CHRIST JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD

1 Timothy 1:1-20

Key Verse: 1:15

* GRACE, MERCY AND PEACE FROM GOD BE WITH YOU (1-11)

1. Read verse 1. What is Paul's mandate? From whom does it come? Why might he call God "our Savior" and Christ Jesus "our hope"? Read verse 2b. What is the basic attitude of a servant of God?

2. What was Paul's relationship to Timothy? (2a; 2Ti 1:5; Ac 16:3) Where was Timothy, and what was he doing there? (3) What do you know about Ephesus? (See Ac 19, 20:20)

3. How were certain men promoting controversies in the church? Why were they doing so? (3-4a, 6-7) What had Paul expected? (Ac 20:29-30) What did he tell Timothy to do?

4. What is the main difference between those who promote controversy and those who do the work of God? (4b,5) What does it mean that God's work is by faith?

5. What was Timothy's goal in taking spiritual leadership in Ephesus? (5) What does this teach us about spiritual leadership?

6. Read verses 8-10. What do these verses teach about the nature of the law? What does it mean to use the law improperly? In what sense is the law for lawbreakers? What is sound doctrine? How is the problem of a lawbreaker solved in the gospel? (11)

* WONDERFUL GRACE OF JESUS (12-20)

7. Read verses 12-14. For what was Paul thankful to God? (12) What kind of man was he? How did God show his mercy? (13) What were the gifts of grace by which God changed Paul? (14) What can we learn here about God's grace?

8. Read verses 15-16. What did Paul know about himself? Why is it necessary for every believer to know what kind of sinner he was? What did Paul learn about Jesus? When Paul thought about Jesus what doxology of praise welled up in his heart?

9. Why did Paul tell Timothy about all of his past sins? How did he view the Christian life? What does he mean by "fight the good fight of faith"? What happened to those who gave up the good fight? (19-20)

10. When God's enemies rule the world how can Timothy-like soldiers fight the good fight of faith? What was Paul's secret? (15)