



7/2/2023 AM

## Introduction:

### I. GOD'S GREAT PATIENCE (vs. 12-14)

#### A. Recognize the Mercy of God (vs. 12-13a)

“I thank Christ Jesus our Lord...”

“who has strengthened me”

“because He considered me faithful, putting me into service”

“even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor”

Acts 8:3; 9:1-2; 22:4-5; 26:9-11

#### B. Rely upon the Grace of God (vs. 13b)

“yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief”

#### C. Recall often the Patience of God (vs. 14)

“and the grace of our Lord was more than abundant”

“with the faith and love which are found in Christ Jesus”

### II. GOD'S GREAT PURPOSE (vs. 15-16)

#### A. Realize the Purpose of God (vs. 15)

“it is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance...” (I Tim. 1:5; 3:1; 4:9; II Tim. 2:11; Tit. 3:8)

“that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners”

“among whom I am foremost of all”

B. Reflect the Passion of God (vs. 16)

“yet for this reason I found mercy”

“so that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience”

“as an example for those who would believe in Him for eternal life”

**III. GOD’S GREAT PRAISE** (vs. 17)

A. Return all the Glory to God (vs. 17)

“Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.”

B. Respond with Commitment to God

**Conclusion:**

**Food for Thought:**

- 1) What do these verses say about a diving call to ministry?
- 2) What is the difference between sinning in ignorance and sinning willfully? Does God deal differently with these?
- 3) In what sense was Paul “the foremost” sinner?
- 4) Why does Paul conclude this paragraph the way he does in vs. 17?