



Pastor-Teacher | Chris Regas | 10.13.2024

GOspel: God's Desire to Save All People!

Lesson Nine • 1 Timothy 2:3-4

GOspel: Go Is in the Gospel!			
1 CHURCH'S DEDICATION to PRAY for ALL PEOPLE!	3a	3 GOD'S DESIRE to SAVE ALL PEOPLE!	4
Peace for Going to All People with the Gospel		Passion for Going to All People with the Gospel	
5 CHRIST'S DEATH to SACRIFICE for ALL PEOPLE!	6	7 STEWARD'S DELIGHT to PROCLAIM to ALL PEOPLE!	7
Purpose for Going to All People with the Gospel		Practices for Going to All People with the Gospel	

Ten Tensions in 1 Timothy 2:1-7

- #1 Praying for *all kinds* of people **AND** not just people like us or people we like. (2:1)
- #2 Praying for all kinds of rulers who *promote good* **AND** who *promote evil*. (2:2a; Romans 13:1-7; 1 Peter 3:11-17)
- #3 Praying to *live in peace* **AND** *still prepared* for persecution. (2:2b; 2 Tim 1:8, 12; 3:12)
- #4 Praying for *well-ordered peacefulness* **AND** *well-respected godliness* in the sight of others but especially God. (2b; 3:7; Titus 2:10b)
- #5 Praying *less* for "the good life" **AND** *more* for a godly life to GO with the GOspel! (2:2-3)

God's Desire to Save ALL Kinds of People!

1. God DELIGHTS in His People Praying and Living According to His DESIGN.

"This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior," (v. 3)

- Praying for well-ordered living with well-respected godliness is God's **VERY GOOD** design for all creation.
"This is good...in the sight of God our Savior"

"Good" refers to that which fulfills the PURPOSE for which it was created by Yahweh!

- Praying and living out our prayers is a **PLEASING SACRIFICE** that delights our God.
"This is...acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,"

Jeremiah 29:7; Ezra 6:10; Isaiah 56:7; Matthew 21:13; Mark 11:17; Luke 19:46

2. God DESIRES to Save All Kinds of People, So He DECREES to Save Some from Among All According to the GOspel.

"who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." (v. 4)

- God's Desire: His **HEART** is for all kinds of sinners to be saved.
"who desires all people to be saved"

1. This not **universalism** where **EVERYONE** will eventually be saved.
1 Timothy 1:2, 11-17; 2:5-6; Hebrews 9:27

2. This is not **Arminianism** where sinners **DETERMINE** God's saving purposes.

1 Timothy 1:14; 2 Timothy 2:24-26; Titus 1:1-3

"Those who hold an Arminian position maintain that in order to preserve the *real human freedom* and *real human choices* that are necessary for genuine human personhood, God cannot cause or plan our voluntary choices. **Therefore they conclude that God's providential involvement in or control of history must NOT include every specific detail of every event that happens, but that God instead simply RESPONDS to human choices and actions as they come about and does so in such a way that his purposes are ultimately accomplished in the world.**"

Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine*, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2008), 338.

"Arminianism is a distinct kind of Protestant theology for several reasons. One is its teaching on predestination. It understands that this predecision on God's part is to save the ones who repent and believe. Thus, **its view is called conditional, since the predetermination of individual destiny is based on God's foreknowledge of the way in which persons will freely either reject or accept Christ.**" *Evangelical Dictionary of Theology*, 3rd Edition, s.v. "Arminianism," 82.

3. This is God's **HEART** for *all kinds* of sinners to be saved.

1 Timothy 1:12-17; 2 Peter 3:9; Ezekiel 18:23; 33:11

Bottomline: GO is in the GOSpel and we are to *pray* and to *go to all kinds of people in all kinds of places!*

- God's Decree: *He graciously and mercifully saves all kinds of sinners* **ACCORDING** to the gospel.
"and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

1. Our Savior God uses the **GOSPEL** to save all kinds of sinners.

Share the GOSpel, because they must hear it and receive it to be saved!

2. Our Sovereign God uses **US** to see all kinds of sinners saved.

Go with the GOSpel, because going is the means God uses to save all kinds of sinners!!

Romans 10:11-17



Tension in 1 Timothy 2:3-4

Praying because God *desires to save all kinds* of people **AND** He has *decreed to save some* according to the GOSpel!!

Praying **CONFESSES** God's sovereignty in saving all kinds of sinners.

Praying is our God-given priority and **RESPONSIBILITY** in seeing all kinds of sinners saved.

Praying is no **SUBSTITUTE** for going ourselves and sending others to go with the GOSpel.

Book Recommendation: *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God* by J. I. Packer

The Mystery of Divine Sovereignty and Human Responsibility Does Not Hinder but Helps God's Mission to GO with the GOSpel!

Pray with the heart of our Savior God for all kinds of people to be saved by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone for God's glory alone according to Scripture alone...*and then put feet to your prayers* by boldly sharing your testimony and the glorious gospel of the blessed God (1:11-17)!

