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### Meaning of the Gospel

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## THE MEANING OF THE GOSPEL

A STUDY OF TIMOTHY  
NUMBER 8  
I TIMOTHY 1:10-11

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I Timothy 1:10-11 "For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine; according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust."

Let us get a corrected translation of verses 8 and 9:

Verse 8 "But we know the law is good, excellent, blameless, if anyone uses it lawfully."

Verse 9 "Knowing this, that to the righteous one the law does not apply, but to lawless ones, and undisciplined ones, to ungodly ones, and sinning ones, to unholy ones and profane ones, to murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, to homicidal types."

Verse 10: This is the verse we were studying in our last paper and based on this verse, we studied the doctrine of adultery. One of the most important chapters in the Bible to warn us of illicit sex is Proverbs 5. We will look at a corrected translation of the first 23 verses of this chapter.

Proverbs 5:1

"My son, concentrate on Bible Doctrine, extend your ear to my authority."

Verse 2

"To guard against feminine divisiveness as for knowledge, that your lips may guard it."

Verse 3

"For distilled honey drips from the lips of her and more flattering than oil is her mouth."

Verse 4

"But entanglement with her becomes like wormwood (wormwood is used to distill the most deadly alcohol in the world) sharp as a double-edged sword."

Verse 5

"Her seductive feet are going down to death (the sin unto death.) Her sexy steps embrace the grave."

Verse 6

"Perhaps you should consider her manner of lives. (It means she doesn't have the capacity to be true to any one lover.) Her manner of life wavers back and forth, you do not understand her." (This is the kind of lover who says to every one that comes along, "I love you.")

Verse 7

"Listen to me, my students, and do not depart from the words of my mouth."

Verse 8

"Remove your sex life from her and do not come near the door of her house." (She isn't the right partner for you.)

Verse 9

"Lest you give your glory to the pseudoes, (glory here refers to sex) and your years of sexual vigor to vindictiveness."

Verse 10

"Lest promiscuous women become satiated with your vigor in sexual living. Your human male body is shattered in a house of immorality."

(The shattering of the physical body refers to venereal disease such as syphilis or gonorrhea.)

Verse 11

"And in distress you groan at your end, when your body and sexual organs are diseased."

Verse 12

"And you say, I have hated disciplinary warning, also my right lobe despises corrective discipline."

Verse 13

"Furthermore, I have not listened to nor obeyed the voice of my instructors, nor concentrated on the message of those who taught me." (This is negative volition toward the teaching of doctrine.)

Verse 14

"Shortly, I was in every kind of evil, both in the worship assembly and in the function of the nation."

He now begins a new subject and he reminds the young men that there is a right partner for them somewhere.

Verse 15

"Drink waters of pleasure from your own cistern and flowing water from your own well."

Verse 16

"Your fountain shall not overflow to other women, in the streets, the dividing of waters."

Verse 17

"Let them (love and affection and intimate relations) be for your right partner and not for a reversionistic woman."

Verse 18

"Your sex life shall be permanently blessed; therefore, take pleasure in your right partner."

Verse 19

"The right partner is as a loving hind and a pleasant roe. Her heart shall satisfy you at all times and you shall be blessed by her love." (Let me remind you again: this is the Bible we are reading and not some pornography.)

Verse 20

"So why should you wander up and down the body of a promiscuous woman and embrace the body of some stranger?"

Verse 21

"For before the eyes of the Lord are the ways of man. He weighs all of man's tracks."

Verse 22

"His own reversionism will trap him with reversionistic women, furthermore, he will be seized and bound with his own feminine idol."

Notice Some Points On This 22nd Verse:

1. By having sex with the wrong person, he binds himself to the idol he has created.
2. The idol this man has manufactured is not his right woman, the woman God created just for him.
3. Man in fornication has intruded on God's perfect design.
4. Every act of fornication is another chain or rope binding the reversionist to the idol of sex he has created. There is no pleasure in making love to an idol.
5. Every inconsequential person with whom one commits immorality is a link in the chain of slavery to sex. The Bible says that activity

like this is a tragedy.

6. Once the right partner comes along, the person is so bound to the false idol of sex, he or she has no capacity for real love.
7. The idol cannot bring any real satisfaction. The fornicator chooses the idol and never waits for the real thing.

#### Verse 23

"He shall die without doctrine and in the magnitude of his folly he will go astray."

The Mosaic Law warns again and again about the proper use of sex. The next word in I Timothy 1:10 is "menstealers" from the word andrapodistes and it means kidnapper. The law of God is against kidnapping or the abuse of children in any way. Children are to be disciplined, but they are to be protected and never abused.

Next, we have the word "liars" from pseustes and it means liars or deceivers. This refers to the habitual pattern of lying. The next word is "perjured persons" and comes from epiarkos and it refers to those who will lie under oath.

So, verses 9 and 10 say "Knowing this, that to the righteous one the law does not apply, but to the lawless ones, to undisciplined ones, to ungodly ones, to sinning ones, to unholy ones, to profane ones, to murderers of fathers, to murderers of mothers, and to homicidal types in general, to fornicators, to homosexuals, to kidnappers, to liars, and to those who lie under oath."

