

Sound Doctrine: 1st Timothy, 2nd Timothy & Titus

A Pattern

1st Timothy 1:12-17

Pattern • repeating artistic or decorative design: paisley • Natural or accidental sequence, weather patterns. • A plan, diagram, or model to be followed in making things. ○ a dress pattern.	• Fibonacci sequence • Mammalian Bone structures • Mathematics, fractals • Tilework, mosaics • Old school repeating wallpaper • Magic eye, bar code, qr code - patterns with information hidden
• Instructions - model kits, furniture • Following a pattern for clothing • Copying off a cartoon to learn to draw cartoon • Listening to music to learn how to play music • Influencers - big money - because we start copying their patterns • Why do all the kids dress a certain way, they're looking at the same pattern and copying it	Patterns in the bible • Universe, Garden, creation • Weeks, months, years • Law of first mention • Tabernacle > temple (how to be in God's presence now out of the garden) • Feasts, ordinances, etc > picture of the spiritual • People! Made in the image of God, pattern of God, like our children are like us in ways

:12 Enabled - given strength Counted faithful - think trustworthy Putting into the ministry - set in place, service God gave Paul the strength to be faithful His faithfulness a vessel for God's work As Paul sought God, God set apart Paul <i>DG "We often see our Christian service as a matter of volunteering. Yet as Christians, in regard to Jesus and His church, we are not volunteers. We are slaves. We are duty</i>	<i>bound servants of Jesus, and faithfulness is expected of such servants."</i> It's not talent, position, circumstance or intelligence that matters <u>It's faithfulness</u> a choice based on how much we trust Jesus Luke 16:10 "Faithful in the little things" Don't wait for the big things to prove yourself faithful! <u>You won't be then, if not now!</u>
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:13 <u>Formerly</u> (key, testimony!) Blasphemerer - speaking evil, abusive Persecutor - specifically against Christians Insolent - prideful, heaps insults on others Obtained mercy? Ignorantly in unbelief The fulcrum of all of our behavior Sinful and holy Is belief Who and what it's in <u>Whatever it is at its deepest is where our behavior will tilt</u>	Ignorant sin - Paul thought he was serving God, he wasn't <i>My testimony, slap to the face in Ireland</i> Willful sin - you know it's wrong yet you charge ahead in it Adam No mercy for those who continue to rage against the truth even after hearing it, tasting it, living it Hebrews 6:4-6 - For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.
:14 God's grace, always exceeding abundant Any amount is <u>abundant</u> His grace isn't detached, it's always given with love to be received in faith Grace shown != salvation look at the world Grace becomes salvation through faith - believing <u>it is</u> God's grace <u>when</u> it is God's grace	Timothy might have felt he couldn't live up to the call Paul proved if even he, the worst sinner, was put into ministry, so could he Do you hear God's call on your life? Do excuses, maybe valid, run to your mind? Is it condemnation or conviction? Trust in God's grace

:15

Faithful saying, used 5x

Pistos logos

Relied on speech, trustworthy words

I believe the faithful saying is "that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners"

That's the ultimate grace

That was God's total purpose

Save sinners

Matthew 9:10-13 - Now it happened, as Jesus sat at the table in the house, that behold, many tax collectors and sinners **came and sat down with Him** (note who went to whom and sat with whom, not an excuse to go live like the world and pretend to be with Jesus) and His disciples. And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to His disciples, "Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" When Jesus heard that, He said to them, "**Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. 'But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.**"

With Paul's former behavior, and his depth of knowledge of the Lord and the Word, he realizes how sinful he is

Knowing so much, even doing a "little" sin is magnified greatly

Worthy of all acceptance

How much of it do you accept?

How much of it applies to you?

Your life?

Also, Paul knew the depths of his sin
In ignorance

But also in conscience

Romans 7:18-19, 24 - For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find. For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice. ... O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

Persecuting Christians was at the top of his mind in Acts

Paul also isn't lying or exaggerating here.

Humble Moses Numbers 12:3

(Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)

You and I might have ignorance as an excuse

Accountability to what we've been shown

He does not, in fact, knows it so well he should theoretically be sinless, but he's not - and can never be

Used so greatly to write the new testament, start churches, but still not perfect, Still sins

James 5:16b-17 ... The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months.

But it's not our perfection that saves us, it's God's grace

The repeating pattern:

The more we see God's grace,
the more we see our own lack

The more we see our own lack,
the more we rely on God's grace

It's a huge spiritual litmus test

Do you think you're perfect? Pretty close?

