

**I. Week 3, Biblical Theology of Missions from OT Part 2**

A. Opening prayer. Prayer for Iran.

B. Historical Snapshot – Columba

- i. Source material - <https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/columba-missionary-scotland/>
- ii. Born in 521 in Ireland
- iii. On track for a priestly life in Ireland
- iv. He took monastic vows and was zealous in fulfilling them, founding churches and other monasteries
- v. Zeal often led to division, even warfare among the clans
- vi. When he was 42, he seems to have experienced a renewal of some kind. Turned himself toward the missionary enterprise.
- vii. Along with 12 companions, sailed for the island of Iona
- viii. Labored there for the conversion of Scottish and northern English tribes until his death in 597
- ix. An example of passion and zeal for his cause. What are you passionate for? What are you zealous for? As a result of Columba and his zeal, many people from Scotland and northern England came to Christ. Who will come to Christ because of us?
- x. An example of team approach. Columba went with companions to those who needed to hear the gospel. He did not go alone, and so it has always been. The extension of the gospel to the nations is not a lone ranger effort.
- xi. Let us, as a church, link arms for the cause of the glory of God among the nations.

C. Review Definition of Missions

- i. Missions refers to the work of making disciples through preaching the gospel and establishing local churches, typically involving the crossing of cultural, linguistic, or ethnic barriers and performed by those specifically sent out by the church for this task.

D. Review Last Week

- i. Adam – Genesis 1:28, fill the earth, multiply
- ii. Noah – Genesis 9:1, fill the earth, multiply
- iii. Abraham/Isaac/Jacob – Genesis 12:1-3, blessing for the nations
- iv. Israel – Exodus 19:4, kingdom of priests
- v. David/Solomon – 2 Samuel 7, kingdom, house for God
- vi. Discuss how promise develops as history progresses
- vii. History is moving toward a definite end – the Glory of God upon the earth!

E. Tension between Promise and Judgment

- i. History of Israel characterized by disobedience, injustice, oppression, idolatry
- ii. Yet, how will the promises be fulfilled?
- iii. This is what the prophets wrestled with – judgment and mercy.
- iv. A word about promise / fulfillment
- v. 2 Corinthians 1:20 – all the promises of God find their “Yes” in Christ.
- vi. Let us learn from how the NT authors interpreted the OT. They were closer in culture, worldview, time, geography, etc.
- vii. G.K. Beale Article, five theological and hermeneutical presuppositions, Did Jesus and His Followers Preach the Right Doctrine from the Wrong Texts?
  - 1. Assumption of corporate solidarity or representation
  - 2. Christ is viewed as representing the true Israel of the OT and true Israel, the church, in the NT
  - 3. History is unified by a wise and sovereign plan so that the earlier parts are designed to correspond and point to the latter points
  - 4. The age of eschatological fulfillment has come in Christ
  - 5. Christ, as the center of history is the key to interpreting the earlier portions of the OT and its promises.
- viii. Key Elements of Prophetic Hope
  - 1. Rule of the Messiah
  - 2. Restoration of Israel
  - 3. Ingathering of the Nations
  - 4. Second Exodus language

F. Main Point of this Lesson

- i. The prophets, in the midst of disobedience and judgment, looked forward to the day when all peoples would praise the coming King, who would lead his people out of exile and gather the nations to himself in the new heavens and the new earth.
- ii. This hope permeates the Prophets and the Writings.
- iii. This longing, this hope finds its fulfillment in the person and work of Jesus Christ, and we, who have come to see and know Christ must worship Him, must sing with joy for his salvation.
- iv. The promised King has come.
- v. He has delivered his people, the second exodus, at the cross.
- vi. He established his kingdom.
- vii. He is currently gathering in the nations.
- viii. The right response to the coming of the King is worship.
- ix. The prophets, in the midst of disobedience and judgment, looked forward to the day when all peoples would praise the coming King, who would lead his people out of exile and gather the nations to himself in the new heavens and the new earth.
- x. Right response is worship.

