

Law, sin and grace

1 Timothy 1:8-11

- I. God's law is good, but meant for the ungodly and unbelievers, not the righteous (1 Timothy 1:8-10).
 - A. *The law is good* – The ceremonial laws were fulfilled by Christ and the ethical/ moral laws still reveal God's nature (1 Timothy 1:8; Matthew 5:17-19).
 - B. *Not for the righteous* – The Old Testament law does not judge believers today (1 Timothy 1:9a).
 - Believers in Jesus Christ are already declared righteous (Romans 1:17; 3:20-26).
 - The Holy Spirit now enables believers to do what is right, not the law (Galatians 5:16-18, 22-23).
 - C. *But for law-breakers* – God's law exposes man's sinfulness (1 Timothy 1:9b-10; Romans 2:14-15; 7:7-12).
 - Sin violates God's holiness (ungodly, sinful, unholy...).
 - Sin violates other people (murder, immorality, crimes, lies...).
- II. God's word points those who believe to the glory of God's grace (1 Timothy 1:11).
 - A. The doctrine of the gospel reveals the glory of God's grace (1:11a).
 - B. The doctrine of the gospel was the focus of Paul's ministry (1:11b).