from Paul to Timothy 1:1-2

- There are several things to point out just in this greeting alone.
- Paul reminds Timothy that he is an apostle.
- He received this title, not through any politicking of his own, but by the commandment of God our Savior and the Lord Jesus Christ, our hope.

#### 1:1-2 Definitions: Apostle

- One who is sent. It could be used of an ambassador or official delegate.
- It can specifically mean Jesus’ circle of twelve.
- Paul and a few others are included as apostles in a slightly wider sense.
- The teaching of these apostles is authoritative in the church to this day, being handed down in the New Testament.

#### 1:1-2 Definitions: Christ

- Christ is a title, not Jesus’ last name.
- Think of Julius Caesar: Julius is his name; Caesar is his title or office.
- Similarly, Jesus is the name of the Christ.
- Christ is the New Testament Greek term that translates the Hebrew term Messiah.
- Messiah means “Anointed One”, a prophet, priest or king. Jesus is actually all three: prophet, priest and king.

#### 1:1-2 Definitions: Savior

- A Savior is someone who saves us. (Duh.)
- At the time Paul was writing this, the Roman emperor Nero applied the title Savior to himself.
- God saves us from the power and effects of sin, which have been with us since Adam.
- Jesus (*Yeshua*) is a Hebrew name that means “salvation.” See **Matthew 1:21**

#### 1:1-2 Definitions: Lord

- Lord (Greek *Kyrios*) was used to show respect, like “sir” in American English today. Roman emperors also used “Lord” as a title.
- For the Jews, Lord had a special meaning referring to God.
- They would not say the proper name of God (YHWH), not even in biblical texts.
- Instead they would say “Adonai” meaning “Lord.” *Kyrios* was the Greek for “Adonai.”

#### 1:1-2 The Lord Jesus Christ

- Lord – This title was the same as saying “God” for the Jews, though Roman emperors used it about themselves.
- Jesus – a name that means salvation in its original Hebrew form (Yeshua).
- Christ – The Messiah or Anointed one, the Prophet, Priest and King.

#### Teach Sound Doctrine:

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#### II. Sound doctrine encourages right beliefs. 1:3-7

- The first thing Paul is concerned about is that Timothy would purify the teaching in the church.
- An example of fables and endless genealogies that has survived to this day is the *Book of Jubilees*. It contains teaching about fallen angels, the daughters of Adam and Eve and other irrelevant, extrabiblical information.
  
- Question: What is the purpose of the commandment?
- Answer: **Love**
- See **Matthew 22:35-40**
- Through the commandments God teaches us moral truth.
- This keeps us safe and leads us into right relationships with God and other people.
  
- Sound doctrine teaches us the truth about God, ourselves and the world we live in.
- False doctrine ultimately causes us to believe in lies.
- Sound doctrine teaches that we must always love God and love others.
- False doctrine leads us away from these basic biblical commandments.

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#### III. Sound doctrine encourages right behavior. 1:8-11

- At the most basic level, the Law and the Gospel are in agreement.
- The commandments in the Law are an expression of God’s character or nature.
- Thus, the Law teaches us moral truth.
- If we walk in obedience to the commandment, we will be living in accordance with God’s will.

#### III. Sound doctrine encourages right behavior. 1:8-11

- “The law is not the gospel, but the gospel is not lawless.” (Warren Wiersbe)
- The Gospel offers us the power to walk in obedience to God’s will.
- This power is not found in the Law.

1:8-11 Definitions: Law

- The Law is a name for the first five books of the Bible, also called the *Torah* in Hebrew.
- Torah is a Hebrew word that means “law,” but also means “instruction.”
- Sometimes “the Law” means the whole Old Testament, the original Hebrew Bible.
- Sometimes it refers to the traditions that were later built around the law, the *Mishna*, or “oral law,” which later gave rise to the *Talmuds*.

