

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

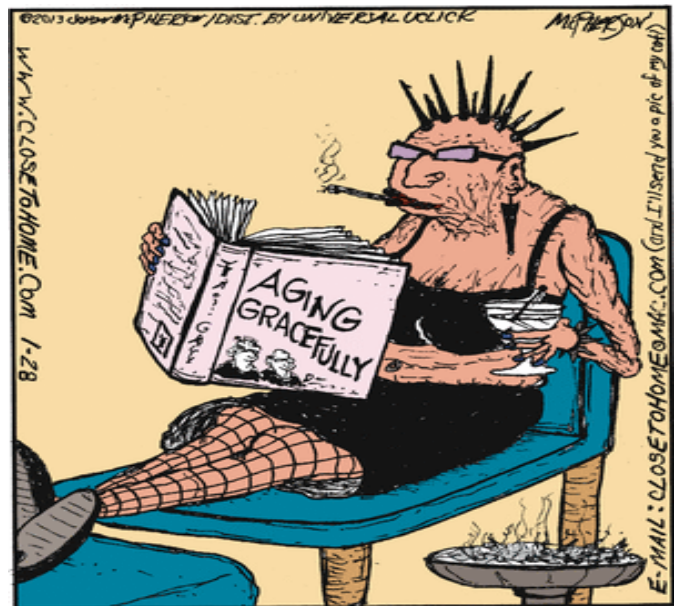
- 1) 03 March 2013..... 1Timothy 1:1-20..... Follow Sound Doctrine
- 2) 10 March 1Timothy 2:1-15..... **Please God in Worship**
- 3) 17 March..... 1Timothy 3:1-4:16..... Honor God in Your Service
- 4) 24 March..... 1Timothy 5:1-6:2..... Care for Others
- 5) 31 March..... Matthew 28:1-20..... Believe in the Risen Lord
- 6) 07 April..... 1Timothy 6:3-21..... Pursue Spiritual Gifts
- 7) 14 April..... 2Timothy 1:1-18..... Be Loyal
- 8) 21 April..... 2Timothy 2:1-26..... Be Strong in God's Work
- 9) 28 April..... 2Timothy 3:1-17..... Be Guided by God's Word
- 10) 05 May..... 2Timothy 4:1-22..... Be Persistent to the End
- 11) 12 May..... Titus 1:1-16..... Look for Qualified Spiritual Leaders
- 12) 19 May..... Titus 2:1-15..... Look for Spiritual Excellence
- 13) 26 May..... Titus 3:1-15..... Look for Good Works

INTRODUCTION

- This chapter addresses two (2) high impact topics – 1) effectively praying for people, and 2) the powerful influence women have
- Paul seems to hammer the men for not doing their primary job of being devoted to praying humbly & righteously before God; and he seems to hammer the women for stepping in to do the work that the men weren't doing – work that God designed men to do
- Some theologians view Apostle Paul as being chauvinistic and legalistic since he is so authoritative in his writings, but they miss the warmth & pastoral concern he has for his churches, and his desire to mature everyone to perfection through sound doctrine
- And believers today can be accused of being too acclimated and accommodating to our unisex culture, where men and women are seen as interchangeable in all areas of society, home and church

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ The raising of hands over the head is a universal sign for unconditional surrender, and holy hands indicates we are righteous before God ♦ “without anger and controversy” – IOW, murmuring against God, unthankful, impatient.....see Heb 11:6 ♦ A man's behavior should be identified with praying • v9. A woman should be noted for her godly character as well, with the 1st impression given by her dress code ♦ From her hair to her toe nails people assess if a woman is dressed for work or dressed to flirt ♦ How much does a woman's physical appearance play into manipulating people – especially men? ♦ Some Christian sects use this passage, along with 1Peter 3:3-4, to restrict the use of makeup and even to dictate the style of clothes to wear ♦ Paul and Peter's intent was not to establish a dress code, but to convey that a godly character had higher priority over one's physical appearance ♦ Paul & Peter's position was less is better – simplicity, not extravagance – godly character, not sexuality
1Peter 3:3-4	<p><i>“Your adornment must not be merely external braiding the hair, and wearing gold jewelry, or putting on dresses; but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God.”</i></p>
1Timothy 2:10-11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v10. <i>but rather by means of good works, as is proper for women making a claim to godliness.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ “Good works” would include taking care of family, helping widows (1Tim 5 and Acts 9:36), and other acts of mercy and generosity ♦ Bad works could include idleness and gossiping ♦ And men can be guilty of these as well • v11. <i>A woman must quietly receive instruction with entire submissiveness (IOW, not disruptive behavior)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This is true of men as well as we all sit under the tutelage of godly church elders & teachers ♦ Also, what are we to do after receiving all kinds of good Bible instructions from our elders? Do we sit on it, or share it widely and fervently with others?

