

# 1 Timothy ch2

## Bible Study

How to be faithful to the Truth and  
to the people who need you.

1 Timothy chapter 2 is one of the most difficult and highly debated passages in the bible. Trying to work out what the apostle Paul is saying has proved to be a difficult task.

**When studying difficult passages why is it important to study the historical and social context? What other factors should be brought in to try and work out what God is saying?**

*Read 1 Timothy chapter 2*

In Chapter 1 it is clear that Paul is addressing the false teachers who had come from a Jewish background but here it is most probably gentile women who had come from Ephesus' mother goddess religion. **What verses seem to indicate this?**

In the first few verses of 1 Timothy 2 he urges the church to pray for everyone including kings and those in authority. We don't know exactly what the heresy was that Paul was addressing but from these few verses **what sort of things could the false teachers have been saying?**

Paul seems to suggest praying for those in authority and in general, those who are not saved, should be a priority. **Do you think we spend enough time praying for the lost in our services and home-groups?**

**How is the truth about Jesus in verses 5 and 6 challenged today?**

Verses 8 and 10 give us a little insight into the different economic and social classes that existed in Ephesus. A similar problem existed in Corinth. **From verses 8-10 what kind of things could have been happening and why?**

διδάσκειν οὐκ ἐπιτρέπω, οὐδὲ αὐθεντεῖν ἀνδρός,  
to teach not I allow, nor to exercise authority of a man,

At first glance 1 Timothy 2:11-12 seems to say all women should be silent in church services and home groups. No woman should ever have authority over a man and should ever teach anyone (male, female or even children ). But this is not what is being said for a number of reasons.

Firstly such a view clashes with what the rest of the bible says. check out Galatians 3:28; Romans 16:1-2; Romans 16:7; Acts 18:26; Philip-pians 4:2-3 ) what other verses show equality and encourage women to teach and exercise leadership in society, family and church?

οὐκ ἐπιτρέπω,

It has been noted that not I allow, in ancient Greek literature was never associated with a permanent ban but rather the verb implies a ban for a specific period of time. Paul has in mind a ban on the Ephesus women teaching and having authority until they have been properly instructed. Paul quotes a catastrophic example of a woman who was not properly instructed. **Look at Genesis 2:17 and Gen.3:3.**

Verse 15 is another difficult passage. Literally it should read:

ἡ σωθήσεται δὲ διὰ τῆς τεκνογονίας, ἔὰν μείνωσιν ἐν  
she will be saved but through the childbearing, if they remain in

**What does this mean? And how does it link with Paul 's command for women to grow in their faith before they teach?**



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