

## Union Bethel AME Church Bible Study

Dial-in Number: (425) 436-6260 Access Code: 141997#

Zoom Meeting ID 863 1188 9288, Passcode 782781

Facebook™ Live @unionbethelameccary

Tuesday, December 29, 2020, 6:30 – 7:30 PM

### 1 Timothy 2:1-15 and 1 Timothy 3:1-16



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### 1 Timothy 2:1-4

*1 I exhort therefore, first of all, that supplications, prayers, intercessions, thanksgivings, be made for all men; 2 for kings and all that are in high place; that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and gravity. 3 This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 4 who would have all men to be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth.*

God wants all to be saved. We need to pray for everyone to accept Jesus. This includes the powerful that may not see or understand the need for Jesus in their lives. When the powerful find Jesus, all of us can enjoy peace.

### Why is peace important?

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## **1 Timothy 2:5-7**

*5 For there is one God, one mediator also between God and men, himself man, Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself a ransom for all; the testimony to be borne in its own times; 7 whereunto I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I speak the truth, I lie not), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.*

Paul proclaims there is one God. There is also one mediator for us, Christ Jesus. Paul was appointed by God to preach and serve as an apostle.

**While is Paul's claim as an apostle important since Paul did not travel with Jesus during Jesus' ministry?**

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**How will the testimony of Christ Jesus be revealed in time?**

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## **1 Timothy 2:8-15**

*8 I desire therefore that the men pray in every place, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and disputing. 9 In like manner, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefastness and sobriety; not with braided hair, and gold or pearls or costly raiment; 10 but (which becometh women professing godliness) through good works. 11 Let a woman learn in quietness with all subjection. 12 But I permit not a woman to teach, nor to have dominion over a man, but to be in quietness. 13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve; 14 and Adam was not beguiled, but the woman being beguiled hath fallen into transgression: 15 but she shall be saved through her child-bearing, if they continue in faith and love and sanctification with sobriety.*

Paul called men to unity and certain women to modesty. Paul's concern was in his knowledge of the disruptive nature of some of the people in Ephesus. This was an indirect request to pray earnestly in peace with each other and not to offer false praises to God while arguing heatedly with each other. To pray piously knowing that before and after prayer there are serious arguments tearing apart the fellowship is to make a mockery of the

significance of prayer. Paul addresses women engaged in activity that is disruptive to those who want to follow Christ. Their attire would indicate availability to participate in activity that led people to sin. This letter written by Paul was never meant to cover all women for all times. Modest dress is not wrong; however, God indicated in Joel 2:28-29 (words that Peter reiterated when the Holy Spirit anointed the people waiting in Jerusalem)

***28** And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: **29** and also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my Spirit.*

**How do we reconcile Paul's words in 1 Timothy 2:9-15 with the words in Joel 2:28?**

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**If childbearing is part of the salvation process for women; how do when who never have children find salvation?**

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### **1 Timothy 3:1-7**

***1** Faithful is the saying, If a man seeketh the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. **2** The bishop therefore must be without reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, orderly, given to hospitality, apt to teach; **3** no brawler, no striker; but gentle, not contentious, no lover of money; **4** one that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; **5** (but if a man knoweth not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) **6** not a novice, lest being puffed up he fall into the condemnation of the devil. **7** Moreover he must have good testimony from them that are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.*

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Paul makes it clear the qualities needed by leadership in the church. He focused on the office of the bishop in these verses. Paul's concern was having one's own house in order as a symbol of ability to lead a church.

### **Why hold bishops accountable for what their children do?**

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#### **1 Timothy 3:8-13**

**8** Deacons in like manner must be grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; **9** holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. **10** And let these also first be proved; then let them serve as deacons, if they be blameless. **11** Women in like manner must be grave, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. **12** Let deacons be husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. **13** For they that have served well as deacons gain to themselves a good standing, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Deacons (like those set aside as deacons in Acts 6:1-15 to care for the widows) must have a heart for God and God's people. The office is not intended to provide benefits but to be one of sacrifice that is the same requirement for bishops.

### **How do we hold the mystery of faith in a pure conscience?**

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Paul seems to put one sentence directed at women between calls for sober lifestyles by bishops and deacons. This seems out to the ordinary. All people should not be slanderers, should be temperate, and should be faithful.

### **What reason could Paul have had to comment on the character of women while discussing home life for bishops and deacons?**

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## **1 Timothy 3:14-16**

**14** *These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly; 15 but if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how men ought to behave themselves in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. 16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness;*

*He who was manifested in the flesh,*

*Justified in the spirit,*

*Seen of angels,*

*Preached among the nations,*

*Believed on in the world,*

*Received up in glory.*

We have a mystery that is only solved by the Holy Spirit. It is not through logic or great understanding; it is only by faith that we accept who Jesus is. If we truly follow Jesus, then we will know how to act in the house of God.

**What actions or thoughts do we have that we need to change to serve in the house of the living God?**

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