

INTRODUCTION

It has been a long labor in which we have engaged together, taking us about half of a year of our sermons on the Lord's Day, considering 1 Timothy chapter 1. I am very thankful for the privilege of this, and very hopeful regarding the long-term benefits for each person and for the church.

Today we begin chapter two. The chapter divisions would not have been present in the original letter; but this one seems to be well placed, because clearly the apostle here takes up a new subject, which is prayer.

Let us look forward to the benefits the Lord will pour out on us as we study this next chapter, and enter the work with the will to hear what our Lord Jesus has to say to us, his church, about how we are to conduct ourselves in the household of God, which is the church of God, in the matter of prayer.

TEXT

1 Timothy 2:1

NKJV Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,

ESV 1 Timothy 2:1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people,

Greek I exhort therefore that first of all be made supplications, prayers, intercessions, giving of thanks for all men

BODY

I. We Are Exhorted to Prayer; We Are Urged to Pray

A. G3870 *parakaleo*;

1. literally to call to your side;
2. translated as: intreat, exhort, appeal, urge

B. contrasted with rebuking

1. sometimes there is the need to say to someone, "You are wrong. Don't do that anymore, because it is wrong in God's sight, and is not good for you or other people. Instead do this, which is right in God's sight, and is good both for you and for others." That is the nature of this charge not to teach or listen to man-made doctrines.
2. but exhortation is not that same thing as rebuke

C. coupled with teaching

1. you are taught the truth
2. you are exhorted or urged to act according to that truth

D. appeals to love

1. you love God the Father to whom you pray
2. you love God the Son in whose name you pray
3. you love God the Holy Spirit who is in you helping you pray
4. you love the church, your fellow disciples, and you love poor lost sinners, your fellow men, for whom you pray
5. so you are exhorted, in an appeal to that love, that you pray

E. speaking to someone about the need for him to do the right that already is in his heart to do; the church wants to pray; the disciples of Jesus Christ have it in their hearts by the work of the Spirit there to pray

We are exhorted to prayer; we are urged to pray.

We are exhorted to prayer as a matter of first importance

II. We Are Exhorted to Prayer As a Matter of First Importance

- A. The first thing to which the household of God has been exhorted is the maintaining of sound doctrine; the second thing to which we are exhorted is prayer, yet this is described as being “first”
- B. These two things, sound doctrine and prayer, expressed in either order, are the two things that together have first place in the church
- C. 1 Samuel 12:23 Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you; but I will teach you the good and the right way.
- D. Acts 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.
 - 1. you can make a longer list than two items; and do make a longer list; as we go on through 1 Timothy you will see that the matters to be taken as important by the church is indeed longer than just doctrine and prayer
 - 2. but if the list is only two items long, the two items are doctrine and prayer
- E. Acts 6:2-4 Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. (3) Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; (4) but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word."
- F. Prayer must not be relegated to some subordinate place in the household of God; but must always be kept in the forefront
- G. We are tempted to let pride to get in the way here
 - 1. that we emphasize what we please, and de-emphasize doctrine and prayer
 - 2. that we preach and teach, but not pray
 - 3. that we pray, but not preach and teach
 - 4. that we make as if to pray, but really are still just teaching or preaching

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III. We Are Exhorted to Prayer for Reasons Related to Sound Doctrine

- A. therefore; then
- B. He has written things about sound doctrine; now he will go on to talk about prayer, saying, “therefore.” What is the logical connection?
- C. There is another place where this same language about prayer is used. Let’s look there to see a pattern.

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Eph 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Eph 6:13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Eph 6:14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of **righteousness**,

Eph 6:15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

Eph 6:16 above all, taking the shield of **faith** with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

Eph 6:17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;

Ephesians 6:18-19 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints-- (19) and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel,

1. Here’s how you need to fight:
 - a) take up certain things with which to fight, such as faith and a righteousness
 - b) and pray

D. Could that be the same thing in 1 Timothy?

1 Timothy 1:18-19a This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, (19) having faith and a good conscience . . .

1 Timothy 2:1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,

1. yes, I understand this to be the connection
2. what the church needs to do in preaching and teaching sound doctrine is like waging war
3. therefore pray!
 - a) we would understand that in warfare
 - b) let us understand it in the spiritual warfare of the church

We are exhorted to prayer; we are urged to pray

We are exhorted to prayer as a matter of first importance

We are exhorted to prayer related to sound doctrine

IV. What, Then, Do We Pray, Regarding Sound Doctrine?

A. For those who must give the charge

1. that Jesus Christ will enable men who were sinners to become faithful servants who can be entrusted with the gospel
2. that they will give the charge faithfully

B. For those who need to hear the charge

1. that they will have opportunity to hear it
2. that they will obey it

C. For those who have not heeded the charge; those who have made shipwreck

1. be cast out
2. learn not to blaspheme
3. be saved

D. For sinners in need of hearing the law taught properly

1. that it will be taught properly
2. rather than being entertained by useless interpretations of the law, or lured into ideas of self-righteousness by it, be convicted in conscience that they are breakers of it, in danger of hell, in need of God's mercy

