

# THE PASTORAL EPISTLES

## I & II Timothy, Titus and Philemon

### “God Speaks to His Church”

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Be Strong in Grace--July 18, 2010

#### CONTEXT

- Apostle Paul writing his last will and testament to protégé—66 AD
- Paul, facing execution, is handing the Gospel baton off to Timothy
- Paul is preparing Timothy for future hardship

#### I. The command (2 Tim. 2:1)

- A. *Keep on being strengthened* (Eph. 6:10; Phil. 4:13; 2 Tim. 4:17)
- B. *In the power of grace* (Eph. 2:8-9; 1 Cor. 15:10; Titus 2:11-12)
- C. *That is found in union with Christ Jesus* (Gal. 2:20; Rom. 6:6, 11; 8:11)

#### II. God’s Amazing Gospel of Grace (Acts 20:24)

- A. Definition – God’s underserved favor to those who deserve His wrath
- B. The Christian Life
  1. Justified by Grace – spiritually bankrupt people declared righteous based on the cross
  2. Sanctified by Grace – spiritually bankrupt people growing in Christ-likeness based on the cross
  3. Glorified by Grace – spiritually bankrupt people receiving glorified bodies based on the cross
- C. The problem
- D. The solution: living a CROSS-centered life
  1. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 – *For I delivered to you as of FIRST IMPORTANCE what I also received, that Christ died for our sins...*
  2. Galatians 6:14 – *But may it never be that I would boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ...*
  3. 2 Tim 2:8 – *Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead...*

#### III. Our daily battle: Grace-killers

- A. Legalism – basing our relationship with God on our own performance
- B. Condemnation – being more focused on our sin than on God’s grace
- C. Subjectivism – basing our view of God on our changing feelings or emotions

#### IV. Live each day strengthened by grace at the cross

- A. Daily come to the cross
- B. Daily preach the gospel to yourself
- C. Memorize the Gospel
  1. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4
  2. John 3:16
  3. 2 Corinthians 5:21
  4. Romans 3:23-26
  5. Romans 8:1, 31-34
  6. Isaiah 53:3-6
  7. Galatians 5:1
- D. Pray the Gospel

- E.** Sing the Gospel
- F.** Study the Gospel
  - 1.** Romans and Galatians
  - 2.** Read books
    - a.** The Cross Centered Life by C. J. Mahaney
    - b.** The Discipline of Grace by Jerry Bridges
    - c.** The Holiness of God by R. C. Sproul
    - d.** The Passion of Jesus Christ by John Piper
- G.** You cannot do this on your own: desperate need of the Holy Spirit and fellow believers