

# **Awful Lawlessness**

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: I Timothy 1:8-11.

B. How to avoid the awful lawfulness of unlawful law.

C. The law is good if used lawfully—the law is laid down for the unjust.

## II. Four propositions concerning the law.

A. The law is good in the Christian life if used lawfully.

1. The law is good because God Himself gave it.

2. The law is shown to be good when people practice it.

B. The law is useful.

1. The law is not eliminated. (Romans 7, Matthew 5)

2. The law has a part in the Christian experience.

C. The law is not made for the righteous.

1. What the law was designed for has been achieved by Jesus. (Romans 8:3)

2. It is necessary that men behave so that they can live the fullest of the human life.

3. God wants to free us from human sin. (I Corinthians 6)

D. The law is made for unregenerate people —what they are—and wrong practices—what people do.

1. The law reveals the only acceptable standard of behavior before God.

2. The law is given to increase sin—it shows us how bad we are. (Romans 7)

3. The law leads us to grace helping us to define and recognize sin. (Galatians, I Corinthians 9)

4. The law is given for Christian restoration. (Matthew 18)

5. The law cannot regulate the mind and clean the heart though—the love of God does this.

**Application questions:**

1. How is the law helpful for a Christian? How is it not?

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2. How is the law helpful for a non-Christian? How is it not?

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3. What is the law's relationship to the gospel and how might one use it in sharing God's grace?

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