

I. Before Christ:

- A. Background: Paul, Blameless According to Pharisaic Interpretation of the Law (Phil 3:4-6)
- B. Here: Paul, the Foremost of Sinners – Blasphemer, Persecutor, and Insolent Opponent

II. The Turning Point: Christ Jesus Came Into the World to Save Sinners

- A. This is a Trustworthy Saying – Authoritative Teaching
- B. Christ's Person – Who He Is: Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah
- C. Christ's Work – What He Accomplished and Continues to Apply:
 - 1. Christ Jesus Came into the World (John 1:9; 3:17; 16:28; 18:37)
 - 2. Christ Jesus Saved Sinners (Luke 19:10; Mark 2:17; Rom 5:8)
 - a. Sinners Need a Savior (Rom 6:23)
 - b. Christ Saves by Grace Alone (1:14, 16)
 - c. Christ Saves through Faith Alone (1:16)
 - 3. Christ Saves Unto Eternal Life (1:16)

III. After Christ:

- A. Christ Transformed Paul (1:12-14)
- B. Christ Appointed Paul to Be His Apostle (1:11-12)
- C. Christ Displayed Paul as an Example (1:16)

IV. The Response:

- A. Paul's Response: Faith (1:15), Thanksgiving (1:12), and Praise (1:17)
- B. What is Your Response?

Reflection Questions (for personal reflection and family conversation):

- 1. Can you confess your faith with Paul: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, *including me*"?
- 2. How would you explain the gospel to someone using 1 Timothy 1:15?
- 3. Does the boundless grace and mercy of Christ to sinners allow you to continue in former sin? How did Christ's grace to Paul, the foremost of sinners, reshape his life?