

1 Timothy Part 2

Note:

In this teaching, the following terms are used: “new creation”, “new man” or “new self”, “Christ in You”, “holy spirit” and “gift of holy spirit”. All these terms refer to that which is received and born in a person when he or she becomes born again.

Turn to 1 Timothy 1

In part 1, we learned to whom this epistle is addressed; it is written by the apostle Paul to Timothy. These two men were very close friends, like a father and son. These two men spent time together, they knew each other and their mannerisms including their manner of speaking and communicating.

The apostle Paul was writing to Timothy, who had a completely accurate knowledge of the grace of God and the great mystery and its practical application. These two men shared a common body of spiritual knowledge and spiritual wisdom. They knew it better than any person alive on the face of the earth today. There may be much in Paul's communication with Timothy which is unwritten, unspoken, because of the knowledge and understanding they shared.

This is why it is apparent that there are some prerequisite requirements for understanding the epistles of first and second Timothy. There must be a working knowledge and understanding of the gospel of the grace of God and the great mystery. There must be some experience with walking in the newly created spiritual self, or walking by the spirit. Therefore, the person endeavoring to understand these epistles must have an accurate knowledge of the preceding epistles, Romans through Thesalonians.

I restate, that nothing in any of the writings of the apostle Paul can be accurately applied to the establishment or functioning of any corporate religious organization at any time or place. It cannot be applied to the positions or practices of these organizations, as these organizations have no Godly spiritual significance, authority, or functioning.

It is logical then, that any doctrine or pronouncement concerning any of these scriptures on behalf of any of the corporate religious organizations, is at best suspect. That having been said, 1 Thesalonians 5:20, 21 gives the best instructions in this regard:

20 Do not despise prophecies, **21** but test everything; hold fast what is good.

1 Timothy 1:5 states the reason for the instructions, the charge that Paul is giving to Timothy:

5 The aim (*goal, purpose*) of our charge is love (*this is active, not a passive emotional state*) that issues from a pure heart (*no hidden agenda*) and a good conscience (*a sound mind*) and a sincere (*no false pretense, no hypocrisy, no hidden agenda*) faith (*christian practice, behavior; which is walking by the spirit*).

The goal of the instructions, the charge, given to Timothy in this epistle is, that the believers in the church, the body of Christ are completely equipped to function and perform their ministry of building up of the body of Christ, as stated in Ephesians 4.

Therefore, there is absolutely nothing in first or second Timothy that can be remotely interpreted or applied so as to stifle, hinder, obstruct or otherwise impede any functioning believer in the body of Christ, as that believer is directed by the head of the body, who is Christ.

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In this teaching, we will confront centuries old doctrine which has been used to negate, and eliminate the Godly functioning of believers; enslaving them a lifetime with terrible bondage. These twisted doctrines are costing the Church, the body of Christ, a great portion of the available spiritual abilities and power that could be in operation today.

1 Timothy chapter 2 begins with a continuation of the instructions, the charge that Paul is imparting to Timothy in chapter 1 verse 18. Timothy is to wage the good warfare, walking by spirit with a sound mind.

1 Timothy 2:1

- 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, (*why?*) that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

Turn to Romans 8

Be mindful, be very aware, that when a request, supplication, intercession is given in prayer, we are requesting that the spirit of God, the power of God, goes into operation for some specific purpose.

Romans 8:26

- 26 Likewise the Spirit (*the new spiritual self*) helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit (*the new spiritual self, itself*) ~~himself~~ intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

Speaking in tongues is perfect prayer. This is how the new self of the spirit helps us pray as we ought; it makes intercession for us.

Romans 8:27

- 27 And he who searches hearts (*God*) knows what is the mind of the Spirit (*the new spiritual self*), because the Spirit (*new spiritual self*) intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We have no knowledge of the details of what is prayed for when we speak in tongues, but we know it is perfect prayer and it is intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Usually we will not know about the power of God which goes into operation, or the impact of our prayer. Be assured that His Power DOES go into operation as a result of our prayer. There is one thing that we DO know, and that is recorded in the next verse.

Romans 8:28

- 28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

We may not know anything else about the impact of our prayers, but we do know that His Power in operation causes everything to work together for good for those who love God and who are called according to His purpose. That's for the believers.

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Turn back to 1 Timothy 2

These prayers, supplications, intercessions, and thanksgivings are made with the purpose so that WE CAN GO INTO ACTION! So, we can continue to function, leading peaceful and quiet lives, unhindered! Again, there is NOTHING in these epistles that are to be interpreted or applied so as to hinder the genuine functioning of ANY believer.

