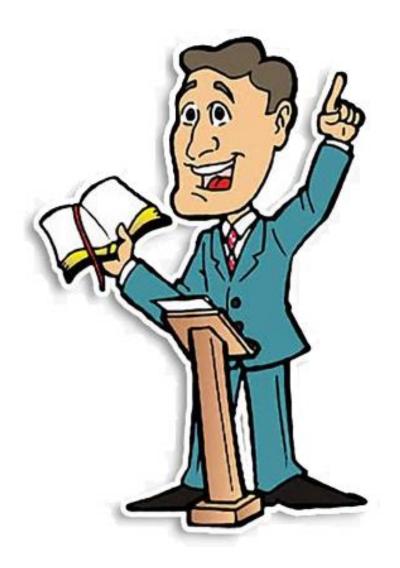
1 Timothy 2

If preaching were just a job, I would probably want to avoid speaking on this chapter!



I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone-- for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men--the testimony given in its proper time. And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle--I am telling the truth, I am not lying--and a teacher of the true faith to the Gentiles.

I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing.

I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God.

A woman should learn in quietness and full submission. I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she must be silent. For Adam was formed first, then Eve. And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner. But women will be saved through childbearing--if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety.

l urge, then,

This is Paul speaking with all the authority of an apostle of the Lord Jesus.

What he is about to say are not suggestions or helpful hints.



first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone--

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ESV

He tells us of the essential role of prayer (first of all = priority no. 1.)

All kinds of prayer For all kinds of people.

Different aspects of prayer - but all are needed.



- for kings and all those in authority,

These are people mostly outside the church but have an important role in the ordering of society.





that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

When such prayers are answered believers (and wider society) can enjoy peace. We are not asking for special favours as believers.

We are to be believers living as God wants us to And society to be open to the preaching of the gospel.

What does he mean by 'a peaceful and quiet life'?



outward peace and inward tranquillity

This is good, and pleases God our Saviour,

Prayer and its results are good God is our Saviour and is pleased by such service.



This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

God's genuine desire is for all people to be saved.

Why is not everyone going to be saved?



Gospel for All Nations To the End of the Age

Historically there has been division over the place of human freewill and God's Sovereign choice.

men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

Salvation is through knowledge (intellectual AND personal) of the truth (this is a 'short-hand' expression for the points of the Christian faith.)



For there is one God

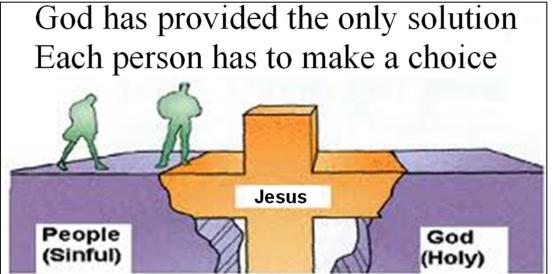
This is foundational. Since God desires all peoples to come to faith, all their other gods have to go!



and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,

There is only one way to enter a relationship with God. Jesus the Messiah became a perfect man in order to be qualified to mediate between a Holy God and a sinful humanity.

There is no role for other 'intermediaries' such as priests, popes pastors, and saints.



who gave himself as a ransom for all men--

His willing sacrifice was a redemption work. He paid the price for our release from the wrath of God.

Jesus' ransom is available and sufficient for all people. But is effective only for those who believe and receive it by faith.



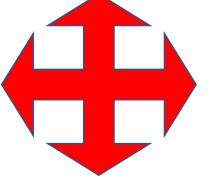
--the testimony given in its proper time.

In the wisdom and purposes of God the saving work of the Lord Jesus had come to pass in the lifetime of the apostles.

The gospel could now 'go international'.

Greek was the universal language

Roman road communications opened up wide frontiers Roman rule had established relative peace throughout the empire of the then-known world.





And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle--

Paul was called by God - it wasn't simply his choice

A herald – is a preacher announcing the good news An apostle is someone 'sent out' as a church planter.



-I am telling the truth, I am not lying--

Such a claim to God's call may seem 'over-the-top', but Paul insists it is nothing but the truth.



I was appointed a herald and an apostle--I am telling the truth, I am not lying--and a teacher of the true faith to the Gentiles.

Paul's role included his place as the one to bring and explain the gospel truths to the nations.



I want men **everywhere** to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing.

Now to matters relating to what should happen in every church:-In the public prayer meeting ... lift up hands

Men - pray! The danger for them is anger and arguments. Don't do it!



I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety,



Women next

How you look in a sexualised society is important and gives a message to everyone.

not with braided hair or gold or pearls or expensive clothes,

Church is not meant to be a fashion parade.

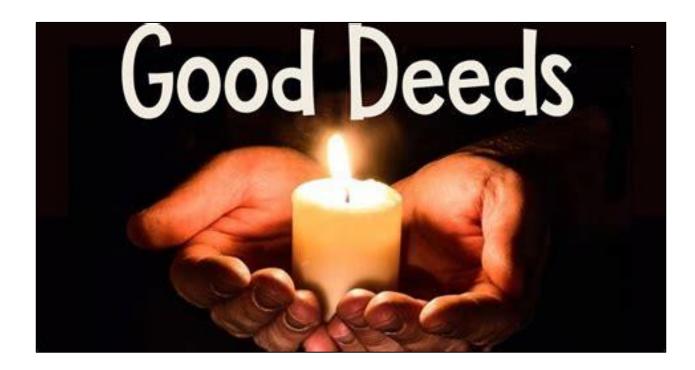
Does this mean we are to be dowdy?

