

5 February 2017: Preached by Preacher Clement Chew

Topic: A Church in Order: Praying Men!

Scripture text: 1 Timothy 2:8

1. Timothy is to lead the church in corporate prayer as the pastor as taught in 1 Tim 2:1-7. The church is to pray for all men including those in authorities and also for the lost to come to God's saving grace. In verse 8, the focus is on the congregation and Paul's desire is that men pray everywhere.

2. God commands us to pray without ceasing. Christians are generally lacking in prayers. Man is particularly commanded to pray. This also applies to women to pray as in v.9. However, man as the leader ought to lead in prayer in the church and family.

3. The manner of prayer as taught is to lift up holy hands. The Jew has the custom in lifting their hands to pray. Today we don't lift our hands to pray as it can be a distraction to others and also we do not want to be associated with the Charismatics who will pray lifting their hands.

4. However the focus of the verse is not in the posture but rather in the word "holy". We are taught to come to God in prayers with clean hands and pure hearts. If we regard iniquity in our hearts the Lord will not hear us (Psalm 66:18). The other verses in Prov 28:9 and James 4:3 also taught the same truth. Hence men are to lead in prayers with holy lives.

5. We are also to pray without wrath. This means we should not do anything that incurs the wrath of God. It also can mean there must not be any unjustified anger in our hearts against others such as unforgiveness.

6. We must also pray without doubt. When we pray according to God's will, we have the full assurance that God will answer our prayers. Let every one be a prayerful child of God.