G. Biblical Texts

- i. Psalm 67 –

1. Blessed to be a blessing (cf. Genesis 12)
  2. The blessing of God upon Israel is intended to bring blessing and joy to the nations
  3. River of blessing toward the nations. We join in that river and experience that blessing.
  4. Let the nations be glad!
- ii. This hope for the ingather of the nations is also expressed in Psalm 96, 150, among others
- iii. Isaiah 6 –
1. The whole earth is full of his glory (recalls Genesis 1:28)
  2. The holy seed is its stump (Genesis 3:15).
  3. Judgment – the tree is cut down (vs. 8-13a)
  4. Hope – The stump that remains is the seed of promise! (vs. 13b)
- iv. Isaiah 11-12
1. A shoot from the stump of Jesse – Genesis 3:15, this is the seed!
  2. The Messiah ushers in the kingdom (vs. 1-2)
  3. Judgment – he shall strike the earth with a rod of iron (vs. 3-5)
  4. Hope –
    - a. A time of peace and prosperity (vs. 6-9)
    - b. The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea (vs. 9). What part of the sea is not covered with water?
    - c. Nations shall enquire (vs. 10).
    - d. Second exodus (vs. 11-16).
    - e. Remnant of his people from Assyria, Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elam, Shinar, from coastlands of the sea (vs. 11)
    - f. From the four corners of the earth (v. 12).
    - g. 12:1-6 – joyous singing and praise for God, among all nations of the earth
- v. Isaiah 19:16-25
1. Judgment on Egypt (16-17)
  2. Five cities in Egypt that speak the language of Canaan (18)
  3. An exodus-like deliverance for Egypt? (19-22)
  4. Highway from Egypt to Assyria (23)
  5. Egypt/Assyria/Israel are a blessing in the midst of the earth (24-25), Genesis 12
- vi. Isaiah 40

1. Servant songs (40-66)
2. Comfort, comfort my people – your sins are paid for (vs. 1-2)
3. Prepare the way of the LORD... God is coming, to redeem his people and lead them out as a second exodus (3-4)
4. Glory of the Lord will be revealed (5)
5. All flesh shall see it together (5)
6. Mark 1 – SECOND EXODUS IS HERE!
7. Luke 3 – SECOND EXODUS IS HERE!

vii. Isaiah 42

1. 41:8-10. Israel is the offspring of Abraham. Israel is God's servant.
2. 42:1-4, quoted in Matthew 12:18-20. Jesus is the servant.
3. Israel / Jesus will bring forth justice to the nations (42:1)
4. In his name the Gentiles will hope (42:4, LXX, quoted in Matthew 12:20).
5. The servant will be a covenant for the people, a light for the nations (vs 6.)
6. Identity of the servant is explicitly declared to be Jesus via Matthew 12, Isaiah 53. Israel was to be a light to the nations. They failed in that regard, but Jesus fulfilled this purpose in himself.
7. Look how Isaiah immediately transitions into praise / worship (vs. 10-12).
8. This should be how our hearts are impacted.
9. We see the glory of God, woven through the Scriptures, finding its fulfillment in the person and work of Jesus Christ. And we should worship. We should sing.

viii. Isaiah 43

1. You are my witnesses (vs. 10) – Acts 1:8
2. A second exodus (vs. 16-19)
3. A chosen people (vs. 20-21), I Peter 2

ix. Isaiah 45

1. Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth (22)
2. Every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear allegiance (23), Phil 2:13

x. Isaiah 49

1. 48:18-19 – Israel disobeyed, did not fulfill the promises of Genesis
2. 48:20 – go out from Babylon, God will rescue his people from exile
3. Second exodus language... God is going to rescue his people a second time.
4. 49:1 – God calls for the coastlands, the peoples to listen
5. 49:3 – God raises up his servant
6. 49:6 – his servant will bring back the tribes of Israel (second Exodus)

7. 49:6 – but will also extend God’s salvation to the ends of the earth
8. Quoted in Acts 13:47, Luke 2:32
9. Acts 26:22 – what Moses and the prophets said must take place... that Christ would suffer and become a light for our people and for the Gentiles
10. Luke 2:25-32 - Simeon... devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, Holy Spirit was upon him, he understood that Jesus was the light for revelation to the Gentiles.
11. 49:8-12 – second exodus, mountains a road, highways raised up
12. 49:13 – sing for joy!

