

The Right Focus for This Election

1 Timothy 2:1–8

1 Timothy 2:1–8 (NKJV)

2 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for all men, **2** for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. **3** For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, **4** who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. **5** For *there is* one God and one Mediator between God and men, *the* Man Christ Jesus, **6** who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time, **7** for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle.....—I am speaking the truth in Christ *and* not lying—a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Introduction

On Oct 10 1520, 500 years ago, a knock came to the door of Augustinian monk Martin Luther, this is 3 years after he had nailed the 95 thesis to the

door of the church in Wittenberg Germany calling the church to debate on the topic of indulgences, a practice of purchasing forgiveness of sins, or paying to lessen the time of your loved ones in purgatory.

Over those 3 years, his doubts about indulgences had grown and his commitment to salvation by grace alone in Christ alone, through faith alone had grown much stronger.

And now he was about to be tested...At his door stands a envoy of the Pope, and Martin is handed a document, an official legal document of the church. On it was a lead seal, with the likeness of the apostles Peter and Paul on one side and on the other the name of the most powerful man in the world at that time...Pope Leo X.

The Document states that Martin Luther is a Heretic, and will face excommunication and certain death, if he is not willing to recant what he believes and what he has written.

Martin Luther was given 60 days to recant. The gospel, the very truth about salvation was at stake. A matter of life and death, heaven and Hell rested upon Martin Luthers willingness to stand for what is true and what is right.

The Church faces a similar season today. The calls to compromise are loud, the temptation to give in and give up are mounting. Men and Women in the evangelical church are being led by an angel of Light that has his roots in Hell.

Some believers are unwilling to speak to the issues, because they say it is too divisive

Others are unwilling to get involved because they don't care.

Some are wanting to hide their heads in the sand and hear nothing of it.

Some are unwilling to challenge their long held belief that their party might not be what it used to be.

Some are seduced into believing that the church has no business in politics and that it should stay out of it, Religion has not part of it.

But I grant you that the Liberal Leftist agenda has religion all woven thru it. Whether it is Humanism, or Atheism, or the ever encroaching Islamic religion. Presidential Candidate, Joe Biden has publicly stated that he will stop the ban on Muslims and will appoint Muslims to his administration.

Do you think that they will divorce themselves of their religion if they are brought into the administration?

The Religion of Humanism, Atheism and Secularism has permeated our Government for years.

But then someone will inevitably say, but what about....

Separation of Church and State.

Appears no where in our founding documents
not in declaration of independence
no where in the constitution
no where in bill of rights
where did it come from
in 1802 Thomas Jefferson was president
He wrote a personal letter to the Danberry baptist in
response to a letter they had wrote him
requesting clarification of the 1st amendment
Don't worry about anything, the 1st amendment is
in place to protect you from any government
intrusion or overreach
in that letter he wrote the phrase "building a wall of
the separation of church and state"

About 150 years later it was used, twisted to remove God from any Public square and to remove God from any influence in the state.

But in fact, the First amendment was written not to keep the church out of Government, but rather to keep the Government out of the Church

George Washington stated in his Farewell address of 1796

“Religion and Morality are the indispensable supports of our Political prosperity”

2020 has been some year
A global plandemic
defund the police
Black Lives Matter movement
Social Justice Movement
The growing cancel culture,
The saturation of woke culture

Raging fires our west
Hurricanes hitting the same place 3 times
A very contentious election year

Media filled with lies and misrepresentation

Lockdowns

churches prohibited from meeting, while protest and riots allowed.

Loss of jobs

Spikes in drug and alcohol abuse

dramatic increase in suicides

The rise of accepted socialism and Marxism

Two political parties that represent 2 world views,

One of life, the other of death

One of freedom, the other of bondage

One of capitalism, the other of socialism

One of Justice, the other of social justice

One of support for the family, the other of destruction of the family

One of support for the church. the other of the elimination of the church

One of protection, the other of riots and destruction

One of pro-life, there other of killing children up to the point of birth.

God has put in place restraints in society

1. Conscious - law in the hearts

2. Family- parental authority

3. Government- punish evil in society

4. Church - Salt and Light

Romans 13:4 (NKJV)

⁴ For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to *execute* wrath on him who practices evil.

Government is for the promotion of the Good and the the punishment of evil

When we vote, we are not voting for a pastor, we are voting for the man or party that will best do what God has ordained that Government should do. This is about policies and procedures and freedoms that will affect you personally and your church personally.

