

Ministry of The Holy Spirit Paul's Son in the Faith is Sent to Ephesus 1 Timothy 1

Last time...in closing the Epistle to the Romans,

- salutations/greetings to like-minded believers in Rome with whom Paul has relationships
- a plea to protect the unity in the faith and like-mindedness from those and that which would divide
- praise to the God of peace, the only wise God, for the revelation of the mystery of His Plan of Redemption – the Gospel of Christ, the Gospel of Grace

As “repeated” to the Epistle to the Ephesians (Eph 3:1-12), recorded in Rome about 5 years after the Epistle to the Romans was recorded

This time...Paul has a ministry assignment for Timothy while he escorts the love offering of the Gentile churches in Macedonia and Achaia to the church in Jerusalem

Let's get our bearing in time as the Gospel goes to the uttermost parts of the earth via Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles

[Map 1st Missionary Journey]

Acts 12:25 – 13:1-4

Acts 13:13

Acts 13:14-52

Acts 14:1-5

Acts 14:6-19

Acts 14:20-23

Acts 14:24-28

beginning

John Mark does not “stay the course”

Antioch in Pisidia, ending in persecution

Iconium, ending in persecution

Lystra, ending in persecution and stoning

Derbe, confirming souls, ordaining elders (order)

end, mission report to the church at Antioch

Acts 15:1-35

1st Church Council: Gentiles and the Gospel (grace vs works)

[Map 2nd Missionary Journey]

Acts 15:36-41

Acts 16:1-3

Acts 16:6-8

Acts 16:9-40

Acts 17:1-9

Acts 17:10-15

Acts 17:16-34

Acts 18:1-17

Acts 18:18-22

Lord's division to multiply (vs devil's to destroy)

Timothy comes alongside

Mission Trip Leader: the Holy Spirit

vision of man from Macedonia (Philippian jailer)

Philippi: fruit and persecution

Thessalonica, ending in persecution

Berea, ending in persecution (Timothy stayed)

Athens (Timothy rejoins)

Corinth for 8 months, Priscilla/Aquila

While in Corinth, wrote **1 Thes** and **2 Thes**

Ephesus, on his way to Jerusalem then Antioch

[Map 3rd Missionary Journey]

Acts 18:23 – 19:20

Strengthening the churches on his return to Ephesus
Stayed for 2 years, during which time he wrote

Galatians and 1 Corinthians

Acts 19:21-22

Timothy/Erastus sent ahead to Macedonia, Achaia
confusion and persecution in Ephesus

Acts 19:23-41

Paul to Macedonia and Achaia/Corinth for 3 mos,
catching up with Timothy and Erastus

Acts 20:1-3a

While in Corinth, wrote Epistle to the **Romans**

Paul departed Corinth, headed to Jerusalem with
companions, including reps from the
churches giving the love offering

Acts 20:3b-6

He intended to go by sea but liars-in-wait “forced”
the land route thru Macedonia to Philippi
then to Troas

At this point, perhaps, Paul sends Timothy to Ephesus,
with a purpose, communicated in a letter...1 Timothy

Note: I cannot be dogmatic about NT timing, it is tricky and vague
The NT is not a diary, the Holy Spirit does not record everything
e.g. the PS on 1 Timothy...no record of when that was

But: There is no reference in NT of Timothy catching up to Paul in
Jerusalem or Caesarea or on his journey to Rome
(Acts 20-28)

There are references of Timothy with Paul in Rome, while under
arrest (Phil 1:1 and Col 1:1)

So: This is how I have prayerfully settled on the flow of events

We will leave Paul, still on his 3rd Missionary Journey, in Troas for the time being
We will return to Paul’s ministry in Troas after 1 Timothy

1 Timothy – a “pastoral letter” of the Apostle Paul i.e. written to a pastor rather than a church...
Timothy

2 Tim 1:5 When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee,
which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice;
and I am persuaded that in thee also.

2 Tim 3:14-15 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast
been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them*; And
that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are
able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in
Christ Jesus.

Timothy was sent by Paul to pastor/serve the church/flock at Ephesus,

- in whom Paul has so much “invested”
- who live in the midst of virulent paganism

And with his son in the faith Paul sent a letter of

- pastoral and doctrinal counsel
- encouragement
- establishing order in the church
- warnings in perilous times
- keeping/protecting the unity and the purity of the faith

A letter that I, as one called into the ministry, take very seriously

A very timely letter for the Church in 2022!