Passage	Comments
1Timothy 2:1-2	<p>Praying is a Priority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definitions Of Praying Terms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Supplications / Entreaties..... Needs identified ♦ Prayers Addressed to God ♦ Intercessions / Petitions Praying for others ♦ Thanksgivings Shows of appreciation • vv1-2. We need to pray for all men, from our political leaders, school teachers, firemen & policemen, to our military, laborers & even the homeless, whether they be good or bad, Christian or non-Christian <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Purpose. God wants to respond and accomplish His will through our prayers. So if we want more of a “tranquil and quiet” society with less drama..... PRAY ♦ If we want an orderly and safer society PRAY ♦ If we want a society that exhibits godliness PRAY ♦ If we want less school shootings and other crime, and more harmonious marriages..... PRAY ♦ If we want a stable economy & less poverty.... PRAY
2:3-7	<p>The Gospel Saves</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv3-4. It is not God's will for anyone to perish .. 2Pet 3:9 • Knowledge of the Truth (sound doctrine) is able to save us from Hell and from deception – if we willingly listen • vv5-6. The Gospel is summarized as God took the initiative and offered Christ as the ransom for our sins • v7. Paul acknowledges his unique appointment from God to take the Gospel to the Gentiles – by teaching them the truth (sound doctrine) of the Gospel
2:8-10	<p>Proper Behavior is Power</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether we be male or female, our godly behavior does more to positively impact our homes, work place and society than speaking just good words alone • v8. We come full circle back to Praying again <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Praying men are depicted as “lifting up holy hands”



This is why we need to teach our youth to dress modestly, to avoid harmful habits, and to pray for one another

Passage	Comments
1Timothy 2:12	<p>Women and Their “Special” Power</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v12. <i>“Women are not to teach or usurp authority over men, and they are to remain silent”</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where is this to be done? At home? Church? Work? Is this a cultural principle or a timeless command? Since Paul says women can talk, pray and prophecy in church (1Cor 11), and Paul acknowledges that women can start and host churches and be heavily involved in church (Romans 16:1-5), and women can instruct men (Acts 18 - Priscilla teaching Apollos), then what is the proper application of this passage? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Some churches teach that women should not be S/S teachers where men are students, but Priscilla’s teaching of Apollos squelches that Parallel passages include 1Cor 11:3; Titus 2:5; 1Peter 3:1; and 1Cor 14:34 where it says <i>“Women are to keep silent in the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the Law also says.”</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BUT 1Cor 14 context is speaking in tongues The “Law” here probably refers to Genesis 3:16 Usurping or exercising authority over men can be taken several ways <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the home front, a domineering wife could cause disharmony – but is the problem with the wife trying to hold a struggling family together or with the husband who is not fulfilling his role as a loving leader and protector? From a church or work perspective – women can easily manipulate men by their persuasive charms and dress A suitable answer for usurping authority begins with asking who is qualified to teach and have authority within the church. The answer is church elders, and they would’ve been the primary, if not the only teachers within the early church (see Ephesians 4:11 Pastors/Teachers and 1Timothy 3:2) Example. It would be wrong for me (as a simple S/S teacher) to usurp or circumvent the Elders/Ministers of our church and teach something contrary to their stances – and this would be wrong whether I am a male or female But what about a woman teaching S/S with men as students? In a co-ed situation, no problem biblically since church elders/ministers can delegate such authority. To err on the side of caution, consider having a husband and wife be co-teachers as Aquila and Priscilla did with ApollosActs 18:24-26 What about a man teaching an all-women’s class? This would be problematic since it is more fitting for a mature woman to train younger women Titus 2
2:13-14	<p>The Source of Contention is Adam and Eve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since the roles of Adam and Eve are depicted, Paul is painting the bigger picture of God’s typical design for our gender roles and responsibilities God holds men responsible and accountable for the health & well-being of the family, & men are to love their wives as Christ loved the church Eph 5:25 Women are co-laborers with their husbands, but they should be willing to serve under the husband’s authority as Christ was to His Father Eph 5:24

Passage	Comments
Distinct Roles of Men and Women within the Church	<p>No doubt, men and women are equal at the foot of the Cross, yet both sexes have distinct roles within the church to effectively promote the Gospel and maintain order. Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only spiritual qualified men (not all men) are appointed as Pastors/Elders and Deacons1Timothy 3; Titus 1 Certain mature women should teach younger women how they should love their husbands Titus 2
2:15	<p>Women Will Be Saved Through Childbirth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saved from what? Hell? Deception? Turmoil? We know what the Bible says, but what does it mean? Consider looking at this passage from an engineering perspective <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A chainsaw works great and last a long time if it is used as designed. If it is used to cut rocks or to hammer nails, it will perform poorly or even break So when men and women operate within their God-given design parameters, we are able to work at our peak performance, produce the spiritual fruit God wants us to have, produce less turmoil in our lives, and be better positioned to withstand Satan’s deceptive ways – as Eve found out after she and Adam apparently swapped roles – she became the leader, and he became subservient to her

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- Praying fervently for others so we can have a good life, and being aware of the impacts someone’s attitude and clothes can have on the church seem like two very diverse topics to address in this chapter – and rightly so
- These topics must’ve been important to the early church, and guess what, they are still topics of concern for us today
- Paul’s response is spot on – now, if only we would heed them

NEXT WEEK: 1Timothy 3-4. Paul stipulates the qualifications required for church elders, deacons, and their wives; and he stresses the need to “pay close attention” to doctrine so people can be saved, both from Hell and from deception



For good reasons, and by design, we all have different perspectives on things