Pastor Gary Hamrick said

“The vote is not about personalities...if I were to vote based on personalities, I would vote for Biden, He looks like a fun grandpa... a fun grandpa who would charter a boat and take you out fishing. However, Trump would be the man who owns the boat and would make fun of you if you did not catch any fish.”

The World views of the 2 parties are diametrically opposed to one another.

Yet even some Christians have decided to vote for Biden, a man who clearly supports the destruction of the family and killing of babies, just because they don't like Trump, because they say that he is rude, crude and ungodly.

Yet they say that Biden is nice and polite. I would had as long as you are not in the womb, then he is from chopping you up.

Of both parties, which one will best fulfill the mandate of Government.

Which one is closest to a Biblical Worldview.

As John MacArthur as stated

The Democratic Party is the Romans 1 party

It is a party of death

Pro abortion

Pro LGBT

Pro Transgendorism

Pro BLM and it socialistic, Marxist, family destroying agenda

Pro Defund the Police

It is not just Liberal, It is Leftist

It would love to shut down churches and to eliminate your religious freedom if you are a Christian.

How can you possibly vote and cast your support for something that is in every way the opposite of what the Bible says that is God's will

A recent example of this worldview would be
The murder of George Floyd.
as a result

The liberal leftist democratic party would have you defund the police and
and bring justice of capital punishment to the police officer who killed him.

But if George Floyd had been a baby in the womb of his mother's womb, that same party would say it is perfectly legal and good for that mother to kill George all the way up to the point of birth, with no desire to defund Planned Parenthood, or prosecute the doctor and mother who murdered George.

This same party is for the aggressive funding of Planned Parenthood, to have your tax dollars go for the support of the murder of children.

This is the same planned parenthood that was started by Margaret Sanger who was a racist in its worst forms and stated.

“We do not want word to go out that we want to exterminate the Negro population.”

Since then, 18 million Black babies have been murdered.

BLM, is and organization supported by the Liberal leftist Groups who are in full support of the murder of black babies

founded on admitted Marxist Ideology

funding of planned parenthood.

destruction of the nuclear families

rights of the transgenderism.

are a queer affirming network.

To see the dramatic difference. Let me share with you some of the statement of belief of each party platform and see which one lines up with a biblical world view

Life

Democratic Party

“We will appoint U.S. Supreme Court justices and federal judges who . . . will respect and enforce foundational precedents, including . . . Roe v. Wade. . . . Democrats believe every woman should be able to access high quality reproductive health care services, including safe and legal abortion. We oppose and will fight to overturn federal and state laws that create barriers to women’s reproductive health and rights.” (2020 Democratic Party Platform, 39, 42)

Republican Party

“The Constitution’s guarantee that no one can ‘be deprived of life, liberty or property’ deliberately echoes the Declaration of Independence’s proclamation that ‘all’ are ‘endowed by their Creator’ with the inalienable right to life. Accordingly, we assert the sanctity of human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution and legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment’s protections apply to children before birth.” (Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 13)

Religious Freedom

Democratic Party

“Democrats celebrate America’s history of religious pluralism and tolerance, and recognize the countless acts of service of our faith communities, as well as the paramount importance of maintaining the separation between church and state enshrined in our Constitution.” (2020 Democratic Party Platform, 48)

Republican Party

“We value the right of America’s religious leaders to preach, and Americans to speak freely, according to their faith. Republicans believe the federal government, specifically the IRS, is constitutionally prohibited from policing or censoring speech based on religious convictions or beliefs We pledge to defend the religious beliefs and rights of conscience of all Americans and to safeguard religious institutions against government control. . . . [W]e strongly support the freedom of Americans to act in accordance with their religious beliefs, not only in their houses of worship, but also in their everyday lives.” (Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 11-12)

Environmentalism

Democratic Party

“Climate change is a global emergency. We have no time to waste in taking action to protect Americans’ lives and futures.”(2020 Democratic Party Platform, 49)

Republican Party

“Conservation is inherent in conservatism. As the pioneer of environmentalism a century ago, the Republican Party reaffirms the moral obligation to be good stewards of the God-given natural beauty and resources of our country. We assert that private ownership has been the best guarantee of conscientious stewardship, while some of the worst instances of degradation have occurred under government control.” (Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 21)

