

*Edgemont Bible Church*  
*Pastor Al Osden*  
*1 Timothy 1:12-17*

June 11, 2017

Intro:

III. Personal Testimony of Saving Grace

A. The Source of Grace - vs 12

1. Grace - God's loving forgiveness whereby
  - a. He grants exemption from judgment
  - b. The Promise of temporal and eternal blessings
  - c. to guilty and condemned sinners freely
  - d. without any worthiness on their part
  - e. based on nothing they have done or failed to do
2. Thanks directed to the source of grace
  - a. Christ Jesus our Lord - vs 14; Jo 1:17
  - b. Word order emphasizes Paul's gratitude - lit - "Grateful am I"
  - c. our - includes Timothy
    - i. Paul aware of the work of Grace in his own life - - Ro 3:24  
- 1Co 15:9-10 For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.  
- Eph 3:8 To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,
    - ii. Four aspects of God's Grace for which to be thankful
      - election grace
        - chosen for salvation - Acts 22:14; Eph 1:4; Tit 2:11
        - chosen for apostleship - Acts 26:16; Ro 1:5
      - enabling grace - who has enabled me
        - to live out that salvation to which he was elected - 2 Co 9:8
        - to do all things - Phil 4:13
        - when he was in Prison deserted by all his friends—2 Tim 4:16 awaiting martyrdom - 2 Tim 4:17
      - entrusting grace - because He counted me faithful
        - 1Co 7:25b yet I give judgment as one whom the Lord in His mercy has made trustworthy.
        - 1Co 4:1-2 Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.
      - employing grace - putting me into the ministry
        - **diakonia** - lowly humble service
        - by using this term, Paul is not bragging

B. The Need for Grace - vs 13a

1. although I was formerly – Salvation changes a man
2. a blasphemer
  - a. **blasphemos** – one who slanders God or speaks overtly evil of Him.

- b. In his testimony to King Agrippa (Acts 26:11), compelled others to blaspheme.
  - c. His attack was against Christ - Ac 9:4-55; 22:7-8; 26:14-15
  - d. Broke the first half of the 10 Commandments
3. a persecutor,
- a. Broke the second half of the 10 Commandments
  - b. Acts 8:3; 9:1 speak of the havoc he raised against the Church
  - c. Not only did he approve of Stephen's death Acts 8:1, but many others as well Acts 26:10.
4. an insolent man or violent aggressor
- a. **hubristes** - no normal concern for human kindness, a maltreater:-- despiteful, injurious, looking to humiliate the person, a bully.
  - b. listed in Ro 1:30
  - c. Used to describe the behavior toward Christ in Lk 18:32
  - d. reason for Ananias and the disciple's slow acceptance of him - Acts 9:13,26
- C. The Power of Grace - vs 13b
1. when the need for grace is great, the power of grace is greater – Ro 5:20
  2. but I obtained mercy
    - a. **eleethen** - to compassionate (by word or deed, specially, by divine grace):-- have compassion (pity on), have (obtain, receive, shew) mercy (on).
    - b. Aorist form meaning "I was Mercied"
  3. because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.
    - a. Though Paul was a vile sinner
      - i. he had not reached the point of the Pharisees who knew Christ' teaching and power, but rejected Him anyway
      - ii. he had not come to the point of being enlightened, and tasted the heavenly gift, and becoming a partaker of the Holy Spirit, and had tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, and then falling away - Heb 6:4-6
    - b. OT and NT speak of unintentional sins
      - i. OT
        - Num 15:22-29 speak of unintentional sins
        - Num 15:30-31 speaks of the defiant and willful unrepentant sins
      - ii. NT
        - Christ prays for those who are crucifying Him b/c they do it in ignorance
        - Peter repeats the theme of their ignorance – Ac 3:17
    - c. Responsibility and Heart Motive are not the same thing
      - i. Paul was responsible - of whom I am chief – vs 15.
      - ii. When faced with truth,
        - he obey the heavenly vision – Ac 26:19
        - he believed
          - he recognized his lost estate - Ro 7:9;
          - He counted that which was gain to him (in his ignorance) as loss - Phil 3:7-9
- D. The Measure of Grace - vs 14
1. And the grace
    - a. appears only here in the passage

- b. permeates 12-17
  - 2. of our Lord – the source
  - 3. was exceedingly abundant
    - a. **hyperpleonazo** - to superabound:--be exceeding abundant.
    - b. made up of two words abundant – **pleonazo**; and a preposition – **huper** for intensity
    - c. huper is added b/c Grace is
      - i. greater than our sin – Ro 5:20
      - ii. sufficient to meet all our needs – 2 Co 9:8
  - 4. with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus
    - a. faith is not a meritorious work to earn divine grace, but a gift of God – Eph 2:8-9
    - b. faith and love are frequently linked with salvation in the NT
      - i. part of the salvation package – Eph 1:15; 3:17; Col 1:4; 1 Th 1:3; 3:6; 5:8; 2 Th 1:3; Phi 5
      - ii. Christian life are marked by continuing faith Col 1:23 and love 1 Jo 3:14
    - c. Grace not only includes salvation, but also faith and love
- E. The Purpose of Grace - vs 15-16
1. This is a faithful saying
    - a. phrase is unique to the Pastoral Epistles used 5 times - 1Ti 3:1; 4:9; 2Ti 2:11; Tit 3:8;
      - i. used with key recognized doctrines
      - ii. Shows that a well-articulated theology had been established by the time of the Pastoral Epistles
      - iii. This verse and 4:9 use the phrase “and worthy of all acceptance” for emphasis
    - b. This trustworthy statement is a condensed version (8 words) of the Gospel
      - i. that Christ Jesus
        - word order in the Pastoral Epistle 25 times compared to 6 times for Jesus Christ
        - Christ for anointed King who came to redeem
        - Jesus – who He became at His incarnation
      - ii. came into the world
        - Not only deals with His incarnation
        - Deals also with His pre-existence
          - no coming into existence or being created
          - Frequently used by John - Jo 1:9; 3:19; 6:14; 11:27; 12:46; 16:28; 18:37
          - World refers to mankind – Jo 3:17; 12:46-47
      - iii. to save sinners,
        - save – to deliver from death, darkness, sin, hell, and judgment
          - Mt 1:21 He will save His people from their sins.
          - Lu 19:10 "for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."
        - sinners
          - term used by Jews for Gentiles – Gal 2:15
          - Jesus used of of fallen mankind – Mt 9:13

iv. of whom I am chief – 1 Co 15:9; Eph 3:8

- for this reason I obtained mercy,

- that in me, first Jesus Christ might show all  
longsuffering

- as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him  
for everlasting life

F. The Response to Grace - vs 17

1. Closing with a doxology

a. Now to the King

b. eternal – lit. - of the ages

i. refers to two ages in Jewish thought – the present and the one to  
come

ii. God exists outside time though He works within it

c. immortal – imperishable and incorruptible

d. invisible – can only be known by self revelation

e. to God who alone is wise,

2. be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.