**Love from a Pure Heart**

**by Pastor Fee Soliven**

**1 Timothy 1:5-11**

**Wednesday Evening**

**June 11, 2025**

**1 Timothy 1:5-11**

5 Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith, 6 from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk, 7 desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm.

8 But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully, 9 knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers,

10 for fornicators, for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers, and if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine, 11 according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust.

**5 Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith,**

Saints, Paul expanded his instruction to Timothy by reminding him and anyone else who would read the letter that the correction of the false teachers would do them good, not harm.

The false teachers were motivated by mere curiosity and a desire to gain prestige as intellectuals.

In contrast, genuine Christian teachers are filled with love. There are three sources of real love:

Saints, Jesus said,

**Matthew 5:8**

“God blesses those whose hearts are pure.”

A pure heart is devoted to God and free from guilt and corruption. We must keep ourselves morally straight.

**1. God purifies us, but there is action we must take to keep morally fit. Daily application of God’s Word has a purifying effect on our heart and mind. It enables us to love freely.**

**2. In order to love properly, our conscience must be clear. First, it must be clean from unconfessed sin so that guilt doesn’t hinder us.**

**3. Our motives must be free from pride and personal gain. Then we can love openly.**

**4. When we attempt to love others without sincere faith in Christ, our efforts to minister become hollow and self-serving. Sincere faith enables us to love genuinely.**

Saints, the commands and instructions in this letter to Timothy reveal Paul’s desire to maintain the purest truth in all the church’s teachings.

As a mother nourishes her child with pure foods, so Paul nourished the infant church with only pure teaching—the truth of God’s Word. He focused on the truth and love of the gospel.

**1 Corinthians 13:1-8**

1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. 2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. 4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; 6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;

7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away.

**6 from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk,**

Saints, Paul wrote against those who wanted to be teachers of the law of Moses.

These men taught strange philosophical theories and ideas loosely based on the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Old Testament).

These men were either Gentiles who were impressed with Judaism or Jews who did not know much but wanted to gain respect.

**Galatians 1:6-9**

6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.

8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

**2 Peter 2:1-6**

1 But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. 2 And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed.

3 By covetousness they will exploit you with deceptive words; for a long time their judgment has not been idle, and their destruction does not slumber. 4 For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;

5 and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; 6 and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly;

**7 desiring to be teachers of the law, understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm.**

Saints,the false teachers at Ephesus had constructed vast speculative systems, and then they argued about the minor details of their wholly imaginary ideas!

They wandered away from the gospel, the truth, and love and slipped into meaningless drivel that helped no one and, in fact, hurt the church.

**James 3:1-3**

1 My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. 2 For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body. 3 Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body.

**Hosea 4:6**

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; Because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.

**8 But we know that the law is good if one uses it lawfully,**

Saints, the false teachers wanted to become famous as teachers of God’s law, but they misunderstood the law’s purpose.

The law was not meant to give believers a list of commands for every occasion, but to show unbelievers their sin and bring them to God. God’s law is also important for believers.

To use the law as God intended means understanding that God’s law gives direction for living a holy life.

In Exodus 20, God shows his people the true function and beauty of his laws.

The commandments were designed to lead Israel to a life of practical holiness.

**Galatians 3:24**

“Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith”

In these commandments people could see the nature of God and his plan for how they should live.

Paul wrote in

**Romans 7:12**

“The law itself is holy,”

but following the law can never make us acceptable to God.

**9 knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate, for the ungodly and for sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers,**

Saints, the law exists not for people who do what is right, but for those who continue in their sin.

The list Paul includes follows the order of the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20.

The first set of sinners corresponds to the first four commandments (Exodus 20:1-11):

**1. the disobedient—who cannot be taught**

**2. the rebellious—who cannot be disciplined**

**3. the ungodly—who show no reverence for God**

**4. the sinful—who consider nothing sacred and defile what is holy**

The second set violates the next six commandments (Exodus 20:12-16):

**1. those who murder their father or mother—the ultimate act of dishonoring one’s parents**

**2. those who murder other people—breaking the command not to murder**

**3. those who are sexually immoral or homosexual—dealing with adultery and all sexual sin**

**4. slave traders—also translated “kidnappers,” picturing the worst form of theft**

**5. liars and oath breakers—those who violate the commandment not to bear false witness**

**6. those who do anything else that contradicts the right teaching—covers anything that might be missed.**

**10 for fornicators, for sodomites, for kidnappers, for liars, for perjurers, and if there is any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine,**

Saints,Paul had been entrusted with this Good News (Acts 9:15-19; 1 Thessalonians 2:4; Titus 1:3). This call became Paul’s life mission as he preached the gospel across the Roman Empire, including Ephesus, where this letter was directed (Acts 20:17-27).

**Acts 9:15-19**

15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. 16 For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake."

17 And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

18 Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized. 19 So when he had received food, he was strengthened. Then Saul spent some days with the disciples at Damascus.

**1 Thessalonians 2:4**

But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.

**Titus 1:3**

but has in due time manifested His word through preaching, which was committed to me according to the commandment of God our Savior;

Saints, all who hear, believe, and accept this “right teaching” have also been entrusted with it.

**11 according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust.**

Saints,in short, the law is meant to reveal our sin, but using it as guidelines for our response to God leaves us no better off than the false teachers.

The law has a descriptive, not a prescriptive, role. It brings us face-to-face with our problem but does not tell us how to solve it.

The Good News challenges us to respond in faith to God, who, through Christ, will forgive us our sins.

**Romans 2:16**

on the day when God will judge men’s secrets through Christ Jesus, as proclaimed by my gospel.

**2 Corinthians 4:4**

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

**Galatians 1:11-12**

11 For I want you to know, brothers, that the gospel I preached was not devised by man. 12 I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.

**Romans 16:25**

Now to Him who is able to strengthen you by my gospel and by the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery concealed for ages past

Soon and Very soon, Jesus is about to appear, we are almost out of here!

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**1 Corinthians 15:50-54**

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

**Short Movie Slide>**

**Acts 2:38-39**

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

**Let’s Pray!**

**Benediction**

**"May The LORD bless you and keep you, May The LORD make His face shine upon you, May The LORD be gracious to you, May The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you His (Shalom) peace.”**