

April 11, 2021

**Morally Bankrupt**  
**1 Timothy 1:1-17**  
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Vol. 11 Num.15

## Using This Study

### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week will start a study in the book of 1 Timothy. 1 Timothy is a deeply personal letter written by the apostle Paul to his son in the faith, Timothy. Timothy had traveled with Paul at times and had learned to follow Christ through Paul's teaching and example. Paul left Timothy in Ephesus to lead the church in Paul's absence. Later Paul writes the letter, 1 Timothy, to give Timothy instruction on how to lead the church. Paul starts the letter emphasizing the teaching of God's redemptive plan. He then tells how the Law is necessary for those that have no morality. Paul is then quick to say that he is the worst of all sinners but God has given him grace. Join us this week as we talk about both our need for the boundaries of the Law and our desperate need for grace.

“Christ Jesus  
came into the  
world to save  
sinners”

1 Timothy 1:15

## 1 TIMOTHY 1:1-17 NET

### **Salutation**

1 From Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Savior and of Christ Jesus our hope, 2 to Timothy, my genuine child in the faith. Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord!

### **Timothy's Task in Ephesus**

3 As I urged you when I was leaving for Macedonia, stay on in Ephesus to instruct certain people not to spread false teachings, 4 nor to occupy themselves with myths and interminable genealogies. Such things promote useless speculations rather than God's redemptive plan that operates by faith. 5 But the aim of our instruction is love that comes from a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith. 6 Some have strayed from these and turned away to empty discussion. 7 They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not understand what they are saying or the things they insist on so confidently.

8 But we know that the law is good if someone uses it legitimately, 9 realizing that law is not intended for a righteous person, but for lawless and rebellious people, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, 10 sexually immoral people, practicing homosexuals, kidnappers, liars, perjurers – in fact, for any who live contrary to sound teaching. 11 This accords with the glorious gospel of the blessed God that was entrusted to me.

12 I am grateful to the one who has strengthened me, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he considered me faithful in putting me into ministry, 13 even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor, and an arrogant man. But I was treated with mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief, 14 and our Lord's grace was abundant, bringing faith and love in Christ Jesus. 15 This saying is trustworthy and deserves full acceptance: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" – and I am the worst of them! 16 But here is why I was treated with mercy: so that in me as the worst, Christ Jesus could demonstrate his utmost patience, as an example for those who are going to believe in him for eternal life. 17 Now to the eternal king, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever! Amen.

**o EXAMINE His Word (Observation)** (For personal preparation)

**What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.**

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. What other areas of Scripture are directly related to this passage that might help us understand this passage better?
7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

**2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation)** (For Community Group discussion)  
**What does God MEAN?**

8. How is Timothy Paul's child in the faith?

9. What is the aim of Paul's teaching?

10. When is the Law good?

11. How does Paul view himself? Consider verse 15 as well as verses 9-10.

12. Why did Jesus come into the world?

13. Why does Paul believe he was treated with grace?

③ **EMBRACE His Word (Application)** (For Community Group discussion)  
Why does this MATTER to me?

14. How is the Law a benefit to us today?

15. List some of the reasons it is important for us to remember that we are saved by grace not by keeping the Law.

16. How do we teach non-believers that the Law is important but that we are saved by grace through faith? What are some of the dangers in emphasizing either the Law or grace without the other?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

**Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...**

*Sermon Notes*