These prayers are hostile to the god of this world and to his people, plans and purposes.

2 Thessalonians 2:7 states:

7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he (*the body of Christ*) who now restrains it (*the mystery of lawlessness*) will do so until he (*the body of Christ*) is out of the way (*this is our gathering together with Christ in the clouds*).

The devil is fighting to be able to fully function and bring forth the events written about in the book of Revelation and elsewhere. The problem is, today, he is RESTRAINED! He is restrained by the functioning of the body of Christ. A major contribution of our restraint of the mystery of lawlessness is our perfect prayer by speaking in tongues, and our functioning, as we lead our lives, peaceful, quiet, Godly and dignified in every way.

1 Timothy 2:3

3 This is good (*that we function in this manner*), and it is **pleasing** in the sight of God our Savior,

Turn to John 10

God is our savior because of the accomplishments of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Remember that God gave us His son.

Whenever I read scripture which indicates something we do is pleasing to God, I remember Hebrews 11:6

6 And without faith (*spiritual believing*) it is impossible to please him (*God*), for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

The context here in Hebrews 11 is men and women of God, walking by the spirit, invoking the power of God according to His will, by way of the operation of holy spirit which was upon them. Invoking spiritual power, according to the will of God, by the operation of holy spirit is VERY pleasing to God. The operation of the power of God by the believers, reported in Hebrews 11 is a testimony, a witness of their authenticity and their righteousness.

Jesus is confronted by the religious Jews in John 10:24

24 So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."

25 Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The **works** that I do in my Father's name (*by spiritual believing*) bear witness about me,

26 but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock.

27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

The works that you do by spiritual believing, whatever they may be, these works are a testimony

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about you and your authenticity. The unbelievers, those who are perishing, will not even believe these works. The believers, however, know each other by voice, because of the spiritual perception that is available in the new self of the spirit.

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These prayers that are to be prayed are to result in the operation of the power of God by spiritual believing within the body of Christ. That is most pleasing to God!

1 Timothy 2:4

4 who (God) desires all people to be saved and to come to **the knowledge of the truth**.

It is God's will, it is God's desire for ALL people to be saved. Is that all? No! What if you go out and win thousands to the Lord. Have you completed your job? NO! What happens in your place of employment if you are given an assignment and you do not complete it? Will you be praised or rewarded? NO!

Paul is re-teaching Timothy further reasons for the prayers and our functioning as we live quiet and peaceful lives with all dignity. The purpose is to further God's will for people to be saved and to come to THE knowledge of (*your truth, my truth, religious truth?* NO) **THE** Truth! Who or what is The Truth? Jesus Christ!

1 Timothy 2:5

5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, **the man** Christ Jesus,
(*there is no mediator within the trinity*)

6 who (*the man Christ Jesus*) gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. (The Lamsa Bible reads "...a testimony which came in due time)

7 For this (*testimony*) 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.

Now we know why the prayers are to be made for all people – to invoke the power of God with the impact that we can function in the body of Christ as we live Godly, dignified lives which is functioning within the body of Christ. Our functioning in the body of Christ promotes the will of God who desires all to be saved AND come to the knowledge of the truth.

The visionaries were given as gifts for service, so that those in the body of Christ can be equipped for this work. THEREFORE, referring to the praying in verses 1 and 2

8 I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling;

Every place means every physical place. We don't have to go into closets, into a special building, or even wait for a special time. We are enabled to pray any time, any where, whenever and wherever we will.

Every time you see people in church ceremonies or in ritual, religious assemblies lifting up their hands when they sing or pray, you are seeing the impact of the misunderstanding and the mishandling of this scripture.

It is clear from verses 1 and 2 that the entire reason for the prayers and intercessions is for the

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power of God to go into operation so that we can move and function according to the will of God. The lifting “of holy hands” has absolutely nothing to do with the manner in which we pray. There is nothing holy about our physical hands of the flesh. In fact Acts 17:25 Paul testifies to the Gentiles in Athens, that God is absolutely not served by human hands. One way of understanding this verse is that the operation of holy spirit which imparts the power of God, is associated with the hands. We will see an example of this in chapter 4.

One other way to have “holy hands” is to follow the instructions in Romans 6:13, where we present our members, our whole selves, which includes our physical hands, as instruments of righteousness.

