

## “Understanding The Law”

1 Timothy 1: 8-11

August 31, 2014

### The Gospel Charge Is The Purity Of Heart That Is The Fruit Of Correct Doctrine, Faith & Love, (vs. 3 – 4)

**Message Emphasis:** Many today do not acknowledge the relationship between Law and Grace. For many, these are two opposing things; never to be joined together but rather to be kept separate. We must understand that to fully appreciate the Gospel by Grace requires that we hold the Law in its proper place and acknowledge the Law’s part in salvation.

*“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:17–20, ESV)*

### The Gospel Charge Understands The Proper Role Of God’s Law In His Work Of Grace, (vs. 8 – 11)

- The Law of God is not to be shunned but embraced as loving confrontation, (vs. 8 – 9a) *W/O the Law, I would not know my sin*

**“Now we KNOW (Perf.Act.Ind) that the law is good, if one uses (Pres.Act.Sub) it lawfully, UNDERSTANDING (Perf.Act.Part) this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient,**

- *The Law confronts those things that are contrary to righteousness – for the ungodly and sinners,*  
*“They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.” (Titus 1:16, ESV)*
- *The Law confronts those things that are not set apart - for the unholy and profane,*  
*“See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.” (Hebrews 12:15–17, ESV)*
- *The Law confronts those things that are rebellious to God’s word - for those who strike their fathers and mothers,*  
*“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. “Honor your father and mother” (this is the first commandment with a promise), “that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.” Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” (Ephesians 6:1–4, ESV)*
- *The Law confronts those things that are grievously self-centered - for murderers, the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers,*  
*“For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness.” (Mark 7:21–22, ESV)*
- *The Law confronts all that does not lead to faith - and whatever else is contrary to sound (Pres.Act.Part) doctrine,*

*“But you who held fast to the LORD your God are all alive today. See, I have taught you statutes and rules, as the LORD my God commanded me, that you should do them in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?” (Deuteronomy 4:4–8, ESV)*

- Even the Law of God is an integral part of the Gospel of grace, (vs. 9b – 11) *There is no NT without the OT Law*
  - *The Law’s confrontation is part of the Gospel – in accordance with the gospel*  
*“If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have been guilty of sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin.” (John 15:22, ESV)*
  - *The Law is also for the glory of God - of the glory of the blessed God*  
*“All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.” (2 Corinthians 5:18–20, ESV)*
  - *The Law is part of the message taken to the world - with which I have been entrusted (Aor.Pas.Ind).”*

*“In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake. For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” (2 Corinthians 4:4–6, ESV)*

### \*\*\*What Must I Do To Fulfill The Charge?\*\*\*

**Message Directive:** Look to Christ for the salvation of your soul; ONLY in Christ will you find insight to the true nature of the Law.

4. The Gospel Charge Admits That This Work Of Grace Is NOT Based On Our Own Merit, (vs. 12 - 17)
5. The Gospel Charge Warns That Abandoning Pure Faith & Doctrine Leads To Destruction, (vs. 18 - 20)
6. The Gospel Charge Reveals The Purposes Of God In Human Affairs, (vs. 2:1 - 7)
7. The Gospel Charge Highlights God's Institution of Authority In Daily Living, (vs. 8 - 15)
8. The Gospel Charge Specifically Qualifies Those Who Are Called To Instruct In Doctrine, (vs. 3: 1 - 7)
9. The Gospel Charge Specifically Qualifies Those Who Are Called To Lead In Service, (vs. 8 - 13)
10. The Gospel Charge Summarizes How We Live In The Mystery Of The Gospel, (vs. 14 - 16)
11. The Gospel Charge Clarifies That All Things Created By God Are Good, (vs. 4: 1 - 5)