

## What Can You Do About This Mess? [continued from page 312702]

---

by Tim Jennings

This is accomplished by living *“peaceful and quiet lives.”* This relates to our submissive and supportive attitude toward governing authorities (Rom. 13:1-2; 1 Pet. 2:13-14). Praying for leaders drains away thoughts of hatred and rebellion, and allows us to see them as objects of God’s concern.

In addition, peaceful conditions allow us to more effectively model *“godliness and holiness”* (see 1 Thess. 4:11-12). Each day we live in peace is a perfect day to model the gospel of peace in a world of sin and conflict (1 Pet. 2:11-12).

There are places all over this world where Christians cannot live out their faith openly and the gospel is not welcomed, but prayer can change that.

### **Pray So People Will Be Saved**

Ultimately, prayer has an evangelistic goal—*“God desires all people to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth”* (1 Tim. 2:3). We pray for leaders, that we might live in peace, so we can be free to live and share the gospel with the world.

The greatest problems in this world will not be solved by an election, a referendum, a war, more education, or a financial handout. The needs of our world are fundamentally spiritual. People need to know the truth so they can see through the deception of sin. People need peace with God which comes through Jesus, the *“one Mediator between God and men,” “who gave himself as a ransom for all people”* (1 Tim. 2:6).

It is time for our prayers to grow beyond our personal desires and physical comforts. Our world is in a mess. It is time to pray.

312703