

## INTRODUCTION

Our Lord's apostle exhorts us to prayer, urges us to pray, as a matter of first importance, of highest priority, which prayer is in reference to what the apostle was writing to us about before this: maintaining sound doctrine in the household of God. We considered that together last week.

Today we consider how our Lord's apostle sets before us our great aim in prayer. There is a great work that God Almighty is doing, and we are here exhorted to pray for its accomplishment. That this work be accomplished is a powerful longing in our hearts already, put there by the Holy Spirit when He regenerated us, made us to be born again. Here we, as the household of God, are exhorted to make this our aim in prayer. What is that aim or goal for which we pray?

We pray that sinners all over the world be saved!

## TEXT

1 Timothy 2:1-4 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, (2) for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. (3) For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, (4) who desires will have all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

## BODY

The great aim for which we pray is the salvation of poor lost sinners through Christ Jesus.

- I. There Are Other Reasons for the Household of God to Pray
  - A. Already stated: that we may wage a good warfare in maintaining sound doctrine
  - B. Stated here in 1 Timothy 2:2, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.
    1. God willing, we will work on that soon
  - C. Philippians 4:6-7 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; (7) and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.
    1. that you may have the peace of God guarding your hearts and minds
    2. rather than the cares of the world troubling your hearts and minds
  - D. Those are also good, spiritual things for which our Lord Jesus would have us pray

There are other reasons for the household of God to pray

II. Here We Are Taught That in the Household of God We Pray for Men to Be Saved

- A. Set aside for now the matter of praying for all who are in authority
  - 1. that is a wonderful parenthetical statement
  - 2. we will get to it and derive great benefit from it, God willing
  - 3. see the flow of Paul's exhortation without it
- B. Prayers for all men, for this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who will have all men to be saved
  - 1. what exactly is meant by "all men" we will take up soon, God willing
  - 2. people do refer to this place to try to prove or disprove certain theological points; hopefully we can look at those together soon
  - 3. but those theological points are not the main purpose here, but instead, exhortation for us to pray

There are other reasons for the household of God to pray

But here we are taught that in the household God we pray for men to be saved

III. In Praying for Men to Be Saved, There Is Much Praying to Be Done

- A. The apostle here uses three words for prayer, plus thanksgiving
- B. His usual way of writing uses two words; here he adds a third
- C. He is using more than one word to say the same thing, in the old Hebrew style from the Old Testament, to add force to this exhortation
- D. It is not that he means three different things by these three words for prayer
  - 1. he uses them synonymously and interchangeably
    - a) I found that in my research
    - b) some of the leading commentaries make the same observation
  - 2. so we cannot study these words one-by-one to understand the different kinds of prayer the apostle means
- E. The best thing I have thought of for us to do is to see three kinds of prayer our Lord Jesus prayed, to get an idea of the prayers for sinners to which we are exhorted

There are other reasons for the household of God to pray

But here we are taught that in the household God we pray for men to be saved

In praying for men to be saved, there is much praying to be done

#### IV. See How Our Lord Jesus Showed Us to Do This

- A. Recall fresh to your mind the things we know so well: we are the disciples of Jesus of Nazareth, Jesus Christ the Son of Man and Son of God
  1. it is Him we love
  2. it is Him we follow
  3. we want to know His ways and walk in them
  4. His apostle Paul has here exhorted us to prayer with many words for prayer
  5. Jesus Christ our Master being the one whose prayers are perfect, let us see how He has prayed for sinners to be saved
- B. Thy Will Be Done: Each person prays for himself, for the sake of sinners
  1. Luke 22:41-42 And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and **prayed [G4336]**, (42) saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."
    - a) it is the Father's will that the Son, Jesus Christ, submit to betrayal, arrest, trial, mocking, beating, scourging, and crucifixion
    - b) in His human nature, Christ is tempted not to do the Father's will
    - c) so He prays that His human will be submitted to the diving will
    - d) that He may undertake what God has willed, so that sinners may be saved
  2. see that He taught His disciples to do the same:
    - a) Luke 22:40 When He came to the place, He said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation."
    - b) Luke 22:46 Then He said to them, "Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation."
  3. so let each of us pray for himself, that he not, by sinning, impair his ability to lead sinners to the Savior
- C. Keep Them From the Evil One: We pray for each other, for the sake of sinners
  1. Luke 22:31-32 And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. (32) But I have **prayed [G1189 deomai]** for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren."
    - a) that the disciples of Jesus Christ, especially those men ordained to preach, when they are tempted, should stay in the faith
    - b) so that they, when they have returned, can strengthen their brothers
    - c) so that the preaching ministry not be lost or destroyed, but be strengthened
  2. John 17:15 I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.
    - a) specifically, that the evil one not be able to stop us from being so perfect in unity that the world will know and believe that our master Jesus Christ is indeed sent from God
    - b) John 17:20-23 "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; (21) that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. (22) And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: (23) I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

