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| 1“Sin and the Glory of God”01/06/241 Timothy 1:1-20 Sermon OutlineINTRO: Contrasts are powerful  -Compliment each other Contrast: Diamonds-Beautiful and refracts light w/all its angles-I bought Heidi a diamond ring for our engagement because no other beautiful and precious What makes diamond “pop” even more: black backdrop Black backdrop: your sin Diamond: God’s glory Only those two together: more brilliant/radiance  | 2MAIN POINT: Paul is going to show the wickedness of sin and wickedness of false teaching as the backdrop for the diamond of God so that you will see the glory of God and glory of the gospelBODY: Paul starts off 1 Timothy typical greeting Sender, recipient, greeting/blessing *“Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.”*As mentioned last week: Church in Ephesus had problems: false teachers/teaching -Gospel issueSo Paul addresses church as “apostle” of Jesus Christ  |
| 3Not only one who is sent, but one who is personally commissioned by Jesus Himself Timothy to straighten out false teaching in church because…it is according to the : *“commandment of God our Savior, and of Christ Jesus, our hope.”*Timothy and everyone is to obey everything in this letter because it is directly commanded by Jesus Recipient: Addresses Timothy as “genuine child in the faith” = public + intimate natureNotice V. 2 God as Savior + God as Father Christ Jesus as Hope + Christ Jesus as your Lord Salvation is not only an objective truth, but personal relationship with this objective truth  | 4V. 3 = right to the issue = false teaching Paul previously exhorted Timothy (sometime during book of Acts) to command certain ones not to teach this false teaching false teaching = lit. “different doctrine/teaching” Timothy also not to pay attention to “myths and endless genealogies”We don’t know exact nature of this But likely Jewish in nature = genealogies = Jewish records of genealogies + matters related to the Law Whatever it was = speculation = pushes people away from confidence in the gospel Rather, Timothy to push forward plan of salvation for gospel to spread to ends of earth as well as build saints up To further plan of saving sinners is to do it by faith  |
| 5What is faith: Heb. 11:1 *“Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”*Trusting in the promises of God that you know are absolutely trueBut false teachers created speculation because they lacked the conviction of those unseen realities. The best they can do is speculate. But instead the goal of Timothy and the like is V. 5 *“love from a pure heart, a good conscience, and a unhypocritical faith”* This love comes from three sources/fruit of gospel 1st Source: A pure heart Prov. 4:23 *“out of the heart flow the springs of life.”* | 6“the heart is the factory of the soul that generates all desires, thought, emotion and action.” Condition of heart = reflected in action False teachers = self-centered, full of pride, exalting self Church today is sadly rampant with so many pastors like these who do not love from a pure heart Heart is divided with the worldOut their for gain like 2 Cor. 2:17 *“peddlers of God’s Word.”*You can only have pure heart if your heart is purified by Word of God Ps. 119 *“how shall a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to your word.”* |
| 7Same ch. In Ps. 119 *“I have hidden your word in my heart so that I may not sin against you!”*Hide God’s word in your heart only possible if “regenerated” by work of Holy Spirit Born Again: Stone-cold heart becomes living, beating heart alive to God in salvation Ezekiel Second source: Good Conscience Scriptures emphasize good conscience because our conscience get be seared by continual sinning-Numb-hardened -deadened Paul made it goal or aim in life to have pure and clean conscience before God and before men Lived in such a way that conscience did not accuse him of anything  | 8When Paul on trial both in Jewish and Gentil court Acts 23 + 24 respectively brought his conscience as witness that He was doing nothing wrong to merit what he was going through Yes he sinned greatly against Jesus when he was persecuting believers but….Jesus cleansed him 1 Cor. 6 List of sinners who cannot inherit kingdom *the sexually immoral, idolaters, adulterers, effeminate, homosexuals, thieves, greedy, drunkards, revilers, swindlers*But V. 11 *“such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Chirst and in the Spirit of our God.”* |
| 9With his conscience being washed, Paul can be free to live fully in God’s love without an accusing conscience Do you have a good conscience that enabled you to love others fully? 3rd Source: Unhypocritical Faith Genuine faith not for show Often people say “I don’t go to church because Christians are hypocrites” It’s ultimately excuse stemming from self-righteousness and pride because they are not worthy to be in your holy presence They are right to an extent: Sadly Christians do play the hypocrite and act sinfully But that’s precisely the point: Christians are still sinners!  | 10*“Lord I believe, help my unbelief!”* We all lack faith and need to increase in our faith everydayIt’s not just believing more, but applying what we believe in our lives James = demonstration of genuine faith through works Profession of faith without living it is like demon who believes that God is one Faith is channel by which we receive the love of God express that love to othersGal. 5:6 *“For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything, but faith working through love.”*True faith is never alone. It appropriates gospel in every-day living  |
