

Recap of 2/4/18 (1 Timothy 1:12-17)

1. The Law of Moses was being misused by the false teachers in Ephesus, so Paul taught the proper use of the Law in verses 8-11.

-the purpose of the Law is to establish sinfulness and restrain sin

-the Law restrains sin but only the gospel transforms a life

-the Legalist wants to put transformed people back under the Law, an untenable thing

-Grace does not promote license and is no excuse for sin.

2. Paul is the prime example of the limitations of the Law (vv. 12-17). If anyone could have been saved by the Law, Paul would be that person, and yet he was lost and needed grace (Philippians 3:4-6). On the other hand, if Paul could be saved by grace and transformed by God—anybody can!! There is hope for every sinner.

3. The purpose of Christ's coming into the world was to save sinners, not to be a great moral teacher, or to show us the way to live (though He did those things).

4. The thought of Christ saving Paul, the "worst" of sinners, moved him to praise and worship.

5. "Remember how you felt the first time you fell in love? Remember how you wanted nothing else but to be with your sweetheart? Remember how you were willing to do anything—anything at all—for the sake of your beloved? That's a good if imperfect picture of the kind of passion with which we are to serve Christ. If you have 'forsaken your first love' (Revelation 2:4), ask the Lord to help you regain a deep passion for him. Our spiritual health is revealed by the things we get passionate about. What enabled Paul to maintain such spiritual fervor? He had been captured by the love of Christ. Jesus was real to Paul. He was not just a theological idea or a religious concept. Christ saved him and gave him a mission. Paul's life was consumed with the love of Jesus." (365 Life Lessons)