

THE PASTORAL EPISTLES

I Timothy 1:3-11 – “3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain people not to teach false doctrines any longer 4 or to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. Such things promote controversial speculations rather than advancing God’s work—which is by faith. 5 The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. 6 Some have departed from these and have turned to meaningless talk. 7 They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm.

8 We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. 9 We also know that the law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, 10 for the sexually immoral, for those practicing homosexuality, for slave traders and liars and perjurers and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine 11 that conforms to the gospel concerning the glory of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me.”

PART I

Paul left Timothy in Ephesus for a reason. What was Timothy’s purpose in staying?
_____ certain people.

These people were involved in two activities that needed correcting. What were they?
Teaching false _____

Devoting themselves to _____ and endless _____

*** Theological point – When it comes to interpreting the Bible, we do it literally.**

Involvement in these two activities has what two results?

Controversial _____

Failing to advance God’s _____

Timothy is to command those in error to correct their activity with the goal being that they will *love*.

I Cor. 13:13 – Love is greater than _____ and _____.

John 15:13 – Love causes you to sacrifice yourself for _____.

Matt. 22:37-40 – Love is at the heart of the whole _____.

John 4:7-8 – Love is of _____.

Love is the result of three characteristics:

A pure _____

A good _____

A sincere _____

*** Theological point – These three characteristics are an effect of the gospel.**

These characteristics have been abandoned by the false teachers, and have been replaced with what activity?

Meaningless _____

The false teachers want to teach the law, but what is the problem?

They don't _____ the material they are trying to teach

PART II

Introductory questions 1. What is legalism? How does it usually surface in a church? Do you tend to be legalistic? How can legalism affect our outreach efforts?

Introductory questions 2. Should we even have a law? What is the purpose of the O.T. law? How does it fit in your life?

The material the false teachers were using was not the problem. Paul says that the law is not to “be laid down or given” to the righteous, but is to be given to:

Lawbreakers and _____

Ungodly and _____

Unholy and _____

Those who kill their _____ or _____

Murderers

Sexually _____

Those practicing _____

Slave traders and liars and _____

Whatever else is contrary to sound _____...

The gospel is the simple standard of morality, but Paul seems to push that standard to its highest by referencing something substantial to the gospel. What is that thing?

The _____ of the blessed God

*** Theological point – Every part of our lives should be impacted by the gospel. A good gauge for personal activity is to ask, “Did Jesus, my Savior, tragically suffer for what I am doing, thinking, saying, or am about to do, think, or say?”**