

MISSIONS CONFERENCE 2018

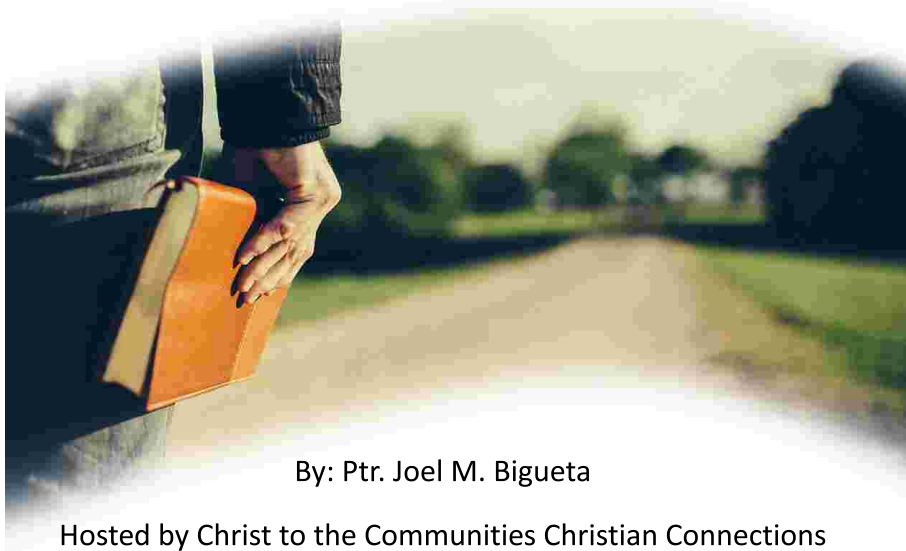
November 3, 2018

Session 1

MESSAGE OF MISSIONS

TOPIC :

**THE BIBLICAL
MANDATE
OF MISSIONS**



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Hosted by Christ to the Communities Christian Connections

Introduction:

1. "The church does not exist to entertain the saved. It exists to train disciples to glorify God and reach the lost!" A.W. Tozer
2. "There's no doubt every theologian, bible scholars, preacher-teacher that Matt. 28: 18-20 was the primary key text for the church in relation to her mission work.
 - a. The passage is the culmination, highest peak of Christ command/mandate.
 - b. All his previous ministry & activity were aligned to this great commission
 - 1 His public teaching ministry
 - 1 His public display of miracles
 - 1 His perfect obedience (passive & active)
 - 1 His bodily resurrection all points to these verses in Matthew 28:18-20
3. What is the purpose of existence of the local church? – Acts 2:41-47d.

Points:

- a. Some would say for the purpose of worship & prayer.
- b. Some would say for the teaching of sound doctrine.
- c. Some would say for fellowship & benevolence.
- d. Point: All of the above description are true and must characterized the local church, but all those activities started with the framework of the Great commission.

Teaching Outline of Matthew 28:18-20

- I. The Church's Authority – From the Lord Jesus Christ - vs. 18
- II. The Church's Assignment – Mission work - vs. 19-20a
- III. The Church's Assurance – God's presence till the end - vs. 20b

I. First, The Church's Authority

– from the Lord Jesus Christ himself

- A. Verse 18a – *"All authority/power in heaven and on earth."* What does this mean "All" authority?
 1. There is no authority outside the Lord Jesus Christ.
 2. This is an absolute, supreme, sovereign, unrestricted authority throughout in heaven (even angels) and on earth (earthly

- rulers, even Satan & demons)
3. This is a claim of Deity!

B. Verse 18b – *“has been given to me.”*

1. This authority was given to Christ because he earned it (not an honorary – given as an honour to someone who has not done a course of study).
 - a. Phil. 2:5-11 – Jesus humiliation became the grounds for his exaltation. His perfect obedience (passive & active) made him, bestows on him the title Lord of Lords/ King of Kings; every knee shall bow & confess – in heaven, on earth under earth.
 - b. Acts 2:33 – exalted at the right hand of God the father
 - c. 1 Cor. 15:27-28 – all things are put subjection under his feet.
 - d. Col. 1:15-18 – the supremacy of Christ
2. God the Father bestows back the authority & glory to Christ as anticipation to Jesus’ ascension & glory back to his throne.

Pointers to Learn:

1. Christ is the true & real owner of the church both local & universal – (not the denomination, bishop, pastor, nor the most influential family or clan, not the wealthy member, giver/ donor etc.)
 - a) He bought it with his precious blood – Acts 20:28; Rom. 5:9; Eph. 1:7; 2:13; Heb. 13:12; 1Pet. 1: 1-2; 19 etc.
 - b) He is the head of the church – Eph. 5: 24-25; Col. 1:15-18
2. The entire membership of the church must acknowledge, yield, submit & humbled themselves to the sole authority of Christ!
3. Every church ought to pursue the biblically ordered church and must be therefore, Scripture & Christ alone be the ruling guide and direction of every church.