Turn to Galatians 3

In either case, the point of the “lifting holy hands” is an exhortation to get busy, get to work, walking by the spirit. Pray, then move within the body of Christ.

“...without anger or quarreling” is very appropriate! We are to live and work peacefully with each other!

Timothy and the visionaries are all to live these instructions as an example and teach it to the administrators and other believers.

Now we have arrived at some verses which have been used to propound, move, and justify doctrines of devils. These verses have been twisted to force generations of believers into bitter enslavement to the god of this world.

Our understanding of these verses must be in agreement with ALL the verses in every context on the subject. At times when working the scriptures, we must go to very remote contexts; we may need to examine the temporal and cultural contexts as well.

At other times, the difficulty with a particular scripture may be that it has been poorly translated.

Verses 1 and 2 refer to “all people” including the secular authorities. In verse 4, the term “all people” is used again. In verses 5 and 6, Christ's accomplishments “for all” is mentioned. The believers are praying, moving, and working to promote the will of God towards all people. This refers to the functioning of the believers within the secular culture of the first century. Then Paul specifically mentions “men” in verse 8. At this point, we need to check Galatians 3:26 – 28

26 for in Christ Jesus **you are all sons of God**, through faith (*the faith of Jesus Christ*).

27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ (*the newly created spiritual self*).

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek (*no race*), there is neither slave nor free (*no social class*), **there is no male and female**, (*no gender*) for you are **all one in Christ Jesus**.

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Now, we know and understand that we are identified with Christ. Where, in the flesh? No, in the newly created spiritual self, the real you. In Christ, in our functioning within the body of Christ, there is no male or female; there is NO GENDER.

So, in 1 Timothy 2:8, why is Paul specifically mentioning the spiritual functioning of men? Can't women pray and walk spiritually as well? Yes they can. However, now the revelation is referring to

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the believers spiritual functioning within the Hellenistic culture of the 1st century. Another key phrase in this scripture is “...in every place...”. Generally, in earlier cultures, and in some cultures today, women have limitations placed on their functioning within their society. In the Hellenistic culture, men had access to “...every place...”.

In the current context we have to be sharp to recognize references to physical and cultural functioning and references to spiritual functioning. We must remember that these instructions are not religious laws contained in ordinances.

1 Timothy 2:9

9 likewise (refers to verse 8) also that **women** should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire,

10 but with what is proper for **women** who profess godliness—**with good works**.

Now we know that these two verses are referring to women who are spiritually functioning (*that's the...good works...*) within the Hellenistic culture.

Basically the women are not to be caught up in the pursuit of fashion and the popular culture. They are to concentrate on walking by the spirit and working as directed by the head of the body of Christ.

It is good to keep in mind the purposes which we covered before. These are instructions and charges to believers in a specific culture and period of time to address particular needs.

1 Timothy 2:11

11 Let **a woman** learn quietly with all submissiveness.

12 I do not permit **a woman** to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet.

13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve;

14 and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.

The keys to understanding verses 11 and 12 are in verses 13 and 14. Note that we have changed from “women” to “a woman”. In giving the reason for these instructions, Paul refers to Eve in Genesis. You can't refer to a much remoter context than that!

Well, who was Eve? She was the first woman. Was she married or unmarried? She was married! So, verses 11 and 12 refer specifically to married women.

Although these verses are specifically addressed to married women in the Hellenistic culture of the 1st century, verse 11 can be applied practically to men as well as women. In Romans 13:1 all believers are instructed to submit to the “higher powers” or authorities in the church, the body of Christ.

The higher powers include those genuinely functioning and serving as visionaries. In Ephesians 5:21 we are all instructed to submit “...one to another out of reverence for Christ”. So, it is safe to say that all believers should “...learn quietly with all submissiveness...”. I say this because of the need for an equality in the application of these instructions.

In the Lamsa Bible, verse 12 is translated as follows – (remember we are speaking of married women:)

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“I do not think it seemly (*appropriate*) for a woman to debate publicly or otherwise usurp the authority of men, but she should be silent.”

The “men” here refers to the husbands. The translation of the Lamsa Bible fits much more accurately with the other verses regarding this subject.

The context indicates that verse 12 is referring to a woman's relationship with her husband in public, within the Hellenistic culture.

If it were thought that we should practically apply verse 12 in our day and time, the practical application would be, that a husband and wife would refrain from arguing in public.

Turn to Genesis 3

Religious doctrine would have us believe that verses 13 and 14 indicate there is some pollution, some spiritual defect remaining in women because of the actions of Eve in Genesis.