Marriage and Sexuality

Democratic Party

“Democrats applaud this year’s U.S. Supreme Court decision that made clear that employment discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity violates the law . . . We will fight to enact the Equality Act . . . We will work to ensure LGBTQ+ people are not discriminated against when seeking to adopt or foster children, protect LGBTQ+ children from bullying and assault, and guarantee transgender students’ access to facilities based on their gender identity.” (2020 Democratic Party Platform, 42)

Republican Party

“Foremost among those institutions is the American family. It is the foundation of civil society, and the cornerstone of the family is natural marriage, the union of one man and one woman. . . . [We oppose the imposition of] a social and cultural revolution upon the American people by wrongly redefining sex discrimination . . . reshap[ing] . . . our entire society — to fit the mold of an ideology alien to America’s history and traditions.” (Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 31, 35)

Education

Democratic Party

“As Democrats, we believe that education is a critical public good— not a commodity—and that it is the government’s responsibility to ensure that every child, everywhere, is able to receive a world-class education that enables them to lead meaningful lives, no matter their race, ZIP code, disability status, sexual orientation, gender identity, . . . or household income.” (2020 Democratic Party Platform, 64)

Republican Party

“Parents are a child’s first and foremost educators, and have primary responsibility for the education of their children. Parents have a right to direct their children’s education, care, and upbringing. We support a constitutional amendment to protect that right from interference by states, the federal government, or international bodies such as the United Nations. We reject a

one-size-fits-all approach to education and support a broad range of choices for parents and children at the state and local level.” (Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 33)

Economy

Democratic Party

“Democrats will forge a new social and economic contract with the American people—a contract that creates millions of new jobs and promotes shared prosperity”

Republican Party

“Government cannot create prosperity, though government can limit or destroy it. Prosperity is the product of self- discipline, enterprise, saving and investment by individuals, but it is not an end in itself.... Prosperity provides the means by which citizens and their families can maintain their independence from government, raise their children by their own values, practice their faith, and build communities of cooperation and mutual respect.

Not too many years ago, the church faced a similar challenge, and failed miserably...

Lutzer, Erwin W.. When a Nation Forgets God

A quote from a German eyewitness of the churches apathy during the Holocaust in WWII

I lived in Germany during the Nazi Holocaust. I considered myself a Christian. We heard stories of what was happening to the Jews, but we tried to distance ourselves from it, because, what could anyone do to stop it? A railroad track ran behind our small church and each Sunday morning we could hear the whistle in the distance and then the wheels coming over the tracks. We became disturbed when we heard the cries coming from the train as it passed by. We realized that it was carrying Jews like cattle in the cars! Week after week the whistle would blow. We dreaded to hear the sound of those wheels because we knew that we would hear the cries of the Jews en route to a death camp. Their screams tormented us. We knew the time the train was coming and when we heard the whistle blow we began singing hymns. By the time the train came past our church we were singing at the top of our voices. If we heard the screams, we sang more

loudly and soon we heard them no more. Years have passed and no one talks about it anymore. But I still hear that train whistle in my sleep. God forgive me; forgive all of us who called ourselves Christians yet did nothing to intervene.³

Lutzer, Erwin W.. When a Nation Forgets God (pp. 25-26). Moody Publishers. Kindle Edition.

HITLER DID NOT discourage people from attending church. He was a baptized Catholic who had long since abandoned his faith, but he did not mind if others continued to attend church as long as it did not affect the way they lived or the values they held. In fact, he explicitly said that he would not interfere with the specific doctrines of the church, just as long as the churches were teaching those things that were in harmony with the good of the German people. He called this “Positive Christianity.”

Lutzer, Erwin W.. When a Nation Forgets God (p. 19). Moody Publishers. Kindle Edition.

Men and women in the church are being seduced by the evil one to believe that they can vote for a party that is as anti God as the AntiChrist will be because they don't like the temperament or conduct or personality of the current President.

The Devil is a roaring lion who is seeking whom he can devour, and he will destroy this nation one evangelical at a time.

Be warned the Devil desires to sift you like wheat.

With that said, and I think you get my point, I want to take it up a few notches. I want to take you to the place that most are unwilling to go. I want to take you to the real issue. The ultimate issue. The eternal issue.

With all the talk on the news, the articles, the blogs, the videos about this election, both inside the church and outside, a crucial and most important issue is being left out.

