

*Preach the word! Be ready  
in season and out of  
season.*

# 1 Timothy 2

2022-2023

# The context of Paul's letters to Timothy

- ▶ The primary purpose of Paul's letters to Timothy is set in 1 Tim. 1:3-4
- ▶ V3 Stay in Ephesus

SO THAT

You may command certain people

**NOT TO TEACH FALSE DOCTRINES**

Or

- ▶ V4 To devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies

# The context of Paul's letters to Timothy

- ▶ V5 The goal is love
  - From
  - A pure heart, good conscience, & sincere faith

# The context of Paul's letters to Timothy

- ▶ V6 Some have departed from these (pure heart, good conscience & sincere faith)

And

turned to meaningless talk

- ▶ V7 They want to be teachers of the Law

But

They don't know what they are talking about

Or

What they affirm

# The context of Paul's letters to Timothy

- ▶ V18 (Paul) I am giving you this command  
So That  
You may fight the battle well
- ▶ V19 Holding to Faith & a Good Conscience  
Some have rejected (Faith & a Good Conscience)  
And  
Shipwrecked their faith
- ▶ V20 Among them  
Hymenaeus & Alexander  
whom (Paul) handed over to Satan

# The context of Paul's letters to Timothy

- ▶ Certain people are teaching false doctrine
- ▶ They have forsaken Christ and are leading others away
- ▶ Command them to stop!

- ▶ V1 I (Paul) urge, first  
Pray for all people
- ▶ V8 Therefore, I want  
Men to pray  
Lifting holy hands  
Without anger  
or  
Disputing

# 1 Timothy 2

- ▶ V9 I (Paul) want women (or wives)  
Dress modestly, with decency and propriety
- ▶ V10 Adorn themselves with good deeds
- ▶ V11 Learn in Quietness & Submission
- ▶ V12 I (Paul) do not permit  
a woman (or wife)  
To teach  
Or  
Assume authority (usurp) over a man (or husband)  
She must be quiet

# 1 Timothy 2

- ▶ V13 For
  - Adam was made first
  - then Eve
- ▶ V14 Adam was not deceived
  - The woman (Eve) was deceived
    - And
    - Became a sinner
- ▶ V15 But
  - She will be saved through childbearing
    - If
    - They continue in faith, love, & holiness with propriety

- ▶ This scripture has been used for centuries to silence women in the church.
- ▶ Was it Paul's intention to provide a universal rule for all women in all churches for all time?
- ▶ How do we reconcile the instructions in 1 Timothy with the instruction in Acts and in 1 Corinthians?
- ▶ How do we understand 1 Tim 2:13-15 ?

- ▶ 9 I also want the women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, adorning themselves, not with elaborate hairstyles or gold or pearls or expensive clothes,
- ▶ 10 but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God. NIV

- ▶ Written to women in the church in Ephesus
- ▶ Instructing women in the church who were
  - Dressing immodestly
  - Lacking in decency & propriety
  - Calling attention to themselves with expensive clothing, hairstyles, and jewelry

- ▶ Let a woman learn in **silence** with all submission. NKJV
- ▶ Let a woman learn in **silence** with full submission. NRS
- ▶ A woman must **quietly** receive instruction with entire submis siveness. NAS
- ▶ Women should learn **quietly** and submissively. NLT
- ▶ A woman should learn in **quietness** and full submission. NIV

# Silence or Quietness?

14

- ▶ The Greek noun used is *hesychia*.
- ▶ The adjective form *hesychion* is used in 1 Tim 2:2 "...that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life"
- ▶ 2 Thess. 3:12 Paul commanded Christians "to do their work in quietness (*hesychia*) and to earn their own living." Quietness is not the same as silence.

- ▶ And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence. NKJV
- ▶ I permit no woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she is to keep silent. NRS
- ▶ But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet. NAS
- ▶ I do not let women teach men or have authority over them. Let them listen quietly. NLT
- ▶ I do not permit a woman to teach or to assume authority over a man; she must be quiet. NIV

1 Tim 2:12 Bible

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◀ 1 Timothy 2:12 ▶

1 Timothy 2 - Click for Chapter

1321 [e] 1161 [e] 1135 [e] 3756 [e] 2010 [e] 3761 [e] 831 [e] 435 [e] 235 [e] 1510 [e] 1722 [e]  
 didaskein de gynaiki ouk epitrepō oude authentein andros all' einai en  
 12 διδάσκειν δὲ , γυναικὶ οὐκ ἐπιτρέπω , οὐδὲ αὐθεντεῖν ἀνδρός , ἀλλ' εἶναι ἐν  
 To teach however a woman not I do permit nor to use authority over a man but to be in  
 V-PNA Conj N-DFS Adv V-PIA-1S Conj V-PNA N-GMS Conj V-PNA Prep

2271 [e]  
 hēsychia  
 ἡσυχίᾳ .  
 quietness  
 N-DFS

- ▶ Clearly, Paul's instructions here forbid the Ephesian women from teaching, at least from teaching men.
- ▶ Is that applicable to all women in all places and times?