II. Second, The Church’s Assignment

– evangelism & mission work – vs. 19 - 20a

“Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observed all that I have commanded you.” – This is the Lord’s marching orders.

Understanding of this text: One main verb with 3 participles

- a. The main verb = MAKE DISCIPLES
- b. Participle – is a verb acts as an adjective to modify/ support the main verb

1. **Going** – which means “as you are going” – it is an active voice.

- a) Corporately as a church activity – e.g. evangelistic Bible study, film showing, tracts distribution, gospel hour/ Sunday etc.
- b) Individual in your daily affairs of your life - in your home, work or school, community etc.
- c) A disciple is a learner, a follower of master-teacher teaching and beliefs
 - i. To make disciple means that the church/ Christian must be able to share, present, speak, lead, convince, and persuade the person into the understanding of saving knowledge of Christ Jesus.
 - ii. The person must be able to surrender and submit his/her life and commit to the truths, commandments and warnings of our Lord Jesus Christ!
 - iii. Caution: TO MAKE DISCIPLES IS NOT MAKING DECISIONS (like the 19th century method of Charles Finney, D.L. Moody, Billy Sunday & Billy Graham now modern-day altar call, raising of hands and dictated prayers of acceptance)

2. **Baptizing them** – this means the biblical physical & visible sign of submitting and surrendering one’s life to the authority and Lordship of Christ is WATER BAPTISM

- a) Biblical examples:
 - i. Peter’s sermon with 3,000 souls saved – Acts 2:38-41
 - ii. Eunuch – Acts 8:38
 - iii. Saul – Acts 9:18
 - iv. Cornelius – Acts 16: 47-48
 - v. Jailer in prison – Acts 16:33
 - vi. Crispus & family – Acts 18:8
- b) The water baptism incident in the book of Acts were those who received with proper biblical understanding of the saving knowledge of the Gospel of Christ. (in the name of the Triune God-head – of the Father, of the Son & of the Holy Spirit)
 - i. Credo – baptism or people who believed in the gospel were baptized not Infant baptism

- ii. Realization of the gospel is a pre-requisite before the ritual of the gospel
- iii. Reject unbiblical physical sign other than the ordained means which is water baptism.

3. Teaching them – to observed all that I commanded you

– vs. 20a

- a) To make disciples does not stop on baptism only that's why we have the third participle.
- b) It's only the beginning of the lifetime - learning, following & obeying the authority of Christ.
- c) It is imperative of the disciple to continue and grow in the knowledge and grace of His master Lord & Saviour in the context of a local church.
- d) The word “them” – refers to those who were the product of the two participles mention earlier- going & baptizing.
- e) They ought to be part and under a local church in order to grow. They need to take and grow from spiritual milk to spiritual meat.
 - i. Learn the essential sound doctrines of the faith and the whole counsel of God. – Acts 20:27
 - ii. To discover and develop their spiritual gifts in order to serve the church. – Rom. 12:4-8; 1 Cor. 12:12ff
 - iii. To watch over their life & mutual encouragement.
 - iv. To repeat the cycle of great commission.

III. Thirdly, The Church's Assurance

– vs. 20b “And behold I am with you to the end of age.”

- A. Behold – means look intently, that God will be in this activity!
- B. This promise is the church fuel to energizes and mobilize the church.
- C. Every time the church is engaging into mission and evangelism we can rest assured that we are doing His will! In fact it is the very heart of will that His kingdom expanding thru the proclamation of the Gospel of Christ!

Points to Learn:

1. Mission work will always have a special place in God's heart! For the plan of redemption was initiated by the Triune God-head.
 - 1 God the Father – choose those who will be saved before the foundation of the world – Eph. 1:4
 - 1 God the Son – accomplished this redemption thru the finished work of Christ at the Cross.
 - 1 God the Holy Spirit – sealed the believer – Eph. 1:14
2. The goal of Great Commission is not mere decision for Christ but well-taught, doctrinally-sound, faithfully obedient disciples in the local church context.” – Dr. Steven Lawson
 - 1 We must avoid the evangelical errors of the past & present – securing decisions by numbers of so called “converts” thru man-made means of altar call, decisionism method or modern day gospel evangelism approach.
 - 1 The biblical-physical sign of conversion of faith is thru the ordained means of Water Baptism.