Paul’s “written” ministry...recording the very words of God...is growing

This letter builds on, draws on, is in beautiful harmony with, the previous letters

1 Thes and 2 Thes

Galatians

1 Corinthians

Romans

which is more clearly seen when we study them chronologically

1 Timothy 1

v1-2 From: Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ

To: Timothy, Paul’s son in the faith

Paul and Timothy have a very special and close, even a familial, relationship

Phil 2:22 ye know the proof of him, that, as a son with the father, he hath served with me in the gospel.

So why such a “formal” introduction?

The authority that Paul has been given lends weight to the counsel to be shared

Paul’s authority is God-given

Gal 1:1 Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)

1 Cor 1:1 Paul, called *to be* an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God

Rom 1:1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God,

1 Tim 1:1 by the commandment/decree of God and Lord Jesus Christ

The words he is “writing” are God’s words to Timothy

2 Tim 3:16 All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness

Timothy is greeted with

1. Grace common to all Epistles, so richly revealed in Romans
2. Mercy compassion, only extended to pastors in the 3 pastoral epistles
3. Peace common to all Epistles, a quietness so VERY important

Throughout the Epistles is a plea to protect the unity in the faith and like-mindedness from those and that which would divide to destroy

Phil 1:27b stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel

Phil 2:1-2 If *there be* therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind (sound mind, the mind of Christ)

The greeting of grace, mercy, and peace is from

1. God
 - our Savior – Who has saved us, we are saved by none other than God!
 - our Father – He who has adopted us into His Family
2. Lord Jesus Christ
 - our hope – of resurrection from the dead, having broken our bondage to death (Heb 2:14-15), the wages of our sin
 - 2 Thes 2:16 our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given *us* everlasting consolation and good hope through grace
 - Gal 1:4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father
 - our Lord – Master, we being purchased bondservants (1 Cor 6:19-20)

v3-4 (My opinion, my prayerful labor in the Word for your consideration)
After completing the Epistle to the Romans,
when Paul departed from Corinth, on the land route taking him north thru Macedonia,
on his journey to Jerusalem, during which time
he besought/desired/called Timothy to go and remain in Ephesus rather than to
accompany him to Jerusalem with the others travelling with him (Acts 20:4)

He commissioned Timothy, whom he trusts, to

1. charge/declare to some...in Ephesus...that they teach no other doctrine
 - teach only the Word of God, which alone is pure doctrine
 - Prov 30:5 Every word of God *is* pure: he *is* a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

- “sound doctrine”, which appears only in the 3 pastoral epistles
Rom 15:4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.
2. give no heed to, give no regard to
- fables...fiction from the boundless imagination of men
 - endless genealogies...focus on the races of man-kind rather than the one-ness of Jesus-kind
Gal 3:28 (baptized in Christ are) neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.
- that serve to raise doubts and disputes (divisions) rather than producing edification (in unity) of the faithful
- 1 Cor 14:3 But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men *to* edification, and exhortation, and comfort.

From the Apostle of Jesus Christ to a pastor...so I take this very seriously and personally

- Teach sound doctrine...the entire counsel of God, verse-by-verse
- Teach only sound doctrine...the very inspired/inerrant/infalible words of God
 - not just topics in the Bible (thereby easily losing valuable Context)
 - not any other books
- Steer clear of unsound doctrine, the Word is my “fact checker”! (Acts 17:11)
 - doctrines of men...Replacement Theology, No Hell, etc winds
Eph 4:14 That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive
 - traditions of men...that make the Word of God of none effect
 - philosophies of men...fables like the Woke philosophy of confused and deceitful secular humanism
Eccl 10:12b-13 the lips of a fool will swallow up himself. The beginning of the words of his mouth *is* foolishness: and the end of his talk *is* mischievous madness.
 - religions of men...earning salvation by works, self-righteousness
 - false gospels...Social, Prosperity, Cross-less Christianity, Love
Gal 1:6-9

ALL of which have weaseled their way into the Church

I am diligently on guard because I want no part of not being a faithful steward of the mysteries of God (1 Cor 4:1-2)

