

# Midweek Study

## Notes

GOD'S  
Dream Church

Through 1 Timothy

Wednesday, April 17, 2019

## The Lawful Use of God's Law

1 Timothy 1:8-11

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John Wesley said to a friend, in writing to a young evangelist, "Preach 90 percent law and 10 percent grace."

Charles Finney said, "Evermore the law must prepare the way for the gospel. To overlook this in instructing souls is almost certain to result in false hope, the introduction of a false standard of Christian experience, and to fill the church with false converts."

Martin Luther said, "The first duty of the gospel preacher is to declare God's law and to show the nature of sin."

### I. We Must Use God's Law FOR CONVICTION. (1:8-10a)

- 1:8** - *But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully,*  
v.8 TCNT - *...when used legitimately.*  
v.8 Beck - *...if it is used as it was meant to be used.*  
v. 8 LIVING - *Those laws are good when used as God intended.*

#### **Psalms 19:7-8**

*7 The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;  
8 The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;*

#### **The Law is a Policeman that ARRESTS OUR ATTENTION.**

- 1:9** - *knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless...*  
**1:9** (CEV) - *We also understand that it wasn't given to control people who please God, but to control lawbreakers*

#### **Romans 3:19-20**

*Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those 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 no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.*

- 1 John 3:4 (KJV)** - *Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.*

Charles G. Finney had a sermon on "How to Preach So As to Convert Nobody." One way to do that, he said, was to preach about sin but never mention any of the sins of the congregation. People are not brought to conviction by generalizing—we must particularize. The woman at Jacob's well was made aware that Jesus was a Prophet when He said, "Go, call thy husband..." (John 4:16). We must particularize till conscience cries, "Thou art the man."

#### **The Law is a Doctor that DIAGNOSES OUR DISEASE.**

**Mark 2:17** - *When Jesus heard it, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."*

# Notes

**Mark 2:17** (NLT) - *When Jesus heard this, he told them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor—sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners."*

## II. We Must Use God's Law FOR CONVERSION. (1:10b-11)

**1:10b-11** - *...and if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine, 11 according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust.*

**The Law is a TUTOR that SHOWS THE SOLUTION.**

**Galatians 3:24** - *Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.*

### A - AS A TUTOR, THE LAW IS LIKE A MAGNIFYING GLASS

**Romans 7:13** *...so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful.*

**Romans 7:13b (TEV)** *...And so, by means of the commandment sin is shown to be even more terribly sinful.*

### B - AS A TUTOR, THE LAW IS LIKE TURNING ON THE LIGHT IN DARKNESS

**Proverbs 6:23** - *For the commandment is a lamp, And the law a light; Reproofs of instruction are the way of life,*

**2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

*3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,*

*4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them...*

*6 For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

### C – AS A TUTOR, THE LAW IS LIKE A MIRROR

**James 1:22-25**

*22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.*

*23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror;*

*24 for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.*

*25 But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.*

A.B. Earl said, *"I have found by long experience [that's the true test] that the severest threatenings of the law of God have a prominent place in leading men to Christ. They must see themselves lost before they will cry for mercy; they'll not escape danger until they see it."*

### APPLICATION POINTS:

1) When sharing the Gospel, we can't leave out the bad news. It's the bad news that makes the good news so good! (Ephesians 2:1-3, 8-10)

2) We should appreciate when God's Law exposes sinful patterns in our lives, arresting our attention, diagnosing our disease and showing us the solution!