



**leadership  
manual**

**1 Timothy**



# Sermon Series Notes

“Anger, Conflict, & Prayer” (I Timothy 1:18-2:8 )

Danny Hodges – NT3503

Intro: I’m very thankful we will not make it to verses 11ff in this chapter before us (read 2:11-14). Perhaps the rapture will take place before next weekend. Oh, come quickly, Lord Jesus!

## I. THE TEXT

1:18-20 See II Tim.2:17-18; Ephesus was one of the most important seaports in the eastern Mediterranean, so for these believers the image of a shipwreck was especially easy to envision.

I Cor.5:2, 5 tells us that to hand over to Satan is to put them out of the fellowship of the church.

What sorrow Paul would have had in his heart if Timothy had allowed his Christian life to be shipwrecked. And so Paul writes these instructions in keeping with prophecies about God’s plan for Timothy’s life. Some of those instructions are very practical (4:7b; 5:1-2; 6:9-12).

Holding on to faith refers to “the faith” (see Jude 3-4; Rom.9:5).

- \* Any truth that gets complicated is not biblical truth (II Cor.11:3, KJV).
- \* Any new truth is not biblical truth.
- \* If it’s new, it’s not true. If it’s true, it’s not new.

Holding on to a good conscience. A good conscience is a conscience that remains sensitive to the Holy Spirit and true to the ancient paths laid out in the Word of God.

- \* A good conscience begins at salvation (Heb.9:9, 14; 10:22).
- \* A good conscience is maintained as I remain sensitive to the Holy Spirit and the truth of the Word of God. Paul said he always strived to keep his conscience clear before God & man (Acts 24:16). See Rom.13:5-7. If I cheated on my taxes, it would ruin my good conscience. If I rebelled against the authorities God has

placed in my place, it would ruin my good conscience. If I accepted false teaching it would ruin my good conscience (II Tim.4:1-5, insensitive to truth).

\* See I Tim.4:16; What I believe (doctrine); how I live (practice).

2:1 “Prayers” covers everything beyond requests, intercession, & giving of thanks (see Rom.8:26-27; I Cor.14:15).

2:1-7 Pray for all men, and especially pray for those in authority, because not only does God want all men to be saved, when leaders are saved life gets better for us as Christians living under their authority. Nero was ruling when Paul penned these words!

2:8 There are many postures for prayer: Standing with outstretched hands (our text; I Kings 8:22); kneeling (Daniel 6:10); sitting (II Sam.7:18); bowing the head (Gen.24:26); lifting eyes to heaven (John 17:1); falling on the ground (Gen.17:3).

Why would someone with uplifted hands in prayer have to be exhorted to watch out for anger & disputing? Before we answer that, let’s go back and briefly look at the lessons the Lord has for us in this text.

## II. LESSONS

### A. Maintain A Prophetic Mindset

\* Don’t ruin God’s prophetic plan for your life. God’s first prophetic plan for your life is that you received Jesus Christ as your Lord & Savior (2:4). Lead in salvation prayer...

\* After salvation, God wants us sanctified. Sanctification keeps us on track spiritually. There are lots of examples of people who failed to stay on track – Balaam, Korah, Dathan & Abiram, , Gehazi, King Uzziah, King Saul, Demas, etc. etc.

### B. Make Prayer A Priority

\* Promo week of prayer, day of fasting & prayer; Daniel Henderson coming three times in 2012 to help us continue to make prayer a priority at CCSP.

\* Pray passionately, fervently.

### C. Keep Passion Under Spiritual Control

\* Lifted hands depicts someone who is passionate rather than passive.

\* Passion: Strong barely controllable emotion; strong enthusiasm.

\* Passionate: Dominated by or easily moved to strong feeling, esp. love or anger.

- \* David was passionate, all one has to do is read about his life and this is abundantly clear (Ps.28:2; passionate in defending his father's sheep, in his worship, even dancing before the Lord). David's passion for love/ women got him in trouble with Bathsheeba. And even though David was overall a very humble man, his passion of anger almost got him into trouble as well.
- \* Read I Tim.2:8 one more time.
- \* See I Samuel 24:1-12; 26:1-11a; 25:1-34.
- \* Peter was a passionate man, and that is why he drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest; Moses was a passionate man, powerful in speech & action, and that's why he killed the Egyptian. It's also why he struck the rock twice!
- \* Read I Tim.2:8 again, then see James 1:19-20.
- \* It was amazing how many men came up to me after my confession several weeks ago about my struggle with anger, telling me of their struggle with anger.
- \* Unrighteous anger/personal conflict negatively affects my prayer life (Matt.5:23-24; 6:14-15; I Peter 3:7).
- \* Anger and disputing, not properly dealt with, may turn into bitterness/rage. Bitterness has the shelf life of a Twinkie.

\* **Video: Elderly Canadian football rivals brawl on stage**

- They were being honored together for the time they spent battling it out on the football field -- but for pensioners Joe Kapp and Angelo Mosca old rivalries die hard. The pair of 73-year-olds, who were being celebrated at a Canadian Football League luncheon, recently started brawling on a stage at the event. Mosca had apparently tried to offer Kapp a flower to make up for the grudge between the two which began during the 1963 Grey Cup, but he wasn't having any of it. He swung his walking cane at his aged rival, in turn prompting Mosca to swing his fists at him and knocking him to the ground.

- \* Unrighteous anger/disputing has the potential of ruining God's prophetic plan for my life.

#### D. How To Overcome Anger/Disputing

1. Deal with your anger before the sun goes down (Eph.4:26-27). If the sun has already gone down, deal with it asap!
2. Humble yourself.

\* When Abigail came to David, he humbled himself. Once he humbled himself, his dispute with Nabal ended. Your conflict with someone can end today, if you will only humble yourself (see Rom.12:18-21).

3. Develop self-control (Prov.25:28).

\* Practice shutting your mouth rather than opening it. Learn to walk away...

4. Live in accountability to other mature Christians.

## CONCLUSION

\* Is there someone you are angry at? In conflict with? Before the sun goes down, would you humble yourself? Perhaps you have let your anger turn to bitterness, and as a result you are a walking time bomb. Why don't you humble yourself? "To forgive is to set a prisoner free..."

\* Ask God to help you develop self-control...

\* Find a couple of mature Christian men/women that you can be accountable to...