

**1 Timothy**  
**The Gospel, Godliness, and The Church**  
*For the Spread of the Gospel*  
**1 Timothy 2:1-7**

- Read 1 Timothy 2:1-7 and then answer the following questions. Several of these verses will be familiar to you, but there is a chance you have not considered them in context.
  - First, look at the individual verses and explain what you know about them and how you have used them in conversation with others (e.g., Protestants rightly use verse 5 to reject the need for a Catholic priest to forgive sins)
  - Now read these verses as a unit with the focus being the spread of the gospel – notice the key words “all” and “one”
  - How does it make a difference if we see this first as instruction for the church, and then for individuals?
  
- The priority of prayer is clearly seen in our text – 1 Timothy 2:1 begins a long section in the book (2:1-6:2a) that instructs the church on its organization, its practices, and its public worship services. All of chapter 2 guides us in public worship.
  - How is priority of prayer obvious at Grace?
  - Although home groups are not the same as Sunday morning, instructions to the church would support prayer in home groups. Is there anything missing from our prayer time?
  - What is wrong (or, at least, what is not best) about the statement, “I believe in prayer,”?
  
- Based on verse 5, how would you help someone understand that we can have direct access to God? Use the verses in the notes below to support your answer, beginning with Job 9:32-33 and ending with 1 Peter 1:17-19.
  
- Spend time with the application points from the sermon
  - Pray for continued freedom for the church to proclaim the gospel – and pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters!
  - Study God’s Word to understand the riches of God’s grace as displayed in Jesus

- Trust in the God who is bigger than you can fathom and who will reveal his glory when Jesus returns

## Study Notes

### Thoughts and Quotes from the Sermon

#### Hermeneutic (Bible Study) Principles for Understanding 1 Timothy 2:1-7

1. Read this text first as instruction for the local church, then as a guide for individual believers
2. Read this text as one unit, not as a collection of random topics that are strung together
3. Accept that there is intentional, unresolved, theological tension in Scripture
4. Jesus is at the center of this text and at the center of the gospel

**John Stott** Election is usually introduced in Scripture to humble us (reminding us that the credit for our salvation belongs to God alone), or to reassure us (promising us that God's love will never let us go), or to stir us to mission (recalling that God chose Abraham and his family in order through him to bless all the families of the earth). Election is never introduced to contradict the universal offer of the gospel or to provide us with an excuse for opting out of world evangelization. If some are excluded, it is because they exclude themselves by rejecting the gospel offer. As for God, he wants all people to be saved.

Stott, John. *The Message of 1 Timothy & Titus: Guard the Truth (The Bible Speaks Today Series)* (p. 75). (Function). Kindle Edition.

Christianity is an inclusive religion with an exclusive message. All are welcome, but only those who believe in Jesus are saved.

### Paradox

**Mark 8:35** For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.

### Antinomy (apparent contradiction but not)

**Ephesians 1:4** . . . he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.

**Revelation 22:17** The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

### Scripture Associated with the Message

**Philippians 4:6** Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by **prayer** and **supplication** with **thanksgiving** let your requests be made known to God.

**2 Thessalonians 1:6** This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering— 6 since indeed God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, 7 and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels 8 in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. 9 **They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might,** 10 when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed.

**2 Timothy 1:8** Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, 9 who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, **which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began,** 10 and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

**Ephesians 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 even as **he chose us in him before the foundation of the world,** that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will.

**Ephesians 2:18** For through him (Jesus) we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

**1 Peter 3:18** For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.

**Job 9:32** For he is not a man, as I am, that I might answer him,  
that we should come to trial together.

**33 There is no arbiter between us,  
who might lay his hand on us both.**

**Hebrews 8:6** But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises.

**Romans 8:34** Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

**Hebrews 7:25** Consequently, he (Jesus) is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

**1 Peter 1:17** And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, 18 knowing that **you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.**

**1 John 2:1** My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

**Ephesians 5:25** Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

**Acts 20:28** Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.