

STUDY OF

1 Timothy

THE PRIORITY OF PRAYER

I. Prayer that all be reached with the gospel is in line with God's plan. vs.1-2, 8

A. God's plan involves all kinds of prayer for all kinds of people.

1 Timothy 2:1 (NIV) ¹ I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone--

Matthew 21:13 (NIV) ¹³ "It is written," he said to them, "'My house will be called a house of prayer,'"

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B. God's plan involves the spread of the gospel so that all may be saved.

1 Timothy 2:2-4 (NIV) ² for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

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C. God's plan requires holiness and harmony among His people.

1 Timothy 2:8 (NIV) ⁸ I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing.

1. He who prays must have clean hands.

2. He who prays must have no anger in his heart.

Matthew 6:15 (NIV) ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

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1. He who prays must have clean hands.

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3. He who prays must have a Spirit controlled attitude.

II. Prayer that all be reached with the gospel is in line with God's pleasure. vs.3-4

1 Timothy 2:3-4 (NIV) ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

Ezekiel 33:11 (NIV) ¹¹ Say to them, 'As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, O house of Israel?'

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1 Timothy 2:3-4 (NIV) ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

A. The gospel includes high and low.

B. The gospel includes good and bad.

*"Some want to live within the sound
Of Church or Chapel bell;
I want to run a rescue shop
Within a yard of hell."*

II. Prayer that all be reached with the gospel is in line with God's pleasure. vs.3-4

1 Timothy 2:3-4 (NIV) ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

A. The gospel includes high and low.

B. The gospel includes good and bad.

C. The gospel embraces Christian and non-Christian.

III. Prayer that all be reached with the gospel is in line with God's provision. vs.5-6

1 Timothy 2:5-6 (NIV) ⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all men--the testimony given in its proper time.

Hebrews 12:24 (NASB) ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel.

IV. Prayer that all be reached with the gospel is in line with God's procedure. v.7

1 Timothy 2:7 (NIV) ⁷ And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle--I am telling the truth, I am not lying--and a teacher of the true faith to the Gentiles.

A. T. Pierson said, *“There has never been a spiritual awakening in any country or locality that did not begin in united prayer.”*

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