D. Father, Forgive Them: We pray for sinners for their own sake

1. Luke 23:33-34 And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. (34) Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." And they divided His garments and cast lots.
2. our Lord Jesus, when He came, preached repentance and forgiveness of sins; He forgave mens's sins, and proved by miraculous signs that He had the right, the authority to do so;
3. He then prayed for God the Father to forgive sinners, even the sinners who were crucifying Him!
4. when He was about to ascend back to heaven, He told His disciples that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be preached in His name all over the whole world
5. let us proclaim that message of repentance and forgiveness of sins, by which sinners may be saved; let us also pray for all men to be saved

CONCLUSION

There are other reasons for the household of God to pray

Here we are taught that in the household God we pray for men to be saved

In praying for men to be saved, there is much praying to be done

Let us follow the example of our Lord Jesus Christ, who Himself prayed for sinners to be forgiven even as they crucified Him.

Prelude: Trinity 302 "Lord of the Worlds Above" - Dorita

Trinity 533 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" - Dorita

Trinity 293 "Let Children Hear" - Dorita

Grace 60 "God of Grace" - Anna

Trinity 435 "Jesus Christ the Crucified" - Camille

Call to Worship: Philippians 4:6-7

Scripture Reading: Matthew 6:5-13

Sermon: "Supplications, Prayers, Intercessions" 1 Timothy 2:1

Benediction: Acts 2:42

**supplications [G1162 *deesis* from G1189 *deomai*], prayers [G4335 *proseuche* from G4336 *proseuchomai*], intercessions [G1783 *enteuxis* from G1793 *entugchano*], giving of thanks [G2169 *eucharistia*]**

Calvin:

What is the difference between three out of the four kinds which Paul enumerates, I own that I do not thoroughly understand.

Paul, in my own opinion, simply enjoins that, whenever public prayers are offered, petitions and supplications should be made for all men, even for those who at present are not at all related to us. And yet this heaping up of words is not superfluous; but Paul appears to me purposely to join together three terms for the same purpose, in order to recommend more warmly, and urge more strongly, earnest and constant prayer. We know how sluggish we are in this religious duty; and therefore we need not wonder if, for the purpose of arousing us to it, the Holy Spirit, by the mouth of Paul, employs various excitements

Fairbairn:

The multiplication of terms for this intercessory function is somewhat remarkable:

-petitions: the simple expression of want or need

-prayers

-supplications: the same as the preceding, with the subordinate idea of closer dealing, entreaties, or earnest pleadings

The distinction between them cannot be very sharply drawn; for in several passages certain of them are used where we might rather have expected others, if respect were had to the distinctive shade of meaning suggested by the etymology

The variety of expression is perhaps chiefly to be regarded as indicating the large place the subject of intercessory prayer had in the apostle's mind, and the diverse forms he thought should be given to it, according to the circumstances in which, relatively to others, the people of God might be placed

RWP:

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

verb *entugchano* [G1793] Rom 8:27, 34; 11:2, Heb 7:25

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

**supplications [G1162 *deesis*]**

Romans 10:1 Brethren, my heart's desire and **prayer** to God for Israel is that they may be saved.

2 Corinthians 1:11 you also helping together in **prayer** for us, that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the gift granted to us through many.