xi. Isaiah 52-53

1. Prepare for the salvation of the LORD (52:1-6)
2. Good news (52:7)
3. Sing! (52:9)
4. All the earth shall see the salvation (52:10)
5. Second exodus language
6. Servant is the one who leads the people out of bondage, through his own suffering and death
7. Yet he shall see his offspring (53:10)

xii. Isaiah 56

1. Hope for the foreigners (1-6)
2. A house of prayer for all peoples (7)
3. I will gather yet others besides those already gathered (8), cf John 10:16, other sheep who are not of this fold.

xiii. Isaiah 60

1. Future glory.
2. Nations shall come to your light (vs. 3)
3. Your gates shall be open continually, day and night they shall not be shut (vs. 10).
4. Sun no more shall be your light, the LORD will be your light (vs. 19)
5. Revelation 21-22!!!
6. If you want to understand Revelation, read the Old Testament.

xiv. Isaiah 61

1. quoted by Jesus at Nazareth at the beginning of his ministry!
2. This vision of Israel becoming a light for the nations, a blessing to the nations of the earth is fulfilled in Christ. He ushers in the kingdom of God, the redemption of Israel. He leads his people out from bondage and slavery, rescuing them from their sin.

3. We fit into God's story, as we are united to Christ, we join in his work of redemption.
4. That his glory might fill the earth!

xv. Isaiah 66 – New creation/new heaven/new earth

xvi. Jeremiah 3:15-18

1. New shepherds (15)
2. Multiplied/increased in the land (16), echoes Genesis 1
3. The presence of the LORD will be everywhere (16), not contained in the ark
4. Nations shall gather to Jerusalem (17)

xvii. Jeremiah 33

1. This city shall be to me a name of joy and a glory before the nations (9)
2. Eternal covenant with David (14-26)
3. As the host of heaven cannot be numbered and the sands of the sea cannot be measured, so I will multiply the offspring of David my servant, and the Levitical priests who minister to me (22).
4. Abraham/Isaac language – sands of the sea, host of the heaven
5. Genesis 3 language
6. Genesis 1 language
7. 2 Samuel 7 language
8. All fulfilled in the seed of David

xviii. Ezekiel

1. In Ezekiel, God promises deliverance from bondage and restoration of the people of Israel to Edenic prosperity
2. In the sight of the nations... that the nations might know...
3. 36:22-32 – promise of new heart, new spirit, rescue from exile
4. 36:33-35 – promise of restoration of the land
5. 36:36 – the nations will know that I am the LORD
6. 37:24-28 – everlasting covenant of peace, David will be the king and shepherd, God will dwell with them, the nations will know that I am the LORD

xix. Daniel 7

1. One like a Son of Man (13)
2. Dominion, glory, kingdom (14)
3. That all peoples, nations, languages should serve him (14)
4. Great Commission language

xx. Amos 9:11-15

1. Quoted in Acts 15
  2. James understood this to be teaching that the Gentiles would enter in
  3. Raise up the booth of David (11) – restore the might of David and Israel
  4. Nations called by my name joined to Israel (12)
  5. Everlasting prosperity (13-15)
- xxi. Micah 4:1-2
1. Nations shall come to the mountain of the house of the LORD (2)
  2. That the nations may walk in his paths (2)
- xxii. Habakkuk 2:14 – the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD
- xxiii. Zechariah 2:1-11
1. Restoration of Jerusalem (1-5)
  2. With God in her midst (5)
  3. Judgment on the nations and return from exile (6-9)
  4. Sing/rejoice – for behold I will dwell in your midst (10)
  5. Many nations shall join themselves to the LORD in that day and shall be my people (11)
  6. I shall dwell in your midst (11)
- xxiv. Zechariah 8:20-23 and 14:16-19

#### H. Application

- i. Is your heart filled with joy in God? Do you delight to worship him for who he is and how he has delivered you from sin?
- ii. When you consider your own life, do you locate yourself within this grand narrative? Within God's plan for history... to draw the nations to himself and to gather a people who will extol his glory.