The souls of these men and women.

Men like Joe Biden and Donald Trump are lost
Women like Kamala Harris and Elizabeth Warren,
Alexandria, Ocasio-Cortez, Ilhan Omar, Nancy
Pelosi are lost.

Unless men and women are reached with the gospel and believe the Gospel, they will spend eternity in hell.

The United States and all its leaders are a blip on the timeline of eternity and all that we do politically fade into the darkness, but what we do for Christ will last forever.

With all the desire we have to save our nation, what about the salvation of the souls of these men and women.

Are you concerned about this at all.
Does it even matter to you that these people are lost and are facing Hell.
Do you even concern yourselves with their souls.
Or are you just wishing they would all just go away.
Or that you silently say to yourself that they all deserve hell.

While it is true that we are blessed to live in this country, even with the challenges we are facing, yet we are are not placed here by God to just have a comfortable life. We are not left here to make a living, get an education, buy a house and entertain ourselves and acquire a nice retirement.

We are not left here just to have fellowship and a good church and enjoy our times together.

NO.

We are left here for the souls of men.

That leads us to our text

1 Timothy 2:1–8 (NKJV)

2 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made

for all men, ² for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. ³ For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴ who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For *there is* one God and one Mediator between God and men, *the* Man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time, ⁷ for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle—I am speaking the truth in Christ *and* not lying—a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Reasons to pray for the salvation of our Leaders

The Exhortation

- a. The extent
- b. The intent

Four Reasons to Pray for the Salvation of Political leaders

1. It is Exceptional
2. It is Essential
3. It is Exclusive.
4. It is the Explanation

The Exhortation

1 Timothy 2:1

Therefore

This therefore is there for the saving Context

1 Timothy 1:1 (NKJV)

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, by the commandment of God our Savior and the Lord Jesus Christ, our hope,

1 Timothy 1:11–16 (NKJV)

¹¹ according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God which was committed to my trust.

¹² And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting *me* into the ministry, ¹³ although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did *it* ignorantly in unbelief. ¹⁴ And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ This *is* a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. ¹⁶ However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.

1 Timothy 1:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, ...that ...you may wage the good warfare,

1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for all men,

I exhort first of all

Παρακαλω ουν πρωτον παντων

parakaléō (from [3844](#) /pará, "from close-beside" and [2564](#) /kaléō, "to call") – properly, "make a call" from being "close-up and personal." [3870](#) /parakaléō ("personally make a call") refers to believers offering up evidence that stands up in God's court.

I exhort first of all

First of all (πρωτον παντων [*prōton pantōn*]). Take with παρακαλω [*parakalō*]. My first request (first in importance)

Robertson, A. T. (1933). [Word Pictures in the New Testament](#) (1 Ti 2:1). Nashville, TN: Broadman Press.

supplications, prayers,
intercessions, *and* giving of
thanks

supplications

deésis: a need, entreaty

Original Word: δέησις, εως, ή

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: deésis

Phonetic Spelling: (deh'-ay-sis)

Definition: a need, entreaty

Usage: supplication, prayer, entreaty.

Cognate: 1162 déēsis (deō, "to be in want, lack"; see the cognate [1189](#) /déomai, "praying for a specific, felt need") – heart-felt petition, arising out of deep personal need (sense of lack, want).

Entreaties is from *deēsis*, the root meaning of which is “to lack,” “to be deprived,” or “to be without something.” This kind of prayer arises from the sense of need. Knowing what is lacking, we plead with God to supply it. As we look out on the masses of lost humanity, the enormity of the need should drive us to our knees in evangelistic prayer.

MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1995). [1 Timothy](#) (p. 61). Chicago: Moody Press.

prayers,

proseuché: prayer

Original Word: προσευχή, ἥς, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: proseuché

Phonetic Spelling: (pros-yoo-khay')

Definition: prayer

Usage: (a) prayer (to God), (b) a place for prayer (used by Jews, perhaps where there was no synagogue).

Cognate: 4335 proseux (from 4314 /prós, "towards, exchange" and 2171/euxe, "a wish, prayer") – properly, exchange of wishes; prayer. [See 4335](#) (proseuxomai).