1:8-11 Definitions: Kidnappers

- Greek made a distinction between a *doulos* (bond servant) and an *andrapodon* (captive slave).
- Kidnappers would take people captive, by force or by deceit, and bring them into slavery.
- Some versions translate this as “slave traders.”
- These kidnappers were exactly like those who engage in human trafficking today.
  
- A True Story: Maira was 15 when two well-dressed men driving a nice car approached her and two friends in a small Honduran village. They told the girls they were businessmen and offered to take them to the United States to work in a textile factory.
- Upon arriving in Houston, the girls were held captive, beaten, raped, and forced to work in cantinas that doubled as brothels.
  
- Human Trafficking is the fastest growing form of organized crime in the world today.
- An estimated 27 Million people worldwide are trapped in slavery at this time.
- Over 800,000 people—mostly women and children— are trafficked across international borders each year.
- Examples of modern day slavery have been discovered in all 50 states.

1:8-11 Definitions: Sound Doctrine

- **Sound** literally means “healthy.”
- **Doctrine** is another word for “teaching” or “instruction.”
- When Paul refers to sound doctrine, what he means is healthy teaching – the kind of basic biblical teaching that gives rise to a healthy church, full of love for God and others.

1:8-11 Definitions: The Gospel

- **Jesus Christ** died on the cross as a voluntary sacrifice for your sins.
- He rose from the dead the third day.
- He offers you forgiveness and eternal life – if you will put your faith and trust in Him.
- **Have you done this?**

III. Sound doctrine encourages right behavior. 1:8-11

- The **Law** mostly helps us to know what kind of behavior to avoid.
- Just like our laws today, however, the Law of the Bible, provides us no power to obey it.
- The fact that we know the law does not automatically mean that we obey it.
- People freely disobey the law all the time.
  
- This is where the **Gospel** (or Good News) comes in.
- When we receive salvation from God through faith in Jesus Christ, God gives us new life through a *new birth or regeneration*.

- The Holy Spirit then empowers us to do God's will – to walk in obedience to God, which we could not do before.
- See **Titus 3:4-7**

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#### 1 Timothy 1:1-11          Conclusions:

- The purpose of the commandment is love.
- Jesus said that the whole Law could be summarized by loving God and loving others.
- This love comes from:
  - A pure heart
  - A good conscience
  - Sincere faith
- **A Pure Heart:** See **Matthew 5:8**
- A pure heart is completely devoted to God.
- It is free from the distorting influences of sin and the guilt that sin brings with it.
- Learning to do God's will by daily applying God's word will have a purifying effect on our heart.
- It will enable us to love God and others freely.
- **A Good Conscience:**
- Our conscience is a gift from God.
- It is a natural faculty we possess that helps us to determine right from wrong.
- We can develop it just like any other skill we possess through learning and practice.
- Or we can render it useless like the false teachers in **1 Timothy 4:1-2**.
- **Sincere Faith:**
- Faith can be merely a pretense. Both Jesus and Paul refer to hypocrites and hypocrisy in their day.
- A hypocrite is a stage actor, who plays a designated role – not his true character.
- Sincere faith ultimately leads to the genuine love that God produces in our hearts.
- The purpose of the commandment is **love**.
- God is love. (**1 John 4:8 & 16**)
- We were created in the image of God, but that image has been distorted by sin.
- Through Holy Spirit-empowered obedience to God's will, that image can be restored.
- If we are open to it, this will be the result of sound doctrine upon our lives.

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## **Scripture References:**

### **Matthew 1:21(NKJV)**

And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”

### **Matthew 22:35-40(NKJV)**

Then one of them, a lawyer, asked *Him a question*, testing Him, and saying, “Teacher, which *is* the great commandment in the law?”

Jesus said to him, “*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.*’

This is *the* first and great commandment.

And *the* second *is* like it: ‘*You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*’

On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

### **Titus 3:4-7(NKJV)**

But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

### **Matthew 5:8(NKJV)**

Blessed *are* the pure in heart, For they shall see God.

### **1 Timothy 4:1-2(NKJV)**

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,