| 11Your theology may be correct, but are you demonstrating that sound theology by the way you live? Does your life demonstrate the genuineness of your faith?But Paul says V. 6 false teachers straying from these things: *“turned aside to fruitless discussion, wanting to be teachers of the Law, even though they do not understand what they are saying or the matters about which they make confident assertions.”*Again we don’t know what it was but we know = abusing/misinterpreting Law of Moses V. 8 Correct use of Law First: Law is good = Rom. 7:12 Law is *“holy, righteous, and good”* | 12Law not made for righteous person = not those who think they are righteous already but for sinners (lawless and rebellious, ungodly and sinners). Then Paul goes into paraphrase of some of the Ten Commandments But He reveals piercing nature of commandments: Not only father and mother killers but all murders Not only sexually immoral but homosexuality Not only liars but perjurers Whatever else is contrary to “sound teaching” Notice it doesn’t say “sound living” = Sound doctrine + sound living are intertwinedYou live according to what you believe about God what you believe about the Word of God  |
| 13V. 11 “sound teaching” *“according to gospel of glory of blessed God, which I have been entrusted”*Everything goes back to = gospel because sin goes against gospel Paul does not end it there In talking about gospel and sin-exposing Law of God, he includes himself in itThe apostle of Jesus Christ not chosen as apostle because anything good in him, rather he like any other sinner recipient of pure mercy. VV. 12-16 Paul gives praise and thanks to Jesus because He regarded Paul as faithful to use in service, not because he was righteous V. 13 *“even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief.”* | 14Remember Paul before he became Christian? Feared by believers as fiercest persecutor of Christians Approved Stephen’s stoning Acts 7 Went house to house and dragged them out and put them in jail No different than Hamas/ISIS Violent man, full of hatred = thought he was pleasing God Acts 9:26 *“they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple.”*When Christ appeared to him in blindingly blazing light, Jesus could have incinerated him to ashes Yet… |
| 15Jesus had other plans for Paul. Did not count Paul’s sins against him V. 15 1st out of 5 “Trustworthy” sayings in pastorals2 other times in 1 Timothy fourth in Titus fifth 2 Timothy *“Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am the foremost.”*Jesus didn’t come into the world to condemn the world, because condemned already (as John says) but to save it. And Paul is foremost of sinners, some trans. “chief of sinners” Ephesians 3:8 “least of all the apostles” If requirement, Paul would be least qualified  | 16Yet Paul’s past life not for nothing God’s perfect wisdom and sovereignty God did not allow Paul’s life to go to waste He showed Paul mercy: lit. “mercified” so that demonstrate “perfect patience” for those who would believe on Him for eternal life Rom. 5:20 *“where sin increased, grace abounded all the more”*Like back in Gen. 15(God explaining future of Abraham and nation of Israel) Israel would not return until “iniquities of the Amorites” is complete Meaning: God ordaining enough time for Amorites to sin so much that when God comes in judgment through His people for promised land, He would completely justified as righteous judge  |
| 17Similar way, God ordained Paul’s life to go to the bottom of depravity so that grace and mercy would abound to the fullest. Paul’s black backdrop in the light of God’s diamond of grace Point: If God can save hopelessly evil man like Paul, he can save anyone, he can save you. It doesn’t matter how far gone you have gone in sin. It’s never too late while you are living When you realize the amazing grace and mercy of God in light of your “hell”-deserving sins, you should erupt in praise in v. 17 *“to the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen!”* Literally Jesus = king of eternities Cannot die Cannot be seenOnly one God who rules and reigns = He is transcendant | 18Yet, this transcendent God = unfathomable, uncontainable, invisible came into this world to save you from your sins When you realize that you are dead in your sins and that God had to make you alive in Christ Jesus impossible for you to claim any ounce of glory or honor for your salvation All honor and glory goes to King of eternities Is. 42:8 *“I am Yahweh, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, Nor My praise to graven images.”*What Paul has is precious. Greatest privilege in world as unworthy vessel to carry gospel of J.C. V. 18 Command is entrusted from Paul to Timothy Not for Paul to hoard, not for him to keep to himself  |
