



## Today's Message

Date: February 4, 2024  
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas  
Title: ***When the Law is Good***

Text: 1 Timothy 1:8–11 (ESV)

<sup>8</sup> Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, <sup>9</sup> understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, <sup>10</sup> the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, <sup>11</sup> in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

Introduction: False teachers were plaguing the churches in Ephesus and Paul commissioned Timothy to set things straight. In 1:7 we learned that these teachers wanted to be respected like rabbis (teachers of the Law of Moses). Their preoccupation with the Law was undermining gospel truth. Therefore, Paul offers a corrective in the long sentence that comprises our sermon text.

### **I. The Law of Moses is good.**

- A. It is good because it comes from God—and reveals his character.
- B. It is good because God gave it to reveal and restrain human nature.

### **II. *But one must use the Law lawfully. 9-11***

- A. God *does not* use the Law to save or sanctify the just. 9a
  
- B. God *does* use the Law to unmask and condemn the unjust. 9b-10
  - 1. The Law reveals their utter contempt for the holy God.
  - 2. The Law reveal's their utter disregard for God's image bearers.
  
- C. Lawful use of the Law accords with the gospel. 11
  - 1. The gospel displays the glory of God.
  - 2. The gospel elicits praise to God.
  - 3. The gospel is a "faith-trust" from God.

**Today's take-home truth: The Law of Moses teaches us about God's character and human nature, but you must never trust it to save you.**