E. For sinners in need of hearing the gospel of Jesus Christ, pure and whole

1. that it will be preserved pure and whole for them,
2. that it will be preached pure and whole to them
3. that along with hearing us preach a pure gospel, they will see us living a pure life, which will serve to adorn and give credit to that gospel
4. that they will learn and understand the example Jesus Christ has made of Paul, the chief of sinners, and so no that they, sinners that they are, also can be saved
5. that in saving them, Jesus Christ will show Himself longsuffering and merciful, so that others can see their example

[Check time here - conclude if necessary]

- V. What Do We Expect Will Be the Result of Our Prayers Regarding Sound Doctrine?
- A. You heard the bible read earlier, 1 Kings 8, King Solomon's prayer at the dedication of the temple in Jerusalem, the house of the Lord
 - B. I think Paul's use of "supplications and prayers" is from this Old Testament passage
 - 1. that's where that wording is found
 - 2. conceptually what Paul writes here in 1 Timothy 2 is very similar to what Solomon prayed
 - 3. Solomon speaks about supplication and prayer offered in the Old Testament house of God
 - 4. Paul teaches about supplication and prayer offered in the New Testament house of God
 - C. Solomon's prayer is in several stanzas
 - 1. some of the stanzas go like this:
 - a) when your people go out to battle against their enemy
 - b) and when they pray to the Lord
 - c) then hear in heaven their prayer and supplication
 - d) and maintain their cause
 - 2. some of the stanzas go like this:
 - a) when people sin
 - b) then we pray and make supplication in Your house
 - c) then hear in heaven
 - d) and forgive the sin of Your people
 - D. Let us expect, in answer to prayers offered in the New Testament house of God, what Solomon expected in answer to prayers offered in the Old Testament house of God
 - 1. when we, God's people, must wage warfare, and we pray to the Lord, He will hear and maintain our cause, will sustain us in the battle
 - 2. when people sin, and we pray, the Lord will hear in heaven, and forgive people their sins

therefore; then

JRY:

He has said some things; now he will go on to talk about prayer, saying, “therefore.”
What is the logical connection?

There is another place where this same language about prayer is used. Let’s look there to see a pattern.

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Here’s how you need to fight:

-take up certain things with which to fight, such as faith and a good conscience
-and pray

Could that be the same thing in 1 Timothy?

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See in Colossians, similar to Ephesians, but not as to the warfare language

Colossians 4:2-4 Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; (3) meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains, (4) that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

So, for the gospel to be maintained, prayer must be made.

name off all the boys in the church

if your loved ones were in a war, wouldn't you pray?

prayers

that they

-receive the charge

-obey the charge

-rather than being entertained by useless interpretations of the law, or lured into ideas of self-righteousness by it, be convicted in conscience that they are breakers of it, in danger of hell, in need of God's mercy

-see the example of Paul and believe in Jesus Christ for life everlasting

-see a holy example and hear a faithful message from this church and the other churches

-hold on the faith and a good conscience

that Jesus Christ

-show Himself

-longsuffering

-merciful

-enable men who were sinners to become faithful servants who can be entrusted with the gospel

that those who have made shipwreck

-will be cast out

-will learn not to blaspheme

-will be saved

supplications [G1162 *deesis*], prayers [G4335 *proseuche*], intercessions [G1783 *enteuxis*], giving of thanks [G2169 *eucharistia*]

see 2 Chronicles 6:19 LXX

επακουσαι = hear = G1873 as 2 Cor 6:2

2 Chron 6:29

all prayer [G4335] and all supplication [G1162]

1 Kings

8:29-30, 34, 36, 39, 50 when Thou hearest, forgive

8:36 teach them the good way

8:40 that they may fear Thee

8:41-43 a stranger not of...Israel

8:45 maintain their cause in battle

Pharoah begged Moses to pray for him

RWP:

enteuxeis Late word, only herein NT and 1 Tim 4:5

verb *entugchano* [G1793] Rom 8:27, 34; 11:2, 25

the other three words for prayer are common - Philippians 4:6

“intercede” in NKJV OT rendered in LXX

Exodus 8:9, 8:28 G2172 *euchomai* Pharoah asking Moses to pray for him

1 Samuel 2:25 G4336 *proseuchomai*

“intercession” in NKJV OT rendered in LXX

Jeremiah 7:16 G4336 *proseuchomai*

Brenton LXX in English

Jeremiah 11:14 And thou, pray not for this people, and ~~intercede not for them~~
[deem them worthy] in supplication and prayer: for I will not hear in the day in
which they call upon me, in the day of their affliction.

G4336 G1162 G4335

giving of thanks

when we see how the Lord answers these prayers

for this is good

JRY: what is good?

Augustine:

that is, that prayers should be made for such as these

for kings

Tyndale: open the king of England's eyes

Call to Worship: Psalm 61:1-2

Scripture Reading: 1 Kings 8:22-30 or 22-60

Sermon: "Therefore Pray" 1 Timothy 2:1

Benediction: Psalm 61:3-4

Prelude: Trinity 293 "Let Children Hear" - Dorita

Trinity 216 "Crown Him with Many Crowns" - Dorita

Trinity 581 "To Thee, O Lord, I Fly" - Dorita
Grace 169 "There Is No Greater Portrait" - Anna
Grace 101 "Let the Earth Resound" - Anna