

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for December 13-14, 2003

"The Purpose of the Law"

1 Timothy 1:8-11

1. The nature of the Law (1:8)

a. The Law is good (1:8)

- The Law is from God (Exodus 20:1; James 1:17)
- The Law is holy (Romans 7:12)
- The Law is profitable (2 Timothy 3:16).
- The Law is an example (1 Corinthians 10:11; Romans 15:4).
- The Law is a tutor (Galatians 3:23-25).

b. The Law must be used lawfully

- The Law is good if it is used as God intended it (cf. Acts 15).

2. The role of the Law (1:9-10)

The Law is for the unrighteous, not the righteous:

- Christ is the end of the Law to everyone who believes (Romans 10:4).
- Paul specifically taught that he was not under the Law (1 Corinthians 9:19-23).
- Christians have been released from the Mosaic Law because they have died to the Law (Romans 7:1-6).
- Christians are not under the Mosaic Law because of the New Covenant (2 Corinthians 3:5-11).

The Law includes the Ten Commandments:

- First couplet: The lawless are rebellious; those who are without the Law act in rebellion.
- Second couplet: The ungodly are sinners; those who are ungodly act in sinfulness.
- Third couplet: The unholy are profane; the unholy act as if God was meaningless.

These three couplets address the sins from the first part of the Ten Commandments, which are directly against God.

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

The rest of this list of sins follows the second part of the Ten Commandments, which are sins against mankind.

- Killing (lit. "Smiting") their fathers or mothers.
- "Murderers."
- "Immoral men" and "homosexuals."
- "Kidnappers" refers to stealing.
- "Liars" and "perjurers."
- "Whatever else is contrary to the teaching" covers every other sin.

3. The reason for the Law (1:11)

The Law is useful to bring the gospel to the unrighteous.

Even those who are without the Law have a sense of the Law, called their conscience (Romans 2:14-15).

The gospel can build upon this innate sense of guilt to point people to the Forgiver.

The gospel of Christ has been entrusted to us (2 Corinthians 5:18).