7/16/2023 AM

Introduction:

I. GOD'S PLAN BECOMES OUR REQUIREMENT (vs. 1-2)

A. God's plan involves all kinds of prayer for all kinds of people. (vs. 1-2a)

"First of all, then ... "

"I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings"

"be made on behalf of all men"

"for kings and all who are in authority...."

B. God's plan requires harmony and holiness among His people. (vs. 2b)

"so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life"

"in all godliness and dignity"

II. GOD'S PLEASURE IS OUR REASON (vs. 3-6)

A. God's pleasure entails the spread of the gospel so that all may be saved. (vs. 3-4)

"This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior"

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

II Peter 3:9

B. God's pleasure initiates prayer that all people will be reached with the Gospel. (vs. 5-6)

"For there is one God"

"and one mediator also between God and men"

"the man Christ Jesus"

Galatians 1:4; 2:20; Ephesians 5:2; Titus 2:14 "the testimony given at the proper time" III. GOD'S PROVISION WILL BRING RESULTS (vs. 7-8) A. God's provision includes gifted leadership. (vs. 7) "For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle" "(I am telling the truth, I am not lying)" "as a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth" B. God's provision designates men as taking the leadership in prayer. (vs. 8) "Therefore I want the men in every place to pray" "lifting up holy hands" "without wrath and dissension" **Conclusion:** 1) 2) 3)

"who gave Himself as a ransom for all"

Food for Thought:

- 1) In what way is praying the easiest thing to do? How is it that, at the same time, it is the most difficult thing to do?
- 2) How should you pray for government leaders that you don't agree with?
- 3) Regarding God's will in this passage, how do you balance your understanding of God's sovereignty and universalism?
- 4) Why is the singularity of God and the exclusivity of Christ not a welcome message in our culture?