2 Corinthians 9:14 and by their **prayer** for you, who long for you because of the exceeding grace of God in you.

Ephesians 6:18 praying always with all prayer and **supplication** in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and **supplication** for all the saints--

Philippians 1:4 always in every **prayer** of mine making **request** for you all with joy,

Philippians 1:19 For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your **prayer** and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

2 Timothy 1:3 I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my **prayers** night and day,

## **prayers [G4335 *proseuche*]**

Romans 1:9 For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my **prayers**,

Romans 15:30 Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in **prayers** to God for me,

Ephesians 1:16 do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my **prayers**:

Colossians 4:2-3 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,

Colossians 4:12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in **prayers**, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

1 Thessalonians 1:2 We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our **prayers**,

Philemon 1:4 I thank my God, making mention of you always in my **prayers**,

Philemon 1:22 But, meanwhile, also prepare a guest room for me, for I trust that through your **prayers** I shall be granted to you.

## **intercessions [G1783 *enteuxis*]**

RWP:

*enteuxeis* Late word, only herein NT and 1 Tim 4:5  
verb *entugchano* [G1793] Rom 8:27, 34; 11:2, Heb 7:25

Romans 8:26-27 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself **makes intercession [G5241 *huperentugchano* from G1793]** for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. (27) Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He **makes intercession [G1793 *entugchano*]** for the saints according to the will of God.

Romans 8:34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also **makes intercession [G1793 *entugchano*]** for us.

Romans 11:2-3 God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew. Or do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he **pleads with [G1793 *entugchano*]** God against Israel, saying, (3) "LORD, THEY HAVE KILLED YOUR PROPHETS AND TORN DOWN YOUR ALTARS, AND I ALONE AM LEFT, AND THEY SEEK MY LIFE"?

**giving of thanks [G2169 *eucharistia*]**

when we see how the Lord answers these prayers

	<b>For Israel To Be Saved</b>	<b>Christians For Paul</b>	<b>Christians for Other Christians</b>	<b>Paul for Christians</b>
<b>Applications [G1162 <i>sis</i>]</b>	Romans 10:1 Brethren, my heart's desire and <b>prayer</b> to God for Israel is that they may be saved.	2 Corinthians 1:11 you also helping together in <b>prayer</b> for us, that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the gift granted to us through many.  Philippians 1:19 For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your <b>prayer</b> and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,	2 Corinthians 9:14 and by their <b>prayer</b> for you, who long for you because of the exceeding grace of God in you.	Philippians 1:4 always in every <b>prayer</b> of mine making <b>request</b> for you all with joy,  2 Timothy 1:3 I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my <b>prayers</b> night and day,
<b>Prayers [G4335 <i>seuche</i>]</b>		Romans 15:30 Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in <b>prayers</b> to God for me,  Colossians 4:2-3 Continue earnestly in <b>prayer</b> , being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; (3) meanwhile <b>praying</b> 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,  Philemon 1:22 But, meanwhile, also prepare a guest room for me, for I trust that through your <b>prayers</b> I shall be granted to you.	Colossians 4:12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in <b>prayers</b> , that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.	Romans 1:9 For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my <b>prayers</b> ,  Ephesians 1:16 do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my <b>prayers</b> :  1 Thessalonians 1:2 We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our <b>prayers</b> ,  Philemon 1:4 I thank my God, making mention of you always in my <b>prayers</b> ,

JRY:

We do not hesitate to pray God will do some good things for us, even knowing that whether or not He will do that particular good thing is eternally decreed and will not change.



Carroll:

1 Timothy 2 gives direction concerning public prayer worship. The first injunction is that prayers, supplications, and intercessions be made for all men – not only for our Baptist brethren, but our Methodist brethren; not only for the Christians, but for those on the outside. Pray for all rulers, all people in authority – presidents, governors, senators, city councils, and police – ah, but some of them do need it! Now, he gives the reasons – it is important to see what the reasons are: (1) Pray for these rulers that we may live a quiet and orderly life. If they are bad, we won't have an easy time. If the administrators of law be themselves lawless in their speech, every bad man construes it into permission to do what he pleases. When the wicked are in power the righteous suffer. (2) It is good and acceptable in the sight of God that we should do it. God wants us to pray for all people. (3) And the third reason is the great reason: That God would have all men to be saved.

**and to come to the knowledge of the truth**