James 3:1 My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation. (Luke 12:48b)

Rev 3:16 *So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.*

v5 But the end/conclusion/Finish Line of the sound doctrine of God's Word is agape...Rom 13:10...out of

- a pure heart...Matt 5:8

Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin...Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow...Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me...The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. (Ps 51:1-2, ,7,10, 17)

Is 57:15 For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name *is* Holy; I dwell in the high and holy *place*, with him also *that is* of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

- a good conscience...a Godly morality
God's view of right vs wrong, good vs evil, clean vs unclean
- faith unfeigned...sincere, without hypocrisy

v6-7 From which some...in Ephesus...have

- swerved/deviated and turned aside/rejected sound doctrine (The Word of God) in favor of vain jangling/babble
- desired to be teachers...but they do not understand, are not spiritually discerned about (John 14:26, John 16:13, 1 Cor 2:10-14)
 - what they say
 - of what and whom they affirm/maintain to be true

They "have no business" being teachers,

- not having been given the gift of teaching (Rom 12:7)
- Titus 1:10-11 For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision: Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.
(or perhaps aspirations of megachurch-dom)

They interpret the Word of God themselves, for their own purposes, rather than asking the Author what He means (Scripture interprets Scripture, not man)

So they are ashamed workmen, not rightly dividing the Word of Truth
(2 Tim 2:15)

Jesus would call them wolves in sheep's clothing

v8-10 From an Apostle to a trustworthy pastor:

We know the Law...the Word of God, sound doctrine...is good

Rom 3:19-20 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin.

Rom 7:12, 14 Wherefore the law *is* holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good...For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

Gal 3:21-29 *Is* the law then against the promises of God? God forbid:... the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe...Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster *to bring us* unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith...For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

IF a person uses/handles it lawfully/legitimately...rightly divides it

- Context, context, context
- Scripture interpreting Scripture
- The entire counsel of God

The Law...God's system of justice whereby Lawbreakers are declared guilty... is not appointed for the righteous/innocent...

Gen 15:6, Hab 2:4 (quoted by Paul in Gal 3:11 and Rom 1:17)

But it is appointed for, aimed at, to benefit by bringing to repentance the

- lawless...unrestrained, disorderly
- disobedient...in insubordination against their Authority (Ezk 18:4)
- ungodly...devil-ish, given over to the lusts of the flesh
- sinners...children of the flesh and not children of the Spirit (Rom 3:10, 23)
- unholy...defiled
- profane...wicked
- murders of fathers
- murders of mothers
- manslayers...murderers
- whoremongers...prostitutes, sexual sin, "sex addicts"
- them that defile themselves with mankind..."sodomites"

Nothing new under the sun when it comes to sexual sin

"Homosexuality" (softened word created by man) plagued the Canaanites, the Jews, the Greeks, the Romans

Further "softened" in the world today by saying "gay" and then stealing God's rainbow to shamelessly proclaim "Pride"

God, who says "I am the Lord, I change not", has NEVER accepted this human behavior, He has ALWAYS been offended by it

He will give a reprobate/worthless mind to those who refuse to repent of it (Rom 1:24-28)

But...today parts of the Church have embraced liberal humanistic social issues rather than the unchanging spiritual issues of God's Word and thus, have embraced this sin against God

Denominations are splitting over it

Those trapped in this lust are being told that God made them that way and so God is Ok with them and their behavior...

the Church giving this sin a "stamp of approval"

The Woke/lukewarm church is worldly, a reflection of the world, and not spiritual, a reflection of Jesus Christ

- menstealers...kidnappers, human traffickers, sex traffickers
- liars
- perjured persons
- any other thing contrary to "sound doctrine"...the Word of God

Regarding all those above:

1. The Word of God declares them guilty, it does NOT justify/excuse them
2. Condemnation and judgment are not given to the followers of Jesus Christ to dispense to sinners, love and grace are given to us to lavishly dispense!

Is it loving to lovingly tell someone who is opposing themselves (by not believing God and repenting of their sin) the true Gospel, the Gospel of Christ and the Gospel of Grace... even if it offends them?

Is it loving to NOT tell them so they are not offended?

v11 The true Gospel of God

1 Cor 15:3-4

Rom 1:16

was committed/entrusted to Paul, who CLEARLY took it uncompromisingly to heart!

