

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE
SERMON OUTLINE
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#6 - Book of I Timothy
'FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH'

FEBRUARY 17, 2019

**"The Will and Work of God or
Telling Men About God"**

1 Timothy 2:4-8

In this section of scripture Paul magnifies the will of God for all and the work of God for all. We learned in the last lesson that God loves all people and He desires that all people be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.

In the following verses, we learn about the work of God for all. The work of God for all coincides with the will of God for all. They go hand in hand in unison to accomplish God's purposes on earth. It is God's will that all men be saved, but we know that not all men will be saved. People reject the gospel of God and refuse the gift of God.

I. GOD AND HIS MERCY V-4

"All men" included even the Nebuchadnezzars, Neros, and Napoleons of this world. We know salvation depends on a "knowledge of the truth"

We cannot explain the mystery of God's sovereignty and man's responsibility as we see in *John 6:37*. We must realize that both the sovereignty of God and the free-will of man are taught in the Bible and are harmonized in God's great plan of salvation.

God would have all men "to come unto the knowledge of the truth." To that end, He has given us *His Word* and has sent *His Holy Spirit* into the world. Because God has endowed the human race with the power of choice, therefore making us free moral agents, He will not violate the will of any man.

II. GOD AND HIS MEDIATOR Vs.5-6

A. His Absolute Exclusiveness V-5

The word translated "mediator" refers to "a go-between, an umpire if

you will." The longed-for Mediator has now come. He is God over all, blessed forevermore, self-existing, and co-eternal and co-equal with the Father and the Spirit. The second person of the Godhead became a man and lived among men on this planet in space.

Now think about this my friend. The Lord Jesus knows all there is to know about God because *He is God*; He knows all there is to know about man because *He is man*. I am here to tell you that Jesus is the only Mediator between God and man. Rome would make Mary an immaculate virgin a mediator also, but NOT.

Mary-idolatry is an invention of barren religious minds. One solid text, 1 Timothy 2:5, demolishes any amount of human tradition: "There is... *one mediator*," God said -- not the angels, not canonized Roman saints, not the Virgin Mary, only **Jesus our Lord**.

B. His Abundant Expiation (Atonement) V-6

Christ Jesus "gave himself a ransom for all." Ransom means the redemption price of a slave. The provision was universal, "for all."

III. GOD AND HIS MESSENGER Vs 7-8

A. Paul's Appointment v-7

The Scope of His Appointment V-7a - The word translated "ordained" means "to appoint," and the word translated "preacher" means "to herald."

1. The Surety of His Appointment V-7b - He understood that an attack on the messenger was an attack on the message.

2. The Sphere of His Appointment V-7c - Paul was appointed to be "*a teacher of the Gentiles*." Paul taught the Gentiles "*in faith and verity/truth*." He preached with unwavering faith in the gospel.

B. Paul's Appeal V-8

Coming back to his starting point in 2:1, Paul appealed for *an atmosphere of prayer* and *an attitude of prayer*. The important thing is not the posture of the body but the posture of the heart. Paul's answer to the angry and the doubtful was, "**Pray everywhere**." Everyone could pray. Paul stated three essentials for effective prayer, and the first was "**holy hands**." Obviously this means a holy life. "**Without wrath**" is the second essential, and requires that we be on good terms with one another. "**Without anger**" might be a another translation. "**Doubting**" suggests that we must pray *in faith*, but the word could also mean "disputing."

In any case, Paul's emphasis is on holiness rather than on hands. Holiness is one of the conditions of successful prayer. Successful prayer comes from a person whose life meets with God's approval (Ps. 66:18).