

## INTRODUCTION

The last time we looked at 1 Timothy chapter 2 together was a little more than a month ago. At that time, we delighted ourselves in reading that our Lord Jesus Christ gave Himself a ransom for all. We have spent the past month jumping ahead to 1 Timothy chapter 3, where we have reviewed what kind of men the church can choose as deacons. Now we take up again in 1 Timothy chapter 2, where we left off.

The man Christ Jesus is the one Mediator between God, who is holy, who is righteous, and man, who is sinful. God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, who came from heaven to earth to be the Mediator, so that whoever among sinners believed in Him would be saved from the wrath of God, and God would be glorified for His mercy and His justice.

To do the work of Mediator, our Lord Jesus gave; we did not pay for His work; He gave it. And what He gave was a ransom for us; He paid the price to set us captives free from the power of sin. He paid the penalty that was due for our sin. He is not a sinner, so He was not paying the ransom for Himself, but for us. He paid not in coin, not in currency, but in His own blood; He gave Himself a ransom.

When He gave Himself a ransom, it was not for Israel only, as you might expect, and as many Jews expected. Instead, He gave Himself a ransom for many, for the whole church of God, for our sins, for us, for all sorts of people, from every tribe and tongue and people and nation; He gave Himself a ransom for all!

**The truth that there is a Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who has given Himself a ransom for all, is now testified, and is to be testified, to all men, according to the preaching, apostleship, and teaching of our Lord's apostle, Paul.**

## TEXT

1 Timothy 2:1-8a

## BODY

**The truth that there is a Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who has given Himself a ransom for all, is now testified, and is to be testified, to all men, according to the preaching, apostleship, and teaching of our Lord's apostle, Paul.**

- I. For Many Centuries, It Was Not the Proper Time for Christ As Ransom for All to Be Testified to All Men
- A. It always was God's good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself, for His own Son to come to earth as a man and give Himself a ransom for all
  - B. But for thousands of years, that was not known by men; it was a mystery, hidden from all men, and revealed only little by little, progressively over the centuries
    - 1. During those centuries, it was the due time for Christ as a ransom to be shown in types and shadows, and to be prophesied in poetic, figurative language, and in terms of blessings on Abraham
  - C. When God chose Abraham, and made a covenant with him, Christ as ransom for all was expressed in promises to Abraham
    - 1. Genesis 22:18a In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed...
  - D. When God chose Moses to deliver Israel out of slavery in Egypt, and made covenant with Israel through him, Christ as a ransom for all was expressed in many ways. As just one example:
    - 1. when God sent death upon the camp because of their sin, God commanded Moses to make a bronze serpent and put it on a pole, so that when it was lifted up, all who looked at it would be healed and saved from death
    - 2. this the Lord Jesus told us was a type of Himself; He was lifted up on the cross, giving Himself a ransom for all men, men from all over the world might be saved
    - 3. John 3:14-17 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: (15) That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. (16) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (17) For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.
  - E. When Israel had sinned so severely and for so long, that God as destroying Jerusalem and the temple, and sending the people off into exile in Babylon, God spoke many sayings through the prophet Isaiah, telling in poetic terms of Christ as a ransom for all men
    - 1. Isaiah 60:1-3 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. (2) For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. (3) And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.
  - F. During all those generations, it was the time for Christ as ransom to be progressively revealed through types and shadows, promises and prophecies, but was not the proper time for Him to be testified to all men

-For many centuries, it was not the proper time for Christ as ransom for all to be testified to all men

## II. Now, It Is the Due Time for Christ As Ransom for All To Be Testified to All Men

### A. In due time, Christ Jesus gave Himself a ransom for all

1. He died for our sins on the cross; He was buried; and He rose again the third day, all of which had been progressively revealed in all those types and shadows, promises and prophecies
2. Galatians 4:4-5 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, (5) to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

### B. Now that what was God's purpose from all eternity has been accomplished, and what was a mystery for all those ages has been revealed, it is the due time for Christ as ransom for all to be testified to all men

### C. Luke 24:44-48 Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." (45) And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. (46) Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, (47) and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. (48) And you are witnesses of these things.

