

December 10, 2023
Dr. Jay Robertson

Series: "Foundations of Christian Ministry"
Sermon: "A Testimony of God's Grace and Mercy" Part 1
Scripture: 1 Timothy 1:12-17
Memory Verse: 1 Timothy 1:15

Big Idea: Christian, we should be thankful for God's grace, God's gospel, and God's mercy.

I. Be Thankful for God's Grace (1:12-14)

- A. Paul was "grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord"—This was an expression of worship directed explicitly to Christ.
- B. Christ had strengthened him to serve in the sense that He gave him gifts and ability to serve when He had saved him on the road to Damascus.
- C. "Because He regarded me faithful, putting me into service"—Paul had NOT proved himself faithful. In entrusting the gospel to Paul, Christ made him faithful.
- D. "Blasphemer"—slanders or speaks evil; shows disrespect.
- E. "Persecutor"—harasses and mistreats others.
- F. "Violent aggressor"—uses physical violence.
- G. Paul wrote to encourage Timothy and the church throughout the ages. The Christ who saves you is the Christ who strengthens you to do what He calls you to do.
- H. "Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief"—Paul needed mercy and grace because, as a sinner, he was saturated with ignorance and unbelief.
- I. Paul was guilty. God holds every sinner accountable.
- J. "Grace is amazing because it saves wretches, not because it puts a final polish on nice people....You cannot be saved if you are not lost....You cannot be freed unless you are enslaved" (Brian Abel Ragen)."
- K. Grace is the unmerited, undeserved favor or blessing of God. Paul received a super abundant supply of grace.
- L. "Grace Greater Than Our Sin"
Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,
Yonder on Calvary's mount out poured,
There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.
- Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that is greater than all our sin.
- M. The blasphemer, persecutor, and violent aggressor became the man who loved Jesus and His people.
- N. Faith and love are gifts from God. (Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 5:5)

Conclusion

- A. Are you thankful for God's grace?
- B. 1 Timothy 1:15.
- C. Have you been convicted of your sin?
- D. Do you understand what God has done in Christ to save sinners?
- E. Have you ever repented of your sins? Have you trusted in Christ as your Lord, Savior, and King?
- F. The Gospel Definition