Proseuchē (**prayers**) is a general word for prayer. Unlike **entreaties**, in Scripture it is used only in reference to God. It thus carries with it a unique element of worship and reverence. Prayer for the lost is ultimately directed at God as an act of worship, because the salvation of sinners causes them to give glory to Him.

MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1995). [1 Timothy](#) (p. 62). Chicago: Moody Press.

intercessions

enteuxis: a petition, i.e. spec. supplication

Original Word: ἔντευξις, εως, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: enteuxis

Phonetic Spelling: (ent'-yook-sis)

Definition: a petition, supplication

Usage: (lit: approaching the king, hence a technical term), a petition, prayer, intercession.

Cognate: 1783 énteuksis – properly, intervention (intersection which literally "hits the mark"); intervention led by God, marking intersection between heaven and earth as it reflects the Lord's specific will. [See 1793](#) (entygxanō).

[The root of this term is [5177](#) (tygxánō) which means "to strike, hit the bulls-eye" ("spot on"). Accordingly, it is used in classical Greek as the antonym of harmartia ("to miss the mark, sin"), so Lucian, Xenophon, Homer, etc. (see Thayer, [5177](#) /tygxánō).

Enteuxis (**petitions**) appears only here and in 4:5 in the New Testament. It comes from a root word meaning “to fall in with someone,” or get involved with them. The verb from which *enteuxis* derives is used to speak of both Christ’s and the Spirit’s intercession for us (Rom. 8:26; Heb. 7:25). They identify with our needs, and become involved in our struggles. *Enteuxis*, then, is a word not only of advocacy, but also of empathy, sympathy, compassion, and involvement. Evangelistic prayer is not cold, detached, or impersonal, like a public

defender assigned to represent a defendant. Understanding the depths of their misery and pain, and their coming doom, we cry to God for the salvation of sinners.

MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1995). *1 Timothy* (p. 62). Chicago: Moody Press.

giving of thanks

eucharistia: thankfulness, giving of thanks

Original Word: εὐχαριστία, ας, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: eucharistia

Phonetic Spelling: (yoo-khar-is-tee'-ah)

Definition: thankfulness, giving of thanks

Usage: thankfulness, gratitude; giving of thanks, thanksgiving.

Cognate: 2169 eucharistía (from 2170/euxáristos, "thankful for God's grace") – properly, thankfulness (thanksgiving) – literally, "the giving of thanks for God's grace." [See 2168](#) (eucharisteō).

Thanksgivings are a fourth element in evangelistic prayers. They call for us to pray with a spirit of gratitude to God that the gospel offer has been extended, that we have the privilege of reaching the lost with that gospel, and that some

respond with faith and repentance. Thanksgiving is the only element of prayer that will continue forever.

These four nuances enrich our prayers as we pray effectively for the lost. If they are missing, we need to examine our hearts. Do we fully realize the desperate condition the lost are in? Do we really want to see God glorified by the salvation of souls? Do we sympathize with the compelling reality of their lostness, both for time and eternity? Are we thankful the gospel message is extended to all and for our privilege of sharing it? If those components are lacking in our hearts we will be indifferent. If we are indifferent, it is because we are not obedient to these urgings.

MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1995). [*1 Timothy*](#) (pp. 62–63). Chicago: Moody Press.

a. The extent

Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for all men,
² for kings and all who are in
authority,

for all men,

ΥΠΕΡ ΠΑΝΤΩΝ ΑΝΘΡΩΠΩΝ

on behalf of all men.

Does he mean that we are to pray for every single man and woman alive. That would be impossible.

I believe he is using
all men in the sense of all kinds of men.

like

Titus 2:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men,

For all men (ὑπερ παντων ανθρωπων [*hyper pantōn anthrōpōn*]). The scope of prayer is universal including all kinds of sinners (and saints).

Robertson, A. T. (1933). [*Word Pictures in the New Testament*](#) (1 Ti 2:1). Nashville, TN: Broadman Press.

The emphasis, is that Paul knows they understand the need to pray for each other and there lost friends and relatives. That is natural. But it is not natural to pray for the ruler trying to kill you or your family.

That is why the next statement is given.

for all men, ² for kings and all
who are in authority,

basileus: a king

Original Word: βασιλεύς, ἕως, ὁ

Part of Speech: Noun, Masculine

Transliteration: basileus

Phonetic Spelling: (bas-il-yooce')

Definition: a king

Usage: a king, ruler, but in some passages clearly to be translated: emperor.

