**Sermon 19Nov2017 pg1**

* Thank Michael and worship team
* Great congregation in the Name of the Lord

Re-Introduce 1Tim Series

* Remind congregation of series, starting with Navigating in a Fallen World – February. 1st Tim still very relevant to us.
* Turn to Timothy now, Bibles for those who don’t have
* Questions to ask during series pg2
* Key verse in vs:1-7 is vs 5: **The aim of our charge is love, that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. pg3**

Destination – Love

Use satellites – Pure Heart, Good Conscience, and Sincere Faith

Today we are moving onto vs 8-11 – very challenging! Pg4

**Read 1Tim: 8-11 pg5-pg6**

You can see why this is a challenging portion of Scripture to preach from: pg7

* Hate Crime Hate Speech Bill – draft published last year and was opened to the public for comment (deadline Dec 2016). Depending on the interpretation of the Bill, it could be construed that preaching against race, gender, sex, which includes intersex, ethnic or social origin, colour, sexual orientation, religion, belief, culture, language, birth, disability, HIV status, nationality, gender identity, albinism or occupation or trade, is guilty of the offence of hate speech.

(3) Any person who is convicted of an offence referred to in

Page 10

10

section 4 is liable, in the case of –

*(a)* a first conviction, to a fine or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding

three years, or to both such fine and imprisonment; and

*(b)* any subsequent conviction, to a fine or to imprisonment for a period not

exceeding 10 years, or to both such fine and imprisonment

KBC, the BU and other religious bodies have responded.

Pray

**Sermon Notes: pg8**

The law is offensive to the unsaved. Even as Christians it is difficult to have our faults, our sin pointed out to us. The law can be used to manipulate us. So when is the law not hate speech?

**1: What is your goal? Ministry or manipulation? Pg9**

* members of my Bible study group will be smiling now, because they know exactly what I mean.
* In relating to others, on is constantly wavering between ministry to their needs, or manipulation of them to meet our needs.
* Manipulation means trying to get the other person to meet my needs
* Ministry means loving preoccupation with the needs of the other person
* We should always be trying to minister to others.
* Paul puts it this way: The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. 1Tim 1:5.
* Paul also tells us what happens if we don’t stick to this instruction – we will wander away….eventually shipwrecking our faith, as in Hymenaeus and Alexander vs19-20

So why should we preach the law to the unsaved? What is the purpose of the law?

**2: The Purpose of the Law pg10**

**Conviction:**

* Romans3:20 - For by the works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.
* Without the law we would not know sin. Romans 7:7b For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet”.

John Stott quoting Martin Luther pg 11

* *It (the Law) is a mighty “hammer” to crush the self-righteousness of human beings. For “it shows them their sin, so that by the recognition of sin they may be humbled, frightened, and worn down, and so may long for grace and for the Blessed Offspring (Christ).” It is in this sense that “the law was our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ.”*

And that is exactly what the does – it convicts us of our sin and forces us to make a decision about Christ – accept Him or reject Him.

 Pg12

If you reject Christ, you are condemned to Hell for eternity. But if you accept Christ as your Saviour, He washes you in His blood and you are justified.

* For Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the Law, by becoming the curse for us
* Only Jesus Christ can save you. If you don’t know Jesus as your saviour, I urge you to seek Him! Please come talk Malcolm or one of the Elders before you leave.
* Once we are saved by the blood of Christ, we are no longer condemned to eternity in Hell. We have been justified by Christ.
* **As we now are the just – the law is no longer laid down for us.**
* **But that does not mean that** once we are saved, we stop sinning – that’s were sanctification comes into it. But that is another sermon on it’s own.
* Nehemiah 8 is a practical example of ministering the law lawfully.
	+ All the people (the Jews who had returned to Israel after exile in Babylon, busy rebuilding the wall) gathered.
	+ Ezra the priest had brought the Book of the Law of Moses (first five books of the Bible)
	+ Vs 3b – all ears were attentive
	+ Vs 7 the Levites (and others) helped the people understand the Law
	+ Vs 8 They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave sense, so that the people understand.

So how do you feel when realise that you have sinned? Do you feel like weeping? That’s how the congregation felt after hearing the Law read to them by Ezra.

* + Listen to what Nehemiah, Ezra, the priests, scribes and the Levites want to say to you: **This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.** Neh 8:9b; **And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength** 10b
	+ How could Nehemiah & co say this? Because it shows us our depravity. It shows us how much we need God to save us.
	+ We can now join Paul in saying: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.
	+ Ezra read from the Book of the Law of Moses from early morning until midday

**3) Summary of the Law:**

* Thankfully, I don’t have to preach from early morning until midday to you, because our Lord Jesus summarised the Law for us – Matt22: 37-40 pg 13

And He (Jesus) said to him (the lawyer), “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

Note

* Love is the verb in both commandments
* All the Law and Prophets depend on these two commandments
* Therefore the foundation of all the Law and prophets is Love

**When is the Law not Hate Speech?: pg14**

1. What is your goal? Manipulation or ministry? Ministry – loving the person
2. Understand the purpose of the Law – to convict, force you to make a decision about Christ – rejection or acceptance / condemnation or justification. Why was Jesus sent to die for our sins? John 3:16 – For God so **loved** the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish abut have eternal life.
3. Matt 22:40 and 1Tim 1:5 proves to us that the Law depends on love and applied in love.

The Law is not hate speech when it is used lawfully / legitimately. Pg 15

If the law is used lawfully, it is not hate speech, it is love speech.

Pray.