

# 1 Timothy 2

## 1 Timothy 2.1-4

**V1** – **First of all?** Timothy was now to get instructions on how to “*fight the good fight*” (1.18)

- Entreaties: very specific requests
- Prayers: communion with God
- Petitions: requests
- Thanksgivings: how to give thanks in prayers
- How universal are our prayers to be?** For all people

**V2** – Kings

-**Does the New Testament endorse one form of government over another?** No – **Read 1 Peter 2.13-17**

-Here in v 2: *All who are in authority...*

-**Could a Christian have fought in the revolutionary war?** No

-We don't try to overthrow the government regardless of how wicked it might be; the Revolutionary War was fought to overthrow the authority of the king over the 13 colonies

-It still might have been God's will that the 13 colonies would be independent, but it was not up to New Testament Christians to rebel against the king

-**What are we to pray for about the kings?** That we can continue to worship in peace, etc.

**Read Jeremiah 29.7** – Jeremiah told the captives to pray for the city of Babylon (where they were being held)

-Remember: Paul had been in prison – he was living in a very wicked period in Roman history

-We may not approve of what the government is doing, but we are to pray for it anyway

-**Why would God require this of us?** (Thought question to help our attitude)

**V3** – God want us to do this (Notice: God = our Savior – see *1 Timothy 1.1*)

**V4** – **A result of praying for government?** More people will be saved

-**How?** More order in society, broader dissemination of the gospel, free to evangelize, etc.

## 1 Timothy 2.5-8

**V5** – We pray for the government because of our faith in the one God (including his son Jesus Christ)

-**Would pagan worshippers be praying for the government?** Probably not – it's not natural to pray for one's enemies

-But the Christians know that there is one God for all mankind, and praying even for an “enemy government” will prove that

-**One mediator? Relevance?** No need to pray to Mary, "saints," angels, etc.

**V6** – **For whom did Christ die?** “All” – our enemies as well as our friends

-For good government officials, as well as bad and corrupt officials

**V7** – **Why did Paul have to defend himself?** The Judaizing teachers were denying his apostleship

-**The special assignment of Paul?** To teach Gentiles

**V 8** – Men = Greek: *aner* (male, not female), not *anthopos* (mankind)

-So men (males) are to do the praying, unless no men are present (Lydia at Philippi)

-Women are excluded from leading prayers in the presence of men

-“In every place” – not to pray just in Jewish synagogues

-**Raising holy hands?** Refers to having hands "clean" of evil deeds, not to literally raising our hands in the air during worship

-*Job 17.9* – must have clean hands

-*Psalm 24.4* – must have clean hands and pure heart

-*James 4.8* – cleanse your hands and purify your heart

-**Summary of our prayers?** No hostility toward anyone, even those who put Christians in jail

**1 Timothy 2.9-15** - special instructions concerning women and their role in congregation

**V 9** – Rules for women

-**Describe clothing for Christian women?** Proper, modest, discreet

-**Just for worship?** No – at all times

-Define modesty: not immodest or showy

-**Negatives commandments?** No braided hair, no gold, pearls, costly garments

-**Read 1 Peter 3.3-4** – Emphasis on spiritual qualities, not jewelry, etc.

-Dress that characterized fashionable Roman women: a sign of bad, evil women

-A verse that was necessary for the times

-Today, we know how prostitutes dress – a Christian woman would not dress that way

-**Read Barclay, p. 67c-68a**

-**Read Gospel Advocate Commentary, Guy N. Woods, 1 Peter 3** (concerning hairdos of Christian women in First Century)

**V 10** – **How were Christian women to dress?** With good works, like women claiming to be godly

**V 11** – **What is the position of women in teaching the gospel?** Quite and submissive

-**Read 1 Corinthians 14.33-34** (concerning worship)

**V 12** – **When is it wrong for a woman to teach?** When men are present

-“But that isn’t fair” – no, it isn’t – I wish that a woman could be teaching this class, and I could just sit back and listen and relax

-It sure would have saved me many, many hours last week preparing the notes on *1 Timothy*

-*Titus 2.3* – older women are to teach younger women

-*Acts 21.8* – women prophesied (but not when men were present apparently)

-**Total silence in class?** No – Priscilla and Aquila taught Apollos – *Acts 18.26* – if total silence, then a man and a woman could never even discuss the Bible (the woman could not speak)

**V 13-14** – **What was the basis for this command?** Goes back to Adam and Eve **Read Genesis 3.16**

-A part of her punishment

This is the same reason for long hair (cover on head) – *1 Corinthians 11-2-16* – Let us make sure that our current society does not lead us astray on this point

**V15** – God will be with women through the bearing of children

-And women will be happiest if they take their part of God's plan for the family (*1 Timothy 5.14*)

-Women can deny that, but what is all of this we hear about the “biological clock ticking away”?

-Gloria Steinem (the founder of *Ms. Magazine*) got married Sept. 3, 2000 at the age of 66 (to David Bale) – all these years she said that marriage was just a modern form of slavery for women

-But now she said: “I made marriage safe for women today, so that is why I am getting married”

-How phony!

Summary of *Chapter 2*: Very practical advice on how to carry on the work of the church in Ephesus

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