The Glorious Gospel of the Happy God

I Timothy 1:8-11

Introduction:

Have you ever noticed how long it takes to build something up and how quickly it can be torn down?

In Paul’s farewell message to the Ephesian Elders, he warned them to be on their guard against false teaching.

“I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. Even from your own number, men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them.” Ephesians 20:29-30

The same thing happened in Galatia.

“I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel – which is really no gospel at all.” Galatians 1:6-7a
What takes so long to build can be quickly torn down if it is not protected and defended.

Three areas where the gospel is being redefined today are:

- The doctrine of Scripture - Is the Bible the word of God or the writings of men?
- The doctrine of God - Does God know the future or is it all up for grabs? and
- The doctrine of salvation - Is Jesus the only way to God or is he just one way?

We need to clearly understand and defend the gospel in our generation also.

I. What is the purpose of the law? I Timothy 1:8-10

The false teachers at Ephesus were inappropriately applying the law to Christians.

The law is not made for the righteous, but for lawbreakers and rebels.

The list Paul uses closely follows the Decalogue, the Ten Commandments.

- Ungodly and sinful – You shall have no other gods before me.
- Unholy and irreligious – You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
- Those who kill fathers and mothers – Honor your father and your mother.
- Murderers – You shall not murder.
- Adulterers and perverts – You shall not commit adultery.
- Slave traders (kidnappers) – You shall not steal.
- Liars and perjurers – You shall not give false testimony.
- Any other thing – You shall not covet.
Those who have placed their faith in Christ are no longer under the law, but under grace. Romans 6:14-15

“The proper use of the law is to apply it to sinners to show them their sin and then to present the gospel and lead them to Christ.” Homer Kent

The law is a schoolmaster to lead us to Christ. Galatians 3:24

“One of the clearest ways to present the gospel is by using the Romans Road.”

II. What is the gospel?
I Timothy 1:11

The gospel is the remedy for our sin.
The gospel is the “good news” that God has provided a way of salvation for us through faith in Jesus Christ.

“One of the clearest ways to present the gospel is by using the Romans Road.”
• Romans 3:23. "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God
• Romans 6:23. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
• Romans 5:8. "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

• Romans 10:9-10. "That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."
• Romans 10:13. "For, 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'"

The gospel is glorious because it reveals the work of God in his Son.

This glorious gospel comes from the happy God.

God desires to share that joy with you.

Would you like to pray to receive Christ's gift of salvation today?