1 Cor 2:1-2 And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

v12-16 Reminding his son in the faith, and recorded for our edification, is an abbreviated version of Paul's personal testimony, comprised of:

1. Thank you Jesus! (v11-12)
 - has enabled/empowered (with God the Holy Spirit) me
 - counted/considered me to be trustworthy
 - gave me something to do for Him
2. What I brought to the table (v13, keep it brief)
 - blasphemer...railed against God
 - persecutor...judge, jury, executioner
 - John 16:1-3 kill you thinking they are doing God's service
 - Acts 8:1-4 made havoc of the church
 - Acts 9:1-2 breathing out threatenings and slaughter
 - injurious...mistreated God's people, and God Himself (Acts 9:4)
 - ignorance/unbelief
3. What Jesus gave me in exchange (v14)
 - mercy
 - an exceedingly abundant dose of
 - grace...Rom 5:20
 - faith...the faith of Jesus Christ (Gal 2:16, 20; Rom 3:22)
 - love...1 Cor 13:4-8a
4. Believe this, it is absolutely trustworthy and worthy of all acceptance (v15-16)
 - Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners...from eternal death
 - I am the worst of the lot of man-kind
(but 2 Cor 5:17, 21...made Jesus-kind, PTL!)
 - Jesus did for me and gave to me so you would also believe on Him and be saved to eternal life!

v17 Paul erupts with praise!
ala Rom 16:25-27

v18-19a Therefore, this charge/mandate/command...
what is written thus far, as well as what is to follow in this letter...
is committed to Timothy as it was committed to Paul (v11-12)
according to the prophecies (1 Cor 12:10) previously given to Timothy,
unrecorded regarding him and his ministry to the Lord,
so that he will "roll up his sleeves and get to work", waging a good spiritual warfare

- Light on darkness
- Life on death
- Salvation by grace on salvation by works

holding firmly and uncompromisingly to the faith and a good conscience
(Godly morality, no system of man's morality)

v19b-20 Which some...in Ephesus
have rejected and as a result of v4, v6-7 shipwrecked the faith of others
(categorically NOT the Law of Love, the Royal Law, v5)

Called out by name are

- Hymenaeus
2 Tim 2:16-18
- Alexander
2 Tim 4:14-15

whom Paul surrendered to Satan (ala 1 Cor 5) so they would learn what he learned –
to not blaspheme the holy, jealous, Living God and might also obtain

- mercy
- grace
- faith
- love

Application/Exhortation

A timely letter to the Church in 2022 – pastors and those who follow the pastors

Matt 7:13-15

Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves

John 10:1-5

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.

The Church/Bride/Body...followers of Jesus Christ and the children of God...is to walk/live as instructed by the Holy Spirit

Gal 5:16 – in the Spirit, and not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

Rom 6:4 – in the newness of life, resurrected life, Jesus' life

Rom 8:1 – not after the flesh but after the Spirit

Rom 13:13 – honestly, not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

Eph 4:1-3 worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called
Eph 4:17-20 not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind
Eph 5:2-4 in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and
 a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.
Eph 5:8-12 as children of light:
Eph 5:15-17 circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise

So that Eph 6:10-13 we can stand

Because 1 Peter 4:17

For the time *is come* that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if *it* first *begin* at us, what shall the end *be* of them that obey not the gospel of God?

Here in 2022, the time is short, the fashion of this world is passing away (1 Cor 7:29a, 31b)
As always...2 Cor 13:5a

Am I, is the Church waging a good spiritual warfare?

- Light on darkness
- Life on death
- Salvation by grace on salvation by works

Am I, is the Church walking as instructed in the Epistle to the Ephesians?

Am I, is the Church

Phil 2:14-16a Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life;

Or have I, has the Church turned from the Word of God and embraced the world?

Do I, does the Church need to repent?

I think the Church has lost its focus...just as Jesus so prophesied in Rev 2-3
and in 1 Tim 1:3-4

- teaching unsound doctrine
- giving regard to
 - fables...fiction from the imagination of men
 - endless genealogies...focus on the races of man-kind rather than the one-ness of Jesus-kind

Pray for the gift of repentance to the acknowledging of the truth (2 Tim 2:25)