In Ephesus, they were getting another kind of teaching of the law of Moses. They were being taught that you had to keep the law of Moses in order to be saved and live the Christian life.

Now, we go on in the middle of verse 10: "And if" and this is a first class condition and the statement is true. So, we translate it "And whatever else." Then we have the present, active, subjunctive of antiheimai and it means "to be opposed to something." Then we have "sound doctrine" from the present, active participle of hugiaino. The participle here is used as an adjective and it means "correct doctrine." The word didaskalia actually means "the teaching of correct doctrine."

Now, Paul changes the subject and goes from a discussion of the Mosaic Law, which is not a means of salvation, and goes to the gospel which is the true means of salvation. In verses 8-10, the Mosaic Law has been presented as a means of condemnation and not as a means of salvation. Now, Paul reverses the idea and presents the true means of salvation which is the gospel.

Verse 11 "According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust." We have kata plus the accusative singular of euaggelion and the word doxza, meaning "glory." "The glory" represents the essence of God. Paul says "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" and he refers to the essence of God. So, this phrase says "According to the gospel from the glory..." This is the glory of Romans 3:23 and it refers to God's character.

THE DOCTRINE OF THE GOSPEL1. DEFINITION

To define the gospel, you must look at the word euaggelion. Eu means "good" and aggelion means "news or message." The gospel is the good news that Christ has died for our sins. The gospel is the good news and is the communication of the gospel pertaining to salvation. This is the best news the human race can receive. The gospel does not mean gossip. It is a technical word for communicating the doctrine pertaining to salvation. This is the best news humanity can receive. This good news pertains to doctrine which explains the work of Christ on the cross to pay for our sins.

2. THE BOUNDARIES OF THE GOSPEL

Like everything else, you have to have boundaries so you will know when you are out of bounds. I Corinthians 15:1-4. "Now I make known unto you brethren the gospel which I preached unto you, which also you received in which you stand, by which also you are saved, by which word I preach to you if you hold fast, (this is a first class condition and you do hold fast,) unless you have believed to no purpose. For I delivered to you first of all that which I received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, (this is taught in the Old Testament as well as the New Testament) and that he was buried (he died twice, dying spiritually for our sins and then physically so he could give us an example of resurrection) and that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures." So, the gospel ends with resurrection. There are the boundaries of the gospel. If you include in the gospel the condemnation of sin and all other things like that, then you are preaching something that is not the gospel.

What The Gospel Does Not Include

The gospel does not include the fact of sin and the penalty for sin. These are true doctrines but are just not a part of the gospel. The gospel is good news. Many preach the bad news and never move over into the playing field of the good news of the gospel. The preaching of the gospel is an explanation of the gospel in terms of redemption, reconciliation, and propitiation. The boundaries of the gospel go from the cross to the resurrection and those are the boundaries. Therefore, don't get out of bounds when you give the gospel. Stick with the issue for you can't make a touchdown when you are out of bounds.

3. THE ENEMY OF THE GOSPELII Corinthians 4:3-4

"But if our gospel has been obscured, it has been obscured to those that are lost, to whom the God of this world (Satan) has blinded the thoughts of the unbeliever, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ who is the exact image of God." The enemy of the gospel is Satan.

4. USAGE OF THE WORD GOSPEL

The word gospel is often used with other words.

a. The Gospel of Christ

Romans 1:16-17 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For

therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, The just shall live by faith." Here the emphasis is on the person of the gospel.

- b. The Gospel From the Glory  
I Timothy 1:11 "According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust." Here we have the source of the gospel. The source of the gospel is the character of God.
  - c. My Gospel or Our Gospel  
II Timothy 2:8 "Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel."  
II Corinthians 4:3-4 "But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost; in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." The gospel belongs to us as believers.
  - d. The Gospel of Peace  
Ephesians 6:15 "And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace." This is the emphasis on the doctrine of reconciliation.
  - e. The Gospel of the Kingdom  
Matthew 24:14 "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."
  - f. The Everlasting Gospel  
Revelation 14:6 "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." The gospel is the only preparation for eternity. The content of the gospel never changes but the emphasis changes.
5. OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD THE GOSPEL  
Romans 1:16 "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." No true believer can ever be ashamed of the gospel.
  6. THE EMPHASIS OF THE GOSPEL  
I Corinthians 1:17 "For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel; not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect." He sent me to preach the gospel.
  7. THE PLACE FOR THE GOSPEL  
Romans 15:20 "Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation." We are to preach the gospel where it has not been heard.
  8. THE GOSPEL IS TO BE GIVEN WITHOUT CHARGE  
Spiritual truth should never be for sale. The message of the Word of God is priceless.  
II Corinthians 11:7-8 "Have I committed an offence in abasing myself that ye might be exalted, because I have preached to you the gospel of God freely? I robbed other churches, taking wages of them, to do you service."

9. THERE IS A FALSE GOSPEL  
Galatians 1:8 "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed."
10. THE GOSPEL ALSO BELONGS TO THE OLD TESTAMENT  
Galatians 3:8 "And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed."
11. THE GOSPEL IS REVEALED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT  
I Peter 1:12 "Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into."

So this phrase says: "According to the gospel from the glory..." and we will pick up there in the next study.