



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

I TIMOTHY 2:1-8

LESSON: PRAY FOR PEACE—August 3, 2025

INTRODUCTION:

¹The first assignment the Apostle Paul gave to Timothy in regard to the church at Ephesus was to correct the teaching, which had begun to drift from the apostolic revelation into controversial areas that were destructive to faith. Timothy was to set that straight, using Paul as his model. He was also to stress the need for obedience — that people actually do what they teach. That is always the first step toward vitality in a Christian's experience.

In **CHAPTER 2** of First Timothy we now come to the second assignment the Apostle Paul gave to Timothy, and that is to set order in the public worship of the assembly in Ephesus. Public worship is a relevant subject, revealing why we come together every Sunday morning; revealing the relationship and awesomeness of God's presence in our church; and whether our living for Christ produces our action of behavior in public.

LESSON:

I. I TIMOTHY 2:1-3

1st Tim. 2:1 **I exhort** (meaning to urge), **therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercession, and giving of thanks, be made for all men.** Paul uses four different words in this verse. These words help to instruct us as he urges us to do so for all men. Paul has made the **first duty of the church**, as they set order in the public worship of the assembly is to be the **duty of prayer**. Not a single person is to be left out when he says all men. This is both an encouragement and a charge to pray, just as soldiers are encouraged and charged to fight.

TERMS:

- **"Supplication"** (*deeseis*) is a humble and earnest request for prayer; prayer that focuses upon special needs; deep and intense needs, whether a person needs money, job, car, home, direction etc.— Pray with urgency!
- **"Prayers"** (*proseuchas*) are the times we set aside for devotion and worship before God.
- **"Intercession"** (*enteuxeis*) refer to bold praying; standing before God on behalf of another, carrying their names and lives before God, and expecting God to hear, and answer; standing in the gap between God and them, asking God to be merciful and gracious in salvation and in deliverance.
- **"Giving of thanks"** or **"Thanksgiving"** (*eucharistias*) means we thank God for hearing and answering for what He has done, and is going to do for all men. It is a form of praise! And we are sealing our prayer.

²The apostle Paul put prayer first for two very good reasons. **First**, because prayer focuses people's hearts and eyes on God right at the very beginning, acknowledge the power, the beauty, and the liberty that the presence of God imparts, and it immediately gives a sense of reality and vitality to a service. **Secondly**, to begin with prayer means that we get our own humanity in perspective. Every one of us comes away from some situation at home with which we are still at least partially involved in.

¹ <http://www.raystedman.org/new-testament/timothy/the-first-thing--prayer>

² <http://www.raystedman.org/new-testament/timothy/the-first-thing--prayer>

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Perhaps we are thinking of the hassle we went through getting the children dressed in order to come to church, or the fact that the car was almost out of gas, the upsetting phone call we had earlier that morning, or the fact we had to get up early again. But when we come together, and the service starts with the recognition of the presence of God, then somehow all those human problems fade. That's what a church service is about. And as we begin with prayer, our prayers tap into the power of God on behalf of others. The first thing you do for a person if you love them is to ask God to work on their behalf; work in their need. Keeping a clear conscience of love means you will be willing to do something hard for them because it had already become easy for you to do.

1st Tim. 2:2 Now, to get specific about it, it's for all men including authorities: **For kings, and all that are in authority. Why? – That we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty**

1. We pray for rulers and all men, that those in authority would be filled...

- a. With wisdom and knowledge.
- b. With morality and justice.
- c. With courage and boldness.
- d. With compassion and understanding.

No matter how good or how bad they may be; how moral or immoral; how just or unjust, *Pray for them!* Proverbs reminds us: *"The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water; he turneth it whithersoever he will," Proverbs 21:1 KJV.*

Donald Guthrie says, *"This Christian attitude towards the state is of utmost importance. Whether the civil authorities are perverted or not they must be made subjects for prayer, for Christian citizens may in this way influence the course of national affairs, a fact often forgotten except in times of special crisis" (The Pastoral Epistles. "Tyndale New Testament Commentaries," p.70).*

Matthew Henry says, *"Pray for Kings...though the kings at this time were heathens, enemies to Christianity, and persecutors of Christians...because it is for the public good that there should be civil government, and proper persons entrusted with the administration of it" (Matthew Henry's Commentary, vol5, p.811).*

Therefore, believers must pray for the rulers to be filled to the brim. Then, and only then, can citizens of a land, live quiet and peaceable lives. Did you ever realize that the peace of our community is related to the prayers of God's people? There have been outbreaks of terrorism in various parts of the world. Some nations are in war with each other. The real purpose of government is to preserve the good. And all laws should be designed for the preservation of good. When a government no longer is fulfilling the function of keeping out evil, the evil that they allow will ultimately destroy that government because there is no godliness and honesty. **If we are not asking, we will not have** (James 4:2). Faithful in prayer does not count for sometimes: **it is constant until the answer comes.**

1st Tim. 2:3 **For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;**

2. We pray for rulers and all men, for this to be good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior in which we can live godly and sincere lives.

