



1 Timothy 2:3-4
God Desires to Save
All "Kinds" of Men

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Summary

Inclusio:

1 Tim. 2:1 "...prayers for all men..."

Vs. 2 "...to live peaceful lives

Vss. 3-4 "...God wants all men saved"

Vss. 5-6 "...one Mediator..."

Vs. 7 "...for this I was appointed..."

1 Tim. 2:8 "...men are to pray"

God's Will for All Men?

1 Timothy 2:3-4

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.

Applications

1. We must be convinced that true knowledge of God through the Scriptures is attainable and necessary for salvation.
2. We must understand why God's desire for all men to be saved does not lead to universalism.

Truth Can and Must Be Known

Postmodern: Truth is unattainable
Epistemology: Coherentism

Biblical: Truth is attainable
Epistemology: Foundationalism

Truth Can and Must Be Known

John 8:31-32

So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; 32 and **you will know the truth**, and the truth will make you free."

Rejection of Truth: A Moral Problem

2 Thessalonians 2:9-10

...that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, 10 and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, **because they did not receive the love of the truth** so as to be saved.

Understanding "All Men"

1 Timothy 2:4

...who **desires** **all men** to be saved...

Three Interpretive Options:

1. **Arminian:** All men = every individual.
2. **Calvinist:** God's desire is moral not decretive.
3. **Calvinist:** All men = all kinds of men.

Understanding "All Men"

1 Timothy 4:10

For it is for this we labor and strive, because we have fixed our hope on the living God, who is the **Savior of all men**, especially of believers.

Romans 11:32

For God has shut up **all** in disobedience so that He may show mercy to **all**.

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Understanding "All Men"

Galatians 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; **for you are all one in Christ Jesus**.

Acts 22:15

For you will be a witness for Him **to all men** of what you have seen and heard.

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Understanding God's Will

God's Will to Save "All Kinds" of Men:

Isaiah 49:6

He says, "It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; **I will also make You a light of the nations** So that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

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