-For many centuries, it was not the proper time for Christ as ransom for all to be testified to all men

-Now, it is the due time for Christ as ransom for all to be testified to all men

### III. For That Testifying of Christ As Ransom for All, the Apostle Paul Was Appointed

- A. A preacher - an official proclaimer of what the king would have the people know
  - 1. it was God's pleasure that the nations of the world did not know about Christ as a ransom for all until He actually had come and paid the ransom
  - 2. but now it is His pleasure that the nations of the world know
  - 3. and He is not pleased to make it known by any other means than that the world of God be made known by men telling it
    - a) in person, by proclaiming it in spoken form
    - b) remotely, by sending it in written form
- B. An apostle - an official representative sent to speak on the king's behalf in far-off places
  - 1. an apostle must have been chosen by Jesus Christ in person, and must have seen Him risen from the dead, so as to be an eye witness of His resurrection
  - 2. hear Paul's oath as to this
    - a) during Paul's life, there was serious opposition to Paul's apostleship; this opposition was plausible because of how Paul was made an apostle in a unique way, different from how all the others were chosen
    - b) but it is thoroughly established in the bible, leaving no doubt in our minds that Paul was a true apostle of Jesus Christ
    - c) that is a worthy study, but is more appropriate to a study of Galatians than to this study of 1 Timothy, so I won't say more about that just now
  - 3. so, then, as we read what Paul explained regarding the Lord Jesus Christ, we consider it authoritative
  - 4. as we read Paul's instructions for the church, for how we are to live, we consider them to be instructions from our Lord Jesus Himself, given through Paul by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit

### C. A teacher of the Gentiles

1. in a meeting in Jerusalem, as recorded in Galatians 2:9, the apostles recognized that the Lord Jesus had sent the other apostles primarily to the Jews, and Paul primarily to the Gentiles
2. as a teacher of the Gentiles, Paul taught that idols are no gods at all, and that men must turn from them to serve the living God through Jesus Christ, the man He has appointed
3. he taught us how to understand the mystery of Christ that was concealed in the Old Testament scriptures
  - a) he taught us what Genesis 22:18 meant by “your seed”
  - b) it referred not to many descendants, but to one descendant of Abraham - Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ
4. he taught us that since Christ Jesus gave Himself a ransom for all, we who are in Christ through faith are neither Jew nor Gentile, but one new man in Christ
5. he taught us how to understand the different kinds of laws in the Old Testament scriptures, so as to know how to apply them to ourselves
  - a) “honor thy father and thy mother” is moral law, applying to all men of all times
  - b) “observe the Passover” is ceremonial law, applying only to Israel during the Old Covenant, now abrogated when Jesus died on the cross
6. he taught us things about how to behave in the church, which might have been obvious to the Jews of Paul’s time, but are not necessarily so obvious to the rest of us
7. he taught us how to organize the church, with the simple two-officer system of elders and deacons
8. he taught us how we should behave, in our different roles in society
  - a) men and women; husbands and wives
  - b) parents and children
  - c) masters and servants
  - d) governors and citizens; kings and subjects

## CONCLUSION

- For many centuries, it was not the proper time for Christ as ransom for all to be testified to all men
- Now, it is the due time for Christ as ransom for all to be testified to all men
- For that testifying of Christ as ransom for all, the apostle Paul was appointed a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles

**The truth that there is a Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who has given Himself a ransom for all, is now testified, and is to be testified, to all men, according to the preaching, apostleship, and teaching of our Lord's apostle, Paul.**

Let us hear with joy the good news from Paul of Jesus Christ as Mediator, by His giving Himself a Ransom for all men!

Let us look to Paul and the other apostles of Jesus Christ for all matters regarding interpretation of the bible.

Let us hear all of Paul's instructions to the church as being from our Lord Jesus Christ Himself.

- this very letter, 1 Timothy, contains some instructions very counter-cultural in the time they were written, and at least as much so today; be ready to submit yourself to what you read here
- you have been instructed from Paul's letters as to how the church is to choose men to be deacons; if you have not already, be sure you take those instructions as from our Lord Jesus Himself

Let every one of us do his or her part in the church's continuing work of testifying to the Lord Jesus Christ as the ransom for all men.

