

July 16, 2023 – A Prayerful Life

1 Timothy 2:1-7

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³ This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴ who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. ⁷ For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. (1 Timothy 2:1-7, ESV)

Introduction

How different is prayer from Paul's time in the 1st century to what we experience now? In Paul's time and according to the Jewish prayer book (the *Siddur*) and Jewish practice, prayer was offered 3 times per day, morning (*Shacharit*), afternoon (*Mincha*), and evening (*Arvit*). King David in Psalm 55:17 ESV (Evening and morning and at noon I utter my complaint and moan, and he hears my voice) and Daniel in Daniel 6:10 ESV (He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God) followed this practice. Now that we know how often to pray, we can look at what to pray for. In our message today, we will examine Paul's instruction to use all forms of prayer to pray for all people, especially those in positions of authority.

1. Prayer for all people high and low. (1 Timothy 2:1)

a) All imaginable forms of prayer

b) Praying for all people

2. Prayer for those in positions of authority. (1 Timothy 2:2-4)

a) They determine the political stability and religious tolerance

b) They need the guidance and mercy of God

c) So we can live a happy and peaceful life

3. Jesus the mediator. (1 Timothy 2:5-7)

a) 1st commandment – there is only one God

b) Jesus's sacrifice for our salvation (Mark 10:45)

Conclusion

Paul tells us to pray for the saved and sinners alike because God gave his son Jesus to save us. He especially wants us to use all forms of prayer to ask Jesus to help guide our leaders as in 1 Timothy 1:15-16 ESV (¹⁵The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life).

For our prayerful study, discussion, and application:

- 1) Practice quieting and CAKE; share testimonies of escaping "enemy mode."
- 2) Share something about your prayer life and how it has affected you.
- 3) Please share any concerns or needs you may have and pray for one another.

Hope Chapel Honolulu News

Love Feast – Our next Love Feast is Sunday, 7/30 at 10 a.m. Please note that there will be no 8 a.m. service on this date due to the preparations involved.

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