- ▶ **4** Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head.
- ▶ **5** But every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head—it is the same as having her head shaved.

- ▶ 3 But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort.
- ▶ 4 Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church.
- ▶ 5 I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified.

- ▶ **23** So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and inquirers or unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind?
- ▶ **24** But if an unbeliever or an inquirer comes in while everyone is prophesying, they are convicted of sin and are brought under judgment by all,

► I do not permit a woman to teach or to assume authority over a man; she must be quiet. NIV

1 Tim 2:12 Bible

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◀ 1 Timothy 2:12 ▶

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1321 [e]	1161 [e]	1135 [e]	3756 [e]	2010 [e]	3761 [e]	831 [e]	435 [e]	235 [e]	1510 [e]	1722 [e]
didaskein	de	gynaiki	ouk	epitrepō	oude	authentein	andros	all'	einai	en
12 διδάσκειν δὲ , γυναικὶ οὐκ ἐπιτρέπω , οὐδὲ αὐθεντεῖν					nor	to use authority over	ἀνδρός , ἀλλ'	εἰναι	ἐν	
To teach	however	a woman	not	I do permit			a man	but	to be	in
V-PNA	Conj	N-DFS	Adv	V-PIA-1S	Conj	V-PNA	N-GMS	Conj	V-PNA	Prep

2271 [e]  
hēsychia  
ἡσυχίᾳ .  
quietness  
N-DFS

A red circle highlights the word "authentein" in the Strong's column, which is the Greek word for "to use authority over".

- ▶ The verb Paul usually uses to express the idea of authority or power is *Exousia*. NOT used here.
- ▶ Here, Paul uses the verb *authentein*
  - ▶ The only use in the Bible
  - ▶ A very strong verb – means “to domineer” or “to overthrow, usurp authority”
  - ▶ The related noun (*authentes*) in classical Greek means “Murderer” or “Absolute Ruler”

- ▶ **13** For Adam was formed first, then Eve.
- ▶ Some claim that because Adam was created first and Eve second, there is an innate superiority of men over women.
  - ▶ Not supported in the teachings of Jesus. His disciples are to love one another and submit to one another, regardless of race, gender, or social status.
- ▶ In Genesis 3 we are told that as a consequence of their sin, **wives will desire their husbands and husbands will rule over their wives.**
  - ▶ Descriptive of the relationship God wants Christian men and women to live or descriptive of the way a sinful world lives?

- ▶ **14** And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner.
- ▶ Say what?
- ▶ 1 Cor 15:21-22 NIV. Speaking of the first man (Adam) Paul says “For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.”

- ▶ **15** But women will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety.

1 Tim 2:15 Bible

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**1 Timothy 2 - Click for Chapter**

4982 [e] 1161 [e] 1223 [e] 3588 [e] 5042 [e] 1437 [e] 3306 [e] 1722 [e] 4102 [e] 2532 [e] 26 [e]  
 sōthēsetai de dia tēs teknonogias ean meinōsin en pistei kai agapē  
 15 σωθήσεται δὲ διὰ τῆς τεκνογονίας, ἐὰν μείνωσιν ἐν πίστει καὶ ἀγάπῃ  
 She will be saved however through - childbearing if they abide in faith and love  
 V-FIP-3S Conj Prep Art-GFS N-GFS Conj V-ASA-3P Prep N-DFS Conj N-DFS

2532 [e] 38 [e] 3326 [e] 4997 [e]  
 kai hagiasmō meta sōphrosynēs  
 καὶ ἀγιασμῷ, μετὰ σωφροσύνης.  
 and holiness with self-restraint  
 Conj N-DMS Prep N-GFS

- ▶ “While Jesus was still speaking, someone came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. “Your daughter is dead,” he said. “Don’t bother the teacher anymore.” Hearing this, Jesus said to Jairus, “Don’t be afraid; just believe, and she will be healed.””

# Saved soul or healed body?

29

- ▶ Luke 8:50 σωθήσεται -  
NIV - she will be healed  
NAS - she will be made well.  
KJV - she shall be made whole.  
INT - she will be restored
- ▶ 1 Timothy 2:15. σωθήσεται -  
NAS - she will be preserved,  
NIV - she will be saved

# Saved soul or healed body?

30

- ▶ Through can be taken as  
“because of”  
or  
as “a place or process you travel over”

Paul wrote these instructions specifically to the Ephesian church, with a reasonable expectation that his meaning would be clear to those living in that place and time. Great care must be taken anytime we are tempted to pull bits of a passage out and apply them to our place and time, when it is impossible to understand the passage as a whole. And especially when we find it impossible to reconcile those bits with other parts of the New Testament.

I believe the instructions to the church in Ephesus were specific to Ephesus. Where these instructions are aligned with other instructions, they may be applied in similar situations. We must be very careful in deconstructing Paul's letters to fit other situations.