

1 Timothy Chapter 2

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; ² For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. ³ For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; ⁴ Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

Verse 1 – Encourages him as a result of the Gospel to first of all give supplication and pray on behalf of all men. Giving thanks. He is encouraging him to do this.....if Paul has to encourage him to do it...it must not always be easy to do and/or we may forget or neglect to do it as it must be a very critical point.

Verse 2 – Include prayers and intercession for all of those in authority as well. These things allow us and help us to lead a quiet and peaceable life. It is in the public good to pray for leaders. Godliness = reverence and respect toward God. Remember, God is still in control...He uses governments to carry out His will. While I'm certain many leaders are self-serving and some may be downright evil, we are still asked to pray for these leaders as well.

- I didn't say you had to agree with bad leaders and certainly not saying they are deserving...we pray for them because of our love for God and our obedience. It pleases our Father when we pray for others.
- Some of them were being accused (see Acts 17:7, Rom 13:1-7) of being against the rulers. These instructions take care of that accusation.

Verse 3 – Doing these things pleases God. He looks for this type of behavior. Praying is an important part of devotion. The only way I even consider doing this is because it pleases God. That's faith. Some Christians were looking down on others and dooming them to hell.

Verse 4 – God's desire is to have all men saved and come to know the truth. Is that our desire as well?

⁵ For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; ⁶ Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

Verse 5 – What is that truth; there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, that mediator is Christ Jesus. That’s what we want to share with men so they can be saved.

- Matthew Henry source – mediator means there is a conflict and difference, gap between two parties. There is an absence of peace. Sin created the gap or conflict between us and God.

Verse 6 – Jesus gave himself to set us free. In due time, the end of the story will be his testimony of our freedom. An exchange. How much are you worth? A ransom, something or the price set in order to set you free. Wow, we cost a lot to get back. Who kept us from being free if we had to be ransomed....the enemy.

⁷ Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity. ⁸ I will therefore that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

Verse 7 – He is ordained to testify about the truth in Christ. Preacher = herald. Teacher of Gentiles...faithfully, committed, and truthfully teaching. To be Christ-like is to share the role as intercessor and mediator for others. If we don’t know the truth, then we can’t be led by it.

Verse 8 – Paul asks and desires because of this truth, that men pray everywhere. Where you are is no excuse to not pray. Lifting up holy (guilt free, undefiled, a sign of surrendering to God) hands is good but if you do it...don’t be doing it with anger or doubting.

- You need to go through the four step process (see the Feast teachings) to make sure you have taken the proper steps in the right sequence before lifting up your hands.
 - Recognizing my need to surrender my will to His, picking up the cross (steps 1-2).
 - Recognizing my new life in Him and being led by the Holy Spirit...so I do lift my hands for His glory powered by the Holy Ghost for the glory of God....and not myself or my glory.
- Without anger or malice at any person
- Without doubting (James 1:6), or rather disputing...since this hinders prayer.

⁹ In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; ¹⁰ But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works. ¹¹ Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. ¹² But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

¹³ For Adam was first formed, then Eve. ¹⁴ And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. ¹⁵ Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

Verse 9 – Instructions for women after the same manner as the men in holiness without wrath and doubting, dress modestly.....don't see a lot of that today. This is in relation to public worship. Better to be dressed in good works than fancy clothes.

- Shamefacedness – with reverence or blush; don't bring attention to yourself.
- Sobriety – self control
- Broided – braided hair
- Costly clothing

Verse 10 – Instead of a fashion show, come to church dressed professing godlike character, the purpose or motive being toward good works not self. Not trying to attract more attention to yourself in church.

Verse 11 – Learn in silence. Learn, but don't be taking over. Be subjective to those instructing.

Verse 12 – His personal rule wasn't that they couldn't teach, but just not permit them to teach or have authority over the men but be silent in that instance. See also 1 Cor 14:33-35.

Verse 13 – Paul points to the order and example of how Adam was head and ordained first before Eve. She was formed to be a help meet, not the leader over him.

Verse 14 – Reason in the spiritual sense was that Adam wasn't the one who was tricked but it was Eve. So therefore, the nature of woman leaves them susceptible to being deceived leading to sin.



Verse 15 – Saved or kept in and for child bearing and fruitful if they continue in faith, love and holiness with self-control. Could mean child-bearing as in Christ coming as a child and/or basically, as she fulfills her original role in the home faithfully, she will be saved.

Note: Opinions vary on how to apply these passages as it pertains to women in ministry. Some of these various opinions include:

- They can teach, but not men.....Titus 2:3-5
- There are examples of God using women...but few and far between and not evidence that it was always in a public setting.
- It was to deal with a specific church only or a specific instance of confusion that was going on in that particular church (1 Cor 14)
- Gifts of the Spirit not limited by gender
- Only supposed to be quiet when tongues are being interpreted
- Jesus showing himself to a woman first indicated they are free.
- Concern was over order in the church and women's dominion over man and putting that in check rather than whether they could speak or preach.

I've revised my opinion over the years around whether and how women can serve in the ministry.

Note: This issue is not about capability. Women are certainly capable to perform these duties. Instead, a matter of divine order, not repeating the garden incident, and for men to start stepping up into their rightful roles. Not an issue of weaker, issue of order and men stepping into their role as providing cover.