In order to arrive at that conclusion, one must ignore everything we have learned about salvation by way of the accomplishments of Jesus Christ and our complete identification with him.

Although verses 13 and 14 of 1 Timothy refer to the deception and fall of Eve, the purpose of these verses is to highlight the CONSEQUENCES of Eve's actions. These consequences affected women in the body and soul category.

Now we will read what God had to say about these consequences.

Genesis 3:16

16 To the woman he (God) said,
“I will surely multiply your ~~p~~ain (*labor*) in childbearing;
in ~~p~~ain (*labor*) you shall bring forth children.
Your desire shall be ~~f~~or (*against*) your husband,
and he shall rule over you.”

The Net Bible translates the second part of this verse as:

“...You will want to control your husband, but he will dominate you.”

The translators added the following interesting note:

“This passage is a judgment oracle. It announces that conflict between man and woman will become the norm in human society”.

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The consequence of the conflict between man and woman in the marriage relationship is addressed in 1 Timothy 2:11 and 12.

The consequence regarding childbearing is addressed in 1 Timothy 2:15.

1 Timothy 2:15

15 **Yet she will be saved through childbearing**—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

Religion for centuries has taught and practiced that women are to stay at home, shut their mouths and do exactly what their husbands say. The women are to be baby factories, for the act of having babies is how they will be saved. This religious doctrine is contradicted by the second half of verse

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15, which says “IF they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control”. It's not very clear how the old twisted doctrine is to work, is it? Well, we have to get that religious thinking out of our minds. This verse is actually a wonderful, comforting promise!

This word “saved” CANNOT be referring to salvation. The context is speaking of the woman's natural functioning of her flesh, her body. So, this word is speaking of “saved” in a natural, physical sense. Bullinger's Critical Greek Lexicon defines this word “saved” as “to make sound, to save, preserve safe from danger, loss or destruction.” This definitions fits very well in the context.

The word “through” means “from start to finish, all the way through”, it does NOT mean “by way of”. She is not “saved” BY bearing children! We should understand the revelation in the following statement:

“Yet she will be preserved safe from danger, loss, or destruction, as she goes through the process of bearing children”. What a wonderful comfort to a believing, mother-to-be!

This promise is followed by a condition which says:

“if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control”. This is nothing more than stating that she should faithfully continue to walk in newness of life by way of the newly created spiritual self. This verse communicates the complete opposite of how it has been taught and practically applied for centuries. The married woman is INSTRUCTED and CHARGED to continue to function faithfully in the body of Christ; she is to continue to walk by the spirit!

This promise is not a magical or mystical result of her functioning. She is faithfully exercising her spiritual connection with her heavenly father who can communicate with her about anything she needs to know and do, to safely bring forth her child. She is also functioning within the body of Christ where there exists spiritual and practical resources to help, if needed.

Verse 15 is removed from the cultural aspect of this context, so it communicates a principle, a promise, which can be applied in our day and time.

Now that we have studied the minute details of chapter two, we can examine the functioning of the visionary in relation to these instructions.

All the instructions given in Timothy are directly addressed to the needs of the body of Christ in Ephesus at that time in the first century. You can be sure that both Paul and Timothy lived and taught these instructions over a period of time. They were able to demonstrate the practical application of this revelation.

Those serving as visionaries are to address the needs of the body of Christ in their day, time, and culture, just as Paul did. The instructions we may give in our day will be different because the needs are different.

We have learned from chapter 2 that the believers need to know what they can do practically to restrain the functioning of the devil spirit realm so that the body of Christ can function more and more.

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We also know that there may be a need to teach how believers are to spiritually function and practically move within a particular culture and society. This is the responsibility and service of the visionaries.

They are to have the spiritual perception and wisdom from our heavenly Father so as to know how to practically move the gospel of the grace of God in any given day and time. This wisdom is communicated to other visionaries, especially the teachers, who will teach and equip the believers, the saints, for their work in the ministry. The visionaries are to live this wisdom and be able to demonstrate its practical application.

The purpose of education is action. We have learned how the believing women are needed to function spiritually in the body of Christ, just as any other believer. In our day, many women ignore the old twisted doctrines, but how many do so with secret doubt, guilt and even shame? All of us have a golden opportunity to declare the accuracy of these verses to those devout, religious men and women who are held captive by the traditional twisting of these scriptures. This error and bondage **can** be negated, and people set free with the truth. Thus, the body of Christ can increase in its functioning and its impact in our day and time.