Doing so well you don't know how others
don't do as well as you?

Remember it's not you, it's God's grace

The call into ministry

Paul - apostles

Timothy, Titus, set apart by those already in ministry - anyone

2 Corinthians 2:16c-17 - ... And who is sufficient for these things? For we are not, as so many, peddling the word of God; but as of sincerity, but as from God, we speak in the sight of God in Christ.

Audience of One

Nobody's self-sufficient for ministry

The minute we think we're sufficient
for the call, the ministry stops

The minute we turn back to God's grace,
the ministry flows

The minute we go to anyone above/before
God - exalting of man in ministry

I got great advice this week - but it all had to come under the word the Lord gave me first

:16

Paul realized the purpose of God's mercy in his life - reveal God to others!

- Joseph
- David
- Noah
- Melchizedek
- Joshua
- Moses, etc. (nobody had benefit of knowing that in it, only us afterward!)

Creation reveals God

But what God really uses is the ones made in His image

As a book, as a painting, as a picture, a pattern

Romans 8:29 - For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

**If Paul, that awful, ignorant,
religious man
Could be knocked off his high
horse, turned around and sent to
the people he hated
To reconcile them with God**

(UPS: what can brown do for you?)

What can God do with you?

You were bad, but maybe not that bad

**Or maybe you feel like you're the chief
sinner,**

**Either way, God can easily be a
picture**

*(in fact, those steeped in rebellion are still
revealing His grace - Romans)*

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 - And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. **And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.** Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Paul as a Pattern

Example, outline, sketch, summary

1 Corinthians 11:1 - Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.

- **In salvation** - knocked off horse on way to persecute
- **In calling** - to the Gentiles, not his idea
- **In accreditation** - threw out his degrees, unlearned to relearn in the wilderness

**The pattern of God working in and
through his life**

Not in his haircut or dress or what specific cities he went to

What about you?

What was your salvation moment?

Your ministry calling?

Don't think you're called? Not true!

Your accreditation?

Don't think you can do it on your own?
Absolutely right. Not called to!

**Answer to all 3 for Paul & you:
Jesus' grace (3x)!**

Romans 2:4 - Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?

Luke 7:47 - "Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. **But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little.**"

I think the Lord shows us our sin sometimes, by His grace

We realize wait, I don't deserve this, I was bad

The repeating pattern:

And the more sinful we realize we are
The more we see God's graciousness to us at the cross
The more we see that He loves us
The more we rely on His grace
And want others to receive it

So even in convicting us, revealing our sin to us, confronting us, it's to show us how much he loves us

It's never meant to condemn us
But to show us that he took all the condemnation from us

That we might begin to love him back
With complete and utter desperate reliance on one thing only through one person only

Only God's grace through only Jesus Christ

The repeating pattern:

And if we can believe on Him for eternity
We can learn to trust him for the much smaller things now
And the more we trust him in the smaller things now
The bigger the goodness of his eternity is
And our cup runs over

:17

I think talking about all this just brings up praise in Paul

Jesus is King
Eternal - forever
Immortal - dies, comes back
Invisible - can't see on our own

The only wise one

Saul thought he was wise in himself
Paul now knows it's all in Jesus
All the glory goes to God alone

Amen - that's the intro to this letter,

the foundation for the charge to come to Timothy

The direction for the church leadership and health

All sound doctrine has this pattern:

The buck starts and stops with only one thing - God's grace

Through only one, God's son, Jesus

Tweet about pushing back on paul/scripture

Push back all you want, if there's a disagreement between the Bible and me, it's me who's wrong

It's His word, His plan - we need to learn what it says, what it means, and how it works

But we can only do that when submitted to his grace and purpose for it

All sound doctrine has a sound purpose: God's order in God's way

To reveal who He is, what he's done, and how much he loves us

The pattern: Over and over and over again

So when we inevitably cover a verse we don't like

Our culture would tear out

We have to remember it's from a loving, gracious God, with a purpose in it

If we look for the pattern, remembering who he is and who we are,

All of a sudden it doesn't become a problem anymore

And it begins to look like it's given in mercy and grace - to the ignorant

To bless us

**And we find freedom in living by it
Vs. trying to find in freedom in going against it**

And we see how gracious God has been with us

In our ignorance of it

And in giving it to us to follow

As a pattern to show us the way to Jesus
Who is the Way, the Truth and the Life

Who reveals the Father

But isn't a pattern, the original, one and only God who saves