

Our Reception of the Gospel

(1 Timothy 1:12-17)

- Introduction:
1. It has not always been, and it is not presently an easy and safe thing to be a Christian.
 2. While we, living in the United States, have received very little opposition to our faith, that cannot be said of other times and other places.
 3. Because of the “ease” with which we receive the gospel, maybe we don’t appreciate it as we should.
 4. In this lesson, I want to remind you of some truths we need to embrace and will do so through the lens of Paul’s reception of the gospel.

I. Paul Was Thankful

- A. (1 Timothy 1:12).
- B. Nearly 50 times in Paul’s writings did he express thanksgiving.
- C. (Ephesians 1:3) eulogeo - eulogy “to speak well of.”

II. Paul Was Humble

- A. (Philippians 3:4-6).
- B. (Galatians 1:14).
- C. (1 Corinthians 15:10).
- D. Paul was “enabled,” “counted as faithful,” and “put” into the ministry.
- E. (Proverbs 6:16-19).

III. Paul’s Past Was Surmountable

- A. (Acts 9:1-22).
- B. (Acts 22:1-21).
- C. (Acts 26:9-18).
- D. (1 Timothy 1:13) “Insolent.”
- E. Least of the saints (Eph. 3:8), least of the apostles (1 Corinthians 15:9), and the chief of sinners (1 Timothy 1:15).

IV. God’s Grace Was Exceedingly Abundant

- A. (1 Tim. 1:14).
- B. (Romans 5:20).
- C. (John 1:16).
- D. Paul attached the prefix “huper” to the word “abundant.”

- Conclusion:
1. May we appreciate our salvation as did the apostle Paul.
 2. May that appreciation make it impossible for us to remain silent.