| 19And similarly Timothy is to carry on this entrustment and *“fight the good fight.”*Meaning: Keeping the faith Keeping good conscience: live in such a way that conscience does not accuse you of sin or impurity We are in a spiritual war where souls are at stake and God’s glory is at stake Eph. 6:12 *“our struggle is not in flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.”*Don’t be like these false teachers who have rejected this and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith Veered off course from gospel in blackness of night and waves of sin and depravity have overtaken them V. 20 Paul personally names them and calls them out  | 20Hymenaeus and Alexander Paul is doing what we will see in 1 Timothy 5:20 *“Those who continue in sin, reprove in the presence of all, so that the rest also will be fearful.”*Paul handed these men over to Satan to be taught not to blaspheme Confronting sin means confronting the sinner Matthew 18 explain It’s not easy, but it’s the biblical thing to do It involves naming names because we are God’s household. We are treat one another like familyBut these have gone to last step in church discipline No purifying influence, cut off from fellowship, cut off from means of grace in the church  |
| 21Sometimes, people will never learn the sinfulness of their sin until they hit rock bottom in their lives Similarly 1 Cor. 5: *“I have delivered him over to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.”* Goal in church discipline is restoration, not condemnationSin is serious, sin is deadly, sin not to be trifled with Sin always crouching at your door waiting to pounce on you every chance you let itLike Satan wanted to do with Peter, sin is demanding to sift you like wheat You find out how exceedingly sinful you are when you look at the perfect Law of God and how you have broken every one of them Why?  | 22James 2:10 *“whoever keeps the whole law and stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all”* Gal. 5:3 similarly: if you try to follow one part of the Law, you are obligated to keep the whole LawLaw not designed to save you Law designed to show your condemnation in sin and make you flee to Christ You know what fundamental root issue of false teachers were? They did not believe they were sinners who have failed all aspects of the Law They were blind to fact that they were sinners deserving of judgment They thought they were righteous |
| 23So as result if you don’t see that you are first a sinner, then Christ did not die for you Christ was not raised for you Bad news must come first before good news If you don’t see yourself as sinner, then what do you need to be saved from? But Paul not content to leave you in self-righteous state because concerned for glory of God God not glorified by self-righteous, prideful, false teachers with their false teachers Not glorified by wrong theology on gospel and even wrong theology “secondary issues” You are like a prism that refract glorious light of God in your life “Black Smudges” | 24And Christian your one business in life is to live and die for the glory of God God’s glory is your goodGod’s glory is your worship You love God more than anything right? Men will you guard and protect your wife? Yes! Why? Because you love her the most in life Is your love for greater than your spouse? Yes! It should be! How much more should you guard and protect God’s glory from things that diminish His glory? Whether unsound living or unsound doctrine! Paul writes this inspired Scripture get you Christina to give no glory to yourself and God all the glory for grace and mercy  |
| 25But also writes this for those who haven’t bowed the knee to the King For those of you who believe you are righteous in your good works before God You cannot give God glory because you are glorying in yourself When Jesus comes again in clouds in blazing glory and righteousness, He will destroy all those who dare take His place as preeminent in life There can only be on eking There can only be one God One truth One kingdom One Lord over all  | 26All other pretenders to the throne will be executed in the lake of fire that burns with brimstone forever The gospel is not only a message but a command as Paul previously said to Timothy “this *command* I entrust to you”It is a command to repent from your sins and trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior by faith alone Will you follow the light of the gospel that will lead you to safety? Or will you ignore it and become shipwrecked forever in the blackness of the sea? Do you recognize that you are shipwrecked in your sins and only one captain can save you? The captain and author of salvation, Christ Jesus the Lord. Don’t let your sin shipwreck you to hell. Let’s pray  |