- a. Believers want freedom of worship, and freedom of life and choice, the right to worship and live for God without being opposed and persecuted.
- b. Believers want freedom of life and choice, the right to live sincere or purposeful lives, the right to pursue their own lives and wills without being opposed because it is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior.

God is our Savior, and for prayer to be acceptable means there will be peace. When Christians live

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quiet, godly lives, praying for their leaders, and righteously being subject to them, they have nothing to fear under God. But when Christians rebel against that authority, or just don't pray for government, they cause their government to make wrong decisions. We want all things to be good and acceptable in the sight of God.

II. I TIMOTHY 2:4-6

1st Tim. 2:4 Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth -

3. We pray for rulers and all men to come into the knowledge of truth which can lead to Salvation. Why?

- God loves us so much that He is not willing that any should perish **2:3**.
- There is only one God, and one way to be saved **2:5**.
- There is only one Mediator between God and men. Jesus makes man acceptable **2:5**.
- Jesus gave Himself a ransom for all, and man has to accept what Jesus has done **2:6**.
- Ministers are ordained and appointed to proclaim salvation Jesus brought **2:7**.

God wants everybody to be saved, but not in the sense of a decree. It is in the sense that we choose His love to be saved. If a man perishes, it is his own fault; it is his own choosing. God wants man to come to the knowledge of the truth, and be a doer of the Word. What truth does God want man to know? Two things: **1)** there is only One God. **2)** There is only One Mediator. The truth is that **all** can be saved from sin and death and judgment to come, through the death of the Lord Jesus Christ. God loves man so much that He provided the way for man to be saved. That way is the truth, and that truth is Jesus Christ. "**Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me**" *Jh. 14:6*. This is why we should pray for all men—God wants all men to be saved, both rulers, citizens, high, low, educated, uneducated, moral, immoral, just, and unjust—regardless of who they are, and no matter how evil they may be.

1st Tim. 2:5 For there is one God,—

4. We pray for rulers and all men, for there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus! And there is only one way to be saved!

One God, not many gods. If there were many gods, then there would be many ways to reach the heavens of the gods. But there are not many gods! When we speak of God, we mean the "*Infinite and Supreme Majesty of the Universe*." There can only be one Supreme Being! The One of Creation! The point is this: since there is only one God, there can only be one way to reach Him—only one way to be saved. People may believe in many gods, but there is only one real God.

- **The Father and the Son are one!**

- *I and the Father are one* **Jh. 10:30**.
- *God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth* **Jh. 4:24**.

- **He is the only one who established heaven and earth!**

- *For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord and there is none else* **Is. 45:18**.
- ¹*In the beginning was the word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*
²*the same was in the beginning with God.* ³*All things were made by him; and without him not any thing made that was made* **Jh. 1:1-3**.

- **He is the only one that came from the heavenly throne to earth to be both man and God!**

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- *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was fully God. ²The Word was with God in the beginning. ¹⁴Now the Word became flesh and took up residence among us. We saw his glory – the glory of the one and only, full of grace and truth, who came from the Father **Jh.1:1-2, 14***
- *For these are three that bear record in heaven; the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one **1Jh.5:7.***
- *For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily **Colo.2:9***
- *Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God **1Jh.4:2.***
- **He is the only one that was made an example for mankind to follow!**
 - *...made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of men: ⁸And being found in the fashion as a man, humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross **Phil.2:7-8.***
 - *For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps **1Pt.2:21.***
- **His life was the only sinless one to take away sin on our behalf!**
 - *²Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification. ³For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, the reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me **Rom.15:2-3.***
 - *He paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God **1Pt.1:19.***
 - *Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit **1Pt.3:18.***
- **He is the only one that died, was buried, and was resurrected!**
 - *³...Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures...⁴he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures **1Corth.15:3-4.***
 - *⁴⁵And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. ⁴⁷The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is of the Lord from heaven **1Corth.15:45, 47.***
 - *¹⁰And ye are complete in him...¹²buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead **Colo.2:10, 12.***
- **He was the only one seen and preached afterwards!**
 - *And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory **1Tim.3:16.***
 - *⁵and he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: ⁶After that he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once: of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. ⁷After that he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. ⁸And last of all he was seen of me also (Paul) **1Corth.15:5-8.***
- **He was given all power and dominion!**
 - *¹⁹And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,²⁰ Which he wrought in Christ,*



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when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: ²² And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all [things] to the church, **Eph. 1:19-22.**

- And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth **Matt. 28:18.**

I will still profess the power of the Trinity—God Three in One (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) manifesting with different purposes, however, functioning as One God!