Cognate: 935 basileús – a king (sovereign); often referring to Christ who is "the King of kings" (Rev 19:16), i.e. the King over the Kingdom of the heavens (God). As the King, Jesus Christ has unqualified jurisdiction over all creation – also being God the Creator. (cf. Jn 1:1-3,49). [See 932](#) (basileia).

for kings

This no doubt would refer

For kings (ὑπερ βασιλεων [*hyper basileōn*]). And this included Nero who had already set fire to Rome and laid it on the Christians whom he was also persecuting

Robertson, A. T. (1933). [*Word Pictures in the New Testament*](#) (1 Ti 2:2). Nashville, TN: Broadman Press.

With Nero's growing resentment toward Christians—which came to full bloom after the fire in Rome in July, a.d. 64—and the general disintegration of the Roman Empire due to Nero's profligacy, Christians began to suffer persecution from the Roman authorities. (Some historians believe that it was Nero the set fire to Rome, burn the housing down that was in the way of his desire to build his enormous palace. The rumor would not go away, so in an attempt to gain the trust of the people again, he blamed the Christians for setting the fire. So if you where a Christian, and you confess to be so, it was the equivalent of confessing to arson.

He was brutal to Christians, dressing them in animal skins that letting the animals tear them apart, crucifying them, dipping them in pitch and setting them on fire in his gardens.

It is most likely that Peter and Paul died under the Rule of Nero.

Nero was a very evil man, an incestuous, crossdressing murderer, who murdered had his own mother murdered. He was so sexually perverted that it would defile your mind to consider.

Having recently been released from his Roman imprisonment, Paul was greatly aware of the deteriorating political atmosphere. Thus he urged prayer for the salvation of all men, but especially rulers, so that the stable, noninterfering environment of previous days might be recovered

Litfin, A. D. (1985). [1 Timothy](#). In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 2, p. 734). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

for all men, ² for kings and **all**
who are in authority,

huperoché: a projection, eminence

Original Word: ὑπεροχή, ἥς, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: huperoché

Phonetic Spelling: (hoop-er-okh-ay')

Definition: a projection, eminence

Usage: superiority, excellence, preeminence, authority.

Cognate: 5247 hyperox (from 5242/hyperéxō, "hold above") – prominence (because elevated); pre-eminent (superior). [See 5242](#) (hyperéxō).

5247 (hyperoxē) is "primarily, 'a projection, eminence,' as a mountain peak, hence, metaphorically, 'pre-eminence, superiority, excellency' " (Vine, Unger, White, NT, 46).

[5247 (hyperoxé) is properly "a projection (eminence), as the peak of a mountain; metaphorically, excellence, pre-eminence" (so also in Aristotle, A-S).]

[1 Corinthians 2:1 N-AFS](#)

GRK: οὐ καθ' ὑπεροχὴν λόγου ἢ

NAS: I did not come **with superiority** of speech

KJV: not with **excellency** of speech or

INT: not according to **excellency** of word or

[1 Timothy 2:2 N-DFS](#)

GRK: τῶν ἐν ὑπεροχῇ ὄντων ἵνα

NAS: and all **who are in authority**, so

KJV: in **authority**; that

INT: that in **dignity** are that

This could refer to anyone in authority less than the king or emperor. A soldier, a police man, a governor

While the contemporary church may have forgotten that lesson, the early church knew it well. The late second- and early third-century theologian Tertullian wrote,

Without ceasing, for all our emperors we offer prayer. We pray for life prolonged; for security to

the empire; for protection to the imperial house; for brave armies, a faithful senate, a virtuous people, the world at rest, whatever, as man or Caesar, an emperor would wish. These things I cannot ask from any but the God from whom I know I shall obtain them, both because He alone bestows them

(Apology, XXX, XXXI, XXXII); *The Ante-Nicene Fathers* [reprint, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1973], 3:42–43)
MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1995). [1 Timothy](#) (p. 64). Chicago: Moody Press.
MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1995). [1 Timothy](#) (p. 64). Chicago: Moody Press.

With that sentiment the second-century apologist Theophilus of Antioch agreed:

I will rather honor the king [than your gods], not, indeed, worshipping him, but praying for him. But God, the living and true God, I worship, knowing that the king is made by Him.... Honour the king, be subject to him, and pray for him with loyal mind; for if you do this, you do the will of God. (*Theophilus to Autolytus*,

I.xi; *The Ante-Nicene Fathers* [reprint; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1971], 2:92)
MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1995). [1 Timothy](#) (pp. 64–65). Chicago: Moody Press.