Surely we should make the best of what God has given us, but in the end it's not about externals.



but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God.

This is what Paul wants the world to see in a Christian woman (it applies to men too)



A woman should learn in quietness and full submission.

Another big issue in these days!

Let's consider some basic starting points: 1, Paul is addressing church behaviour as a response to the leaders in the church.

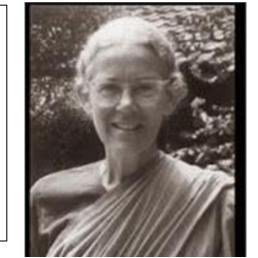


- 2, He is talking about structures within the body of Christ
- 3, The word for 'woman' here can mean 'woman' or 'wife'
- 4, In other parts of Paul's letters he speaks of the teaching roles of women with other women and children.
- 5, It is not about male superiority or super-spirituality

I do not permit a woman to teach

Is he saying that in the context of the assembled church, the lead teaching role is not for a woman? What about such gifted women as:--

Romans16:3 Greet Prisca (Priscilla) and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus,







c. 50 AD.

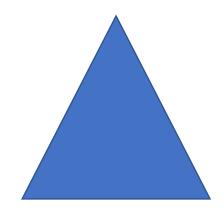
Amy Carmichael 1867-1951

Gladys Aylward 1902 - 1970 Joyce Meyer

I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man;

Paul is not being anti-women. See the letters where he speaks highly of many women in the churches.

He is addressing the God ordained structure. (This applies in marriage too – cf Ephesians 5). It is not dealing with roles outside the church, in work etc.



Does this mean that women (or wives) have nothing to contribute in the church?

she must be silent.

This seems to apply to the woman who wants to be **the** teacher in the congregation.

Women prayed, prophesied and worshipped in the congregations as we see in Acts.

It was a fulfilment of Joel's prophecy on the day of Pentecost.

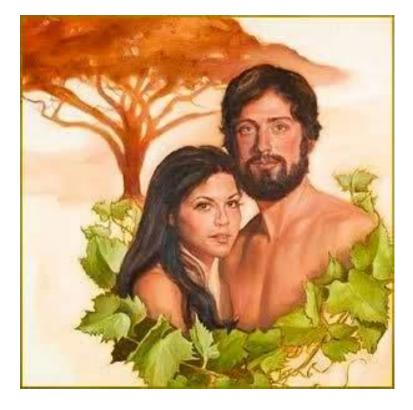
Acts 2:17 "And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams;



For Adam was formed first, then Eve.

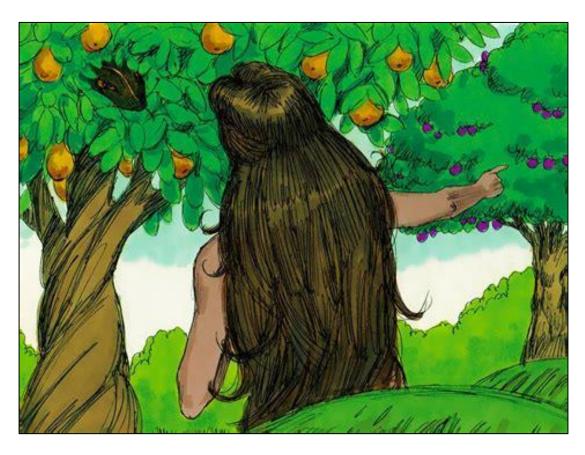
This is the first of two reasons that Paul gives.

It's not a cultural thing simply applying to Paul's day and generation. He goes back to the creation account in Genesis and says that God's order in creating humans was that the man came first, and he was given authority over the creation. So he argues that this order is to be continued in the church.



And Adam was not the one deceived; it was **the woman** who was deceived and became a sinner.

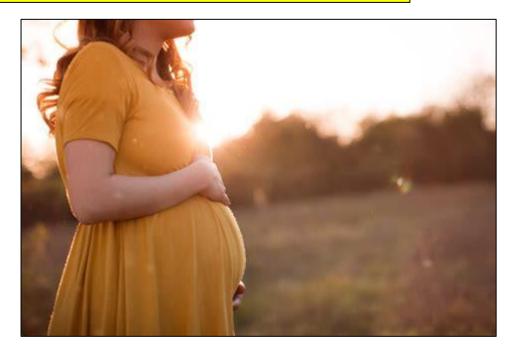
The second point seems to be that Eve was more open to Satan's deception. Her falling led to Adam's sin. BUT Adam sinned with his eyes open!



But women will be saved through childbearing if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety.

Here is one of the most difficult verses to understand in the whole letter!

Basic points to consider:-



- 1, The subject changes from 'woman' to 'women' plural.
- 2, It cannot mean that salvation is possible through childbirth.
- 3, It is referring to **believing** women receiving some benefit

But women will be saved through childbearing if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety.

Giving birth can be a risky matter (especially in those days) Perhaps there is a promise of God's help and healing. It was the gift of God to women for the continuing of the human race.

Some understand the childbearing as referring to Mary giving birth to Jesus – the great role of women in God's plan of salvation. But the text seems to be a rather obscure reference to it.

Over all, the passage seems to be looking at men's role in the church and the woman's role in the home. Much of this teaching runs completely counter to modern-day thinking and culture. Today it is the attitude of 'we know better now'.

God's ways are higher than ours and are not subject to changes imposed by man.