Example of Praying 1 Timothy 1:1-7 for All Kinds of People and All Kinds of Leaders

Apostolic Church Father Clement of Rome

The First Epistle of Clement (AD 30-100) to the Corinthians was written around AD 96 under the rule of Emperor Domitian and near the time when the Apostle John recorded the Book of Revelation on the Isle of Patmos.

Clement was probably a Gentile and a Roman. He seems to have been at Philippi with St. Paul (A.D. 57) when that first-born of the Western churches was passing through great trials of faith. There, with holy women and others, he ministered to the apostle and to the saints.¹

Toward the end of his letter, Clement records a prayer which concludes with interceding for **“those who rule and govern us upon the earth”** (See bold portions especially at the end.). Clement’s written intercessions would have included the brutal persecutor of the church, Emperor Domitian.

The likeness to Paul’s doxology in 1 Timothy 1:17 and his apostolic command to pray for all kinds of people and all kinds of leaders in 1 Timothy 2:1-7 are striking. His supplications for unsaved leaders to rule for good under God, so that His people may live well-ordered lives with well-respected godliness for the God-pleasing fulfillment of the Great Commission is overflowing with humility and boldness.

Clements entire pray is as follows:

59:2 ...we will ask, making with earnestness our prayer and supplication, that the Maker of all things may keep uninjured in all the world the number of those that have been numbered as His elect, through His beloved Son, Jesus Christ, through Whom He has called us from darkness unto light, and from ignorance to a knowledge of the glory of His Name.

59:3 That we may hope in Thy Name, which is the first of all things, open the eyes of our heart to know You, Who is alone Highest among the highest, Holy among the holy, Who puts down the haughtiness of the proud, Who scatters the reasonings of the Gentiles, Who exalts the humble on high, and lowers the lofty, Who makes rich and makes poor, Who kills and makes to live, the only Benefactor of spirits, and God of all flesh, Who looks into the abysses, Who beholds the works of men, Who is the Helper of those in danger, the Savior of those who have lost hope, Who is the Maker and Bishop of every soul, **Who makes the nations to multiply upon earth, and out of all has chosen those that love You through Jesus Christ Your beloved Son**, through Whom You have taught us, have sanctified us, have honored us.

59:4 We ask You, Lord, to be our Helper and Assister, save those of us who are in affliction, have compassion on the humble, raise the fallen, appear to those who are in need, heal the sinners, convert those of Your people who are wandering from the way, feed the hungry, ransom our prisoners, raise up the sick, encourage the feeble-hearted, **let all the nations know that You are God alone and Jesus Christ Your Son, and that we are Your people and the sheep of Your pasture.**

60:1 You have made manifest the everlasting constitution of the world by the things that happen. You, Lord, Who is faithful in all generations, have founded the world; You Who is just in Your judgments, Who is wonderful in strength and greatness; You who is wise in creating and prudent in establishing the things that are made; You that is good in the things that are seen and faithful among them that trust upon You, merciful and compassionate, forgive us our transgressions and unrighteousnesses, our sins and our negligences.

60:2 Take not into account every sin of Your servants and handmaids, but purify us with the purification of Your truth, and make straight our steps in holiness and righteousness and singleness of heart, that we may so walk and do such things as are right and well pleasing before You, **and before our rulers.**

60:3 Yea, Lord, cause Your face to appear to us in peace to our good, that we may be sheltered by Your mighty hand, and preserved from all sin by Your lofty arm, **and deliver us from those that hate us unjustly.**

60:4 Give unity and peace both to us and to all that dwell upon the earth, as You gave to our fathers when they called upon You with faith and truth, **so that we should become obedient to Your all-powerful and most excellent Name, and to those who rule and govern us upon the earth.**

61:1 You, Lord, have given the authority of the kingdom to them through Your almighty and unspeakable power, so that we, knowing the estimation and honor given to them by You, might submit ourselves to them, in no way opposing Your will; to whom give, O Lord, health, peace, concord, stability, so that they may discharge the rule given unto them by You without offence;

61:2 for You, heavenly Lord, everlasting King, give to the sons of men glory and honor and authority over the things that are upon the earth. Do, Lord, direct their counsel according to what is good and pleasing before You, that, fulfilling with peace and meekness and piety the authority given unto them by You, they may obtain mercy from You.

61:3 You who alone are able to do these and greater good things among us, to You do we give thanks through the High Priest and Protector of our souls, Jesus Christ, through Whom to You be the glory and majesty, now and to all generations, world without end. Amen.²

¹ Alexander Roberts, James Donaldson, and A. Cleveland Coxe, eds. *The Apostolic Fathers With Justin Martyr and Irenaeus*. vol. I of *The Ante-Nicene Fathers*. Accordance electronic ed. (New York: Christian Literature Company, 1885), paragraph 27.

² The First Epistle of Clement to the Corinthians translated by Charles H. Hoole, 1885. <https://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/1clement-hoole.html>. Slightly modernized.