Our most neglected discipline in the Christian life is Prayer, and the most neglected prayers are for our leaders, and the most neglected prayers of our leaders are of those we do not like and those who wish us harm.

But to neglect this prayer, is to sin. It is the will of God that we pray for the salvation and well being of our political leaders

You may not like or agree with Joe Biden or Kamala Harris, but do you pray for their salvation.

Are you moved at all in your heart as God is moved in his heart with the desperate condition of the lost sinner.

Ezekiel 33:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ Say to them: ‘As I live,’ says the Lord God, ‘I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?’

Matthew 23:37 (NKJV)

³⁷ “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under *her* wings, but you were not willing!

1 Timothy 2:4 (NKJV)

⁴ who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Acts 17:30–31 (NKJV)

³⁰ Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, ³¹ because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”

The seventeenth-century English Puritan Richard Baxter wrote,

Oh, if you have the hearts of Christians or of men in you, let them yearn towards your poor ignorant, ungodly neighbors. Alas, there is but a step betwixt them and death and hell; many hundred diseases are waiting ready to seize on them, and if they die unregenerate, they are lost forever. Have you hearts of rock, that cannot pity men in such a case as this? If you believe not the Word of God, and the danger of sinners, why are you Christians yourselves? If you do believe it, why do you not bestir yourself to the helping of others? Do you not care who is damned, so you be saved? If so, you have sufficient cause to pity yourselves, for it is a

frame of spirit utterly inconsistent with grace....
 Dost thou live close by them, or meet them in the streets, or labour with them, or travel with them, or sit and talk with them, and say nothing to them of their souls, or the life to come? If their houses were on fire, thou wouldst run and help them; and wilt thou not help them when their souls are almost at the fire of hell?

(Cited in I. D. E. Thomas, *A Puritan Golden Treasury* [Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1977], 92–93) MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1995). [1 Timothy](#) (pp. 61–62). Chicago: Moody Press.

The Exhortation

a. The extent

b. The intent

² for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

that we may lead

diagó: to carry over, to pass

Original Word: διάγω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: diagó

Phonetic Spelling: (dee-ag'-o)

Definition: to carry over, to pass

Usage: (either trans. or intrans.), I spend time, pass time, live.

that we may lead a **quiet**

éremos: quiet

Original Word: ἥρεμος, ον

Part of Speech: Adjective

Transliteration: éremos

Phonetic Spelling: (ay'-rem-os)

Definition: quiet

Usage: quiet, tranquil.

2263 éremos (an adjective) – properly, undisturbed (placid); (figuratively) quiet; free from outward disturbance; tranquil; without needless commotion or disturbances (used only in 1 Tim 2:2).

that we may lead a
quiet and **peaceable** life in all
godliness and reverence.

hésuchios: tranquil

Original Word: ἡσύχιος, α, ον

Part of Speech: Adjective

Transliteration: hēsuchiaos

Phonetic Spelling: (hay-soo'-khee-os)

Definition: tranquil

Usage: quiet, tranquil, peaceful.

2272 hēsýxios (an adjective derived from hēsuxos, "quiet, stillness") – properly, quiet (still), i.e. steady (settled) due to a divinely-inspired inner calmness. 2272/hēsuxios ("calmly quiet") describes being "appropriately tranquil" by not misusing (or overusing) words that would stir up needless friction (destructive commotion).

that we may lead a
quiet and peaceable **life** in all
godliness and reverence.

bios: life, living

Original Word: βίος, ου, ό

Part of Speech: Noun, Masculine

Transliteration: bios

Phonetic Spelling: (bee'-os)

Definition: life, living

Usage: (a) life, (b) manner of life; livelihood.

979 *bíos* – properly, God's gift of physical life, animating all creation "to live and move and have its being" (cf. Ac 17:28); (figuratively) the way a person invests (or spends) the gift of physical life.

979 (*bios*) is "the period or duration of earthly life . . . in a secondary sense, the means by which life is sustained; and thirdly, the manner in which that life is spent" (R. Trench).

that we may lead a
quiet and peaceable life in all
godliness and reverence

godliness

eusebeia: piety

Original Word: εὐσέβεια, ας, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: eusebeia

Phonetic Spelling: (yoo-seb'-i-ah)

Definition: piety

Usage: piety (towards God), godliness, devotion, godliness.

