

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.