1st Tim. 2:5b ...and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;— Man must have a mediator if he is to be saved; if he is to approach God and be acceptable to God. Why? – Because there is only one "**Perfect Person**": God Himself! "*Now a mediator is not a mediator of one, but God is one*" **Gal. 3:20.** No man can stand before God, not in his own name or righteousness. Man is imperfect and cannot make himself acceptable to God no matter what he does. Imperfection is unacceptable to perfection. In a human sense, if perfection accepted imperfection, it would no longer be perfection. However, Jesus is both God and man who has a clear understanding of both, and can cover all imperfection.

God is the only one to make man acceptable. God Himself had to handle the sin, condemnation, and death of men. How? – There was only one way.

God the "Perfect Person" had to become "Man." God had to come to earth in such a way that man could understand Him, and understand what He was doing. This He did by partaking of the flesh and blood and coming to earth in the Person of His Son, the man Christ Jesus. God Himself had to conquer sin. He had to live a perfect and sinless life as a man in order to handle sin. He came in the flesh as a baby, and lived among us.

As Mediator, He stands before God as the Perfect Man, and He stands between God, and man as the Perfect Man. He is the Ideal Pattern of all men, of just what a man should be. Therefore, when a man really believes in Jesus Christ...

- God takes that man's belief, and counts it as the righteousness of Jesus Christ.
- God accepts the man's faith, and lets the righteousness of His Son, Jesus Christ cover the man.
- God accepts the man's faith as the righteousness of Jesus Christ.

The point is this: since there is only one Mediator, we must pray for men to come to know Jesus. And we must rush to proclaim Jesus to all men, so that they can know about Him, and have the opportunity to follow Him.

1st Tim. 2:6 Who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time—

5. We pray for rulers and all men for men need to know how far Jesus' love would go as He gave Himself a ransom for all. He came in "**due time**" and died in '**due time**' which is His time to save us!

The word "**ransom**" (*antilutron*) means to exchange something for something else. Christ exchanged His life, for the life of man. How? – By way of the cross. Jesus Christ took the sin and condemnation of men upon Himself, and bore their judgment for them. Christ died for man on the cross; paying the price for us which set us free. He bore the judgment of God against sin for man. As being the Ideal and Perfect Man, Christ was the only one who could do this for man. He was without sin. Therefore, His death covered the death of all men. The words "**testified in due time**" mean that God sent His Son in the



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fullness of time, that is, when it was time for Christ to come to earth, He came. If a man really believes and trusts that the death of Jesus Christ is for him, he can receive Salvation. Jesus Christ gave Himself as a ransom for sin and death. **When man receives Christ Jesus into his heart, and begins to follow Christ, God gives him abundant and eternal life now and forever. When man finishes his task upon earth, God will transfer him right into His presence—quicker than a flash of lightning and man lives forever in the presence of God, never tasting death.** This is glorious gospel of God.

III. I TIMOTHY 2:7-8

1st Tim. 2:7 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.

6. We pray for rulers and all men that they receive the message of the minister to be saved.

Ministers are ordained or appointed to proclaim the Salvation of God. God had appointed Paul as a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher sent to the Gentiles instructing in the faith and truth of God's Word.

1st Tim. 2:8 I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

7. We pray for rulers and all men all over the world without anger or doubt that our prayers will be heard. Now, Paul is urging the men to pray. Pray everywhere in the right spirit. Develop an unbroken fellowship with the Savior! He uses the expression of holy hands. Lift up holy hands is a sign of surrender; a state of purity and righteousness, that is with a clean heart.

- i. ³There is the physical posture of lifting hands symbolizes an open and humble approach to God, acknowledging His sovereignty and seeking His favor.
- ii. There is the spiritual posture of the heart without anger or doubting God's power. This could hinder your prayer and disrupt the fellowship of believers. God wants our hearts aligned with His Will so there will be peace in you and others you're praying for.

SUMMARY:

As we began this lesson, prayer is the first instruction Paul's instruction to Timothy was that all supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving thanks was to pray for all men, including kings and all that are in authority. At the time Paul wrote the letter, Nero was the ruler of the Roman Empire. Under him, Paul had been imprisoned and was soon to be executed. This shows that prayers and intercession should be made for bad, as well as for good rulers. If the government goes well, we will live a quiet and peaceable life which is the way our Savior God wants us to live (**2:1-3**).

God wants all to be saved; that everyone would get to know the truth—that there is one God and one Mediator! God chose the Lord Jesus to be the Mediator between God and people. He willingly took on Himself the nature of a man; yet He was without sin. Jesus offered Himself in exchange (a ransom) for everyone held captive by sin, to set them all free. He came at a set time (**2:4-6**).

As we come into the knowledge of the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ, we must be obedient in testifying that same gospel to others. We are also to pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands without wrath and doubting (**2:7-8**).

³ Biblehub.com

<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>

