### SERIES: 1 Timothy

#### The Proper Use of the Law

1 Timothy 1:8-11

#### The Aim Of the Law Is Love

- The false teachers had abandoned sound doctrine by misusing the law.
- Ultimately, the false teachers' teaching had failed to produce love.

#### The Wrong Ways To Use the Law

- We must not add to the law's demands.
- We must not think the law saves.

#### The Law is Good if We Use it Lawfully (1:8-10)

- Who is the law for?
  - The law is not for the righteous, but the <u>unrighteous</u>.
  - The law is not for good people, but especially for **bad** people.
- What is the law's purpose?
  - To show God's restraint of sin.
    - Sin is not something we do. Sin is something we <u>are</u>.
    - We are not sinners because we sin. We sin because we are sinners.
  - o To show God's condemnation of the **sinner**.
    - The law brings knowledge of sin.
    - The law helps lead people to Christ.
  - To show God's will for the saved.

#### The Law Points Us to the Gospel of the Happy God (1:11)

- The law confronts the sinner, but it cannot <u>convert</u> the sinner.
- The law condemns our hearts, but it cannot **change** our hearts.
- The gospel sets us free from the law and frees us to be happy in God.
  - Either you live under the law as a slave...
  - o Or you live in the gospel as a free **son**.
- The gospel makes glorious promises that Christ will accomplish for us...
  - The law will not make your faith more sincere; Christ can.
  - The law will not purify your conscience; Christ did.
  - The law will not cleanse your heart; Christ does.
  - The law will not cause love to overflow from your heart; Christ will.

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