

## THE WILL OF GOD (1 Timothy 2:3-7)

### I. **The mission (vs. 3-4).**

- A. Notice that Paul stated this is “good and acceptable.”
  - 1. “This” refers to praying for leaders.
  - 2. It pleases God that we pray for all men and especially our leaders.
  - 3. We pray for the salvation of men and that leaders will rule in ways that make it possible to spread the message of salvation
- B. We serve a God who wants all men to be saved.
  - 1. There is not a person for whom Jesus did not die.
  - 2. There is not a person that is left out of “teach all nations.”
  - 3. As God looked through time and saw the need for a Savior for mankind, He devised His plan of salvation for all mankind, not just a certain few.
- C. The way to be saved is to come to a knowledge of the truth.
  - 1. Notice the word “the” before “truth.”
    - a. This is an exclusive truth.
    - b. It is the only truth like it.
    - c. Anything that is does not resemble completely this truth cannot save.
  - 2. Jesus said that He was “the truth.”
  - 3. When we come to a knowledge of Jesus and the truths that He taught, we will desire salvation.
    - a. We need to understand that one doesn’t have to know all the truth in order to be saved.
    - b. One needs to know that Jesus is the Son of God and because of that we should obey Him.
    - c. We each are a work in progress as far as our knowledge of all the truth.
- D. The mission of God in His will is for all mankind to be saved.

### II. **The Mediator (vs. 5).**

- A. Sin separates us from God and man needed a way to get back the relationship he had with God before he sinned.
- B. Man needed someone to bring him and God together.
- C. Jesus is that One that can and will bring man and God together.
- D. Paul states that there is one God before mentioning the Mediator.
  - 1. The Jews finally came to believe that there was only one God after coming back from captivity.
  - 2. They still did not grasp that God is the God of all men and not just them
  - 3. God is the Father of all mankind, thus the reason for Him wanting all men saved.
- E. That one God provided a Mediator for us in the form of the Man, Christ Jesus.
  - 1. Numerous times Paul deals with the deity of Jesus.

2. Here, for our sakes, Paul reminds us of the humanity of Jesus.
  3. Jesus did not lose His humanity when He ascended any more than He lost His deity when He came to earth.
  4. Jesus is the perfect Mediator because He belongs to both sides.
- F. The idea of “one” also indicates exclusivity as the word “the” does in the previous verse.
1. Jesus is the only Mediator just as God is the only God.
  2. There are just as many Mediators as there are Gods: one.
  3. No one else can get us through to God.
  4. One cannot pray to Mary in order to get through to God or invoke the name of so-called saints to get through to God.
  5. If you or I want to get through to God, we must go through the one Mediator, Jesus.

### III. The method (vs. 6).

- A. The mission of God is for all of us to be saved and the Mediator, the one through whom we go, is Jesus.
- B. The method devised by God to accomplish this was the death of Christ for all men.
1. Jesus paid the ransom price, the price for our spiritual freedom.
  2. We had sold ourselves into spiritual bondage through sin and needed someone to buy us back.
  3. Jesus paid that price.
- C. The price that He paid was for all.
1. God wants all men saved, thus Jesus had to die for each man that God wants saved.
  2. The idea that Jesus died for only an elect, certain few and His atonement that He offers is only for that few and no one else is completely contradictory to this passage.
  3. God wants all men saved and Jesus is the ransom for all men and nothing could be plainer from this passage.
- D. The only way our sins will ever be forgiven is through the ransom price paid by Jesus.
1. To try any other way is to say that the blood of Jesus is not worth the price of sin.
  2. It is a slap in the face of God and would render the death of Jesus meaningless.
- E. The only method that can accomplish the mission of God is the death of Jesus on the cross for all men.
- F. This method was put into place at the appropriate time by God is the meaning of the last phrase.

### IV. The messenger (vs. 7).

- A. Paul told Timothy that God chose him to be a preacher of this message and to be an apostle.
1. Paul’s meeting with Jesus was well known.
  2. His conversion was for the purpose of his salvation followed by entering into the work God had for him, which was to preach the

gospel to the Gentiles.

- B. Paul appealed to Jesus because just as he did to the Galatians because people questioned his apostleship.
  - 1. Paul was attacked on many fronts, one of them being the legitimacy of his apostleship.
  - 2. Since there were false teachers in Ephesus, there were probably attacks being made in this regard and this was Paul's way of dealing with them.
- C. Paul preached faith in Christ to the Gentiles and the truth, which is the meaning of verity.
- D. The truth is, all Christians are to be preachers and teachers of God's word to the lost.
  - 1. We are not ordained, or set apart, as many people use the word today.
  - 2. This simply means that Paul was appointed or designated as a preacher, and we have the same designation as Christians.
  - 3. We are not apostles of course, but we are to be teachers of God's message in order to accomplish the will of God.