- yet not the part of an apostle, which none of us is
- instead, the part assigned us by our Lord Jesus Christ through what His apostles taught us

Let us rest in the confidence that if we are not doing what Christians around us are doing, and what people might insist that we should be doing, but we are doing what Paul has taught us to do, we are obeying our Lord Jesus Christ as His disciples, and are living as is pleasing to him.

Call to Worship: Psalm 33:1-4 - Dillon

Scripture Reading: Psalm 33:5-21 - Jeremiah

Sermon: "To Be Testified" 1 Timothy 2:6b-7

Congregational Prayer - Roel

Benediction: Psalm 33:22

Prelude: Trinity 446 "That Man Is Blest" - Anna

Trinity 370 "Jesus Saves!" - Rita

Trinity 6 "All Ye That Fear Jehovah's Name" (Psalm 22:23-31) - Anna

Trinity 195 "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" - Allison

Trinity 488 "Lead On, O King Eternal" - Anna

## Hymn

Trinity 442 "Behold the Amazing Gift of Love"

## Scripture Proofs

1 Peter 1:5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

John 10:26 But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.

John 17:9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.

John 6:64 But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him.

## 1689 Confession

1689.3.6 ...and kept by His power through faith unto salvation; neither are any other redeemed by Christ, or effectually called, justified, adopted, sanctified, and saved, but the elect only.

## Baptist Catechism

35. Q. What benefits do they that are effectually called partake of in this life?  
A. They that are effectually called do in this life partake of justification (Romans 8:30), adoption (Ephesians 1:5), sanctification, and the several benefits which in this life do either accompany or flow from them (1 Corinthians 1:30).
39. Q. What are the benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification?  
A. The benefits which in this life do accompany or flow from justification, adoption, and sanctification are assurance of God's love, peace of conscience (Romans 5:1-2, 5), joy in the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5, 17), increase of grace (Proverbs 4:18), and perseverance therein to the end (1 John 5:13; 1 Peter 1:5).



Galatians 4:4-5 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, (5) to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

Ephesians 1:7-10 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace (8) which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, (9) having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, (10) that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth--in Him.

Ephesians 3:3-11 how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, (4) by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), (5) which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: (6) that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel, (7) of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power. (8) To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, (9) and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; (10) to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, (11) according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Romans 5:6 For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

Romans 16:25-26 Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began (26) but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith--

Colossians 1:26-28 the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints. (27) To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. (28) Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.

God our Savior, who will have all men saved, sent Christ Jesus to give Himself a ransom for all

**verse 6b This was testified in due time** [ESV the testimony given at the proper time]

**verse 7a Paul was one of the men God ordained to proclaim salvation in Jesus Christ**

a preacher: official proclaimer of what the king would have the people know

an apostle: official representative sent to speak on the king's behalf in far-off places

**verse 7b Paul would have us pause to consider the truth of that claim**

It must have been that there were people accusing Paul of lying about being an apostle.

This is, in effect, an oath in the name of Christ.

Peter did not think Paul was lying. see 2 Peter 3:15-16

The leaders of the church in Jerusalem did not think Paul was lying. see Acts 15:22-27

The church all over the world accepted Acts as Paul's true history and Paul's letters as scripture, including them in the bible.

We do not think Paul was lying! I do not think Paul was lying!

a teacher of the Gentiles

in faith and verity/truth

-two possibilities:

- faith and truth are the main subjects of his instruction of the Gentiles

-he is a faithful and true teacher of the Gentiles

**verse 8 That being the case, Paul will have men pray in all places**

**verse 9 in like manner also, that the women**

Calvin:

As he enjoined men to lift up pure hands, so he now prescribes the manner in which women ought to prepare for praying aright.

Gill:

Let the women pray likewise

Ellicott:

The apostle continues his official injunctions in reference to public prayer. "Likewise," he goes on to say, "I desire that women, when they pray . . ."