2150 *eusébeia* (from 2095 /*eú* "well" and 4576 / *sébomai*, "venerate, pay homage") – properly, someone's inner response to the things of God which

shows itself in godly piety (reverence). [2150](#) /eusébeia ("godly heart-response") naturally expresses itself in reverence for God, i.e. what He calls sacred (worthy of veneration).

that we may lead a
quiet and peaceable life in all
godliness and **reverence**

reverence

semnotés: seriousness

Original Word: σεμνότης, τητος, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: semnotés

Phonetic Spelling: (sem-not'-ace)

Definition: seriousness

Usage: dignity, honor, gravity, seriousness.

Cognate: [4587](#) semnótēs – properly, gravity ("gravitas"), referring to what has real weight (dignity); hence, veneration for what is worthy of respect (personal admiration). [See 4586](#) (semnos).

This root (semno-) refers to what deserves due reverence; it has a "sense of gravity and dignity, that invites reverence" (R. Trench). [4587](#) /sempnótēs ("dignity because weighty") refers to what is august (venerable, time-honored), i.e. "solemnly respectable." [4587](#) (sempnótēs) reflects what has been transformed by God and exhibits "moral and spiritual gravity (gravitas)" – like what attends a

deep, godly character. This sense of dignity also invites reverence from others, who should likewise exalt what is noble (morally-elevated).

Prayer for those in authority will create societal conditions favorable for the church's evangelistic efforts. First of all, when believers are committed to praying for all their leaders it removes any thought of rebellion or resistance against them. It makes the people of Christ into peacemakers, not reactionaries. As Paul wrote to

Titus 3:1–3

Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good deed, to malign no one, to be uncontentious, gentle, showing every consideration for all men. For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. (Titus 3:1–3)

There Paul again calls the believers to tranquillity and submissiveness to the pagan or apostate governments over them. He urges us to be subject, eager to do good, never to slander or contend, to be meek and considerate, because we understand that

they are sinners like we used to be, incapable of righteousness.

Also, when the church prays unceasingly for the lost, especially their troublesome leaders, people begin to see the church as virtuous, peaceloving, compassionate, and transcendent. Seeing that the church seeks their welfare, they will realize that it poses no threat to society, but is a welcome friend. And as more and more come to saving faith, through the prayers of Christians, the favorable conditions for the church could increase.

MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1995). [*1 Timothy*](#) (p. 66). Chicago: Moody Press.

Four Reasons to Pray for the Salvation of Political leaders

1. It is Exceptional

³ For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,

2. It is Essential

⁴ who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

3. It is Exclusive.

⁵ For *there is* one God and one Mediator between God and men, *the* Man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time,

4. It is the Explanation

⁷ for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle.....

We have to look at things the way God would see them, eternally, salvifically,
According to national studies, 83% to 90% of Christians pray at least weekly. Through our decades of experience and contacts, we estimate that only 10% of those who pray intercede for our nation and leaders. As God intervenes and works in the hearts of His people, we must continue to unite and encourage believers in effective prayer and fasting for America

<https://ifapray.org/about/>

A book entitled The Soul Winner. It's a compilation of sermons of Charles Hadden Spurgeon, the great Baptist preacher of England. He said this:

“One thing more, the soul winner must be a master of the art of prayer. You cannot bring souls to God if you do not go to God yourself. You must get your battle ax and your weapons of war from the armory of sacred communication with Christ. If you are much alone with Jesus, you will catch His Spirit. You will be fired with the flame that burned in His breast and consumed His life. You will weep with the tears that fell upon Jerusalem when He saw it perishing. And if you cannot speak so

eloquently as He did, yet shall there be about what you say somewhat of the same power which in Him thrilled the hearts and awoke the consciences of men. My dear hearers, especially you members of the church, I am always so anxious lest any of you should begin to lie upon your oars and take things easy in the matters of God's kingdom. There are some of you, I bless you and I bless God at the remembrance of you, who are in season and out of season in earnest for winning souls, and you are the truly wise. But I fear there are others whose hands are slack, who are satisfied to let me preach but do not themselves preach, who take these seats and occupy these pews and hope the cause goes well, but that is all they do."