

*Go Ye into All the World*  
*Mark 16:15*

**Mark 16:14-15** reads, “Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen. And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”

In the previous chapter we learned that we believers are not of this world because the Lord our God has chosen out of this world and has made us to be His own dear children. Yet we also learned that we remain in this world because our Lord Jesus Christ has sent us into the world with a spiritual mission and ministry toward this world. Indeed, in **Mark 16:15** our Lord revealed the nature of that mission and ministry, saying, “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” In like manner, in **Matthew 28:18-20** our Lord revealed the nature of that mission and ministry, saying, “All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”

I. Go Ye Therefore

Indeed, in **Matthew 28:18** our Lord Jesus Christ revealed that all authority and power has been given unto Him both “in heaven and in earth.” God the Father has “highly exalted him,” and has “given him a name which is above every name.” (**Philippians 2:9**) Yea, God the Father has highly exalted Him to sit down “at his own right hand in the heavenly places,” “on the right hand of the Majesty on high.” (**Ephesians 1:20; Hebrews 2:2**) Furthermore, God the Father has set Him “far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:” (**Ephesians 1:21**) Finally, God the Father has “put all things in subjection under his feet,” and “gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all.” (**Hebrews 2:8; Ephesians 1:22-23**)

Even so, on the ground of this truth concerning His authoritative power over all things, our Lord Jesus Christ delivered His commission and command at the beginning of **Matthew 28:19** – “Go ye therefore.” Our Lord and Savior has commanded us who are His disciples to “go into all the world,” and to “preach the gospel to every creature.” This is not simply a calling unto the special few and unto spiritual leaders. In **2 Corinthians 5:17-19** God’s Word states, “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; to wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.” All of us who are spiritually born again through faith in Christ have been given the ministry and word of reconciliation to minister the word of Christ’s gospel unto the world. We all are called to be “ambassadors for Christ,” serving as the very mouth pieces of God and beseeching spiritually lost souls “in

Christ's stead" to be reconciled unto God. (**2 Corinthians 5:20**) This is not simply a suggestion for when we have the inclination to go forth and preach the gospel. Rather, this is a direct calling, commission, and command from our Lord unto us who are His own. If we would walk in faithful obedience unto our Lord, then we must go forth unto the world with the gospel. Not to go is disobedience.

Furthermore, we should possess all assurance of faith that we have every right to go forth unto the world with the gospel ministry and message. In the opening portion of **Matthew 28:19**, our Lord gave His instruction, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations." Within the immediate context of this instruction, the conjunction "therefore" directs our attention back to the truth of **verse 18**, wherein our Lord declared, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." This reveals that the foundational reason and right for us to go forth unto the world with the gospel is specifically because our Lord Jesus Christ has been given all of the authoritative power in heaven and earth. He is Lord of lords over all. As such, He possesses all of the authority to enact any commission that He so chooses and desires. His calling, commission, and command unto us, based upon His all-authority to make it, is that we should go forth with the gospel. Therefore, we have every right and responsibility to obey that commission, no matter how much the world around us may oppose that commission.

## II. Go Yet the More

In fact, as we go forth with the gospel, we should expect to face fierce opposition and even persecution. In **Luke 10:3** our Lord declared, "Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves." Wolves are fiercely opposed to the health of lambs. In fact, ravening wolves seek to tear into, tear apart, and devour lambs; and this is the very description that our Lord gives concerning our gospel ministry unto the world. Yes, some will receive the truth of the gospel. Praise the Lord! Yet others will reject the truth of the gospel, and still others will oppose it with a fierce hatred. Yea, they will hate the truth of the gospel and will hate us for proclaiming the gospel. In **John 3:19-20** our Lord gave the report, "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved." Again in the opening portion of **Matthew 10:22**, our Lord gave the report, "And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake."

So then, what are we to do in the face of this opposition and persecution? We should go yet the more with the gospel unto the world. In **Luke 14:16-24** our Lord presented the following parable, saying, "A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: and sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come. So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges,

and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.”

In this parable the man who made the supper represents God our heavenly Father; the great supper itself represents the heavenly kingdom at the end of the age; and the call to come unto the supper represents the gospel call unto salvation through faith in Christ. Now, when the servant went forth to call the guests unto the supper, many made excuse why they would not come. Yet when the servant gave this report to his master, the master did not instruct his servant quit calling for guests. Rather, the master instructed his servant to “go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind.” Even so, we also are to continue going forth with the gospel unto the world. Yes, there will be many who reject the message and call of the gospel. Yet our Lord desires that we go forth yet the more with the gospel until we find those who are spiritually needy and who will respond in faith.

Furthermore, in **Acts 5:17-18** we read concerning the persecution that the apostles faced for their gospel preaching – “Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (which is the sect of the Sadducees,) and were filled with indignation, and laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison.” Yet in **verses 19-20** we read concerning the deliverance and instruction of the Lord – “But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said, Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life.” Certainly as we go forth in the ministry and with the message of the gospel, we will face opposition and persecution. Yet as we have opportunity, we must go forth yet the more, proclaiming the gospel unto the world.

### III. Go, and Preach the Gospel

In **Mark 16:15** our Lord did not simply call us, commission us, and command us to go “into all the world;” He also called us, commissioned, and commanded us to “preach the gospel” unto every creature. We are not simply to go forth in order to impress others with our godly behavior. We are not simply to go forth in order to show kindness unto those in need. We are not simply to go forth in order to invite others to church. Rather, we are to go forth in order to proclaim and present the gospel message of eternal salvation and eternal life through faith in Christ unto the spiritually lost souls of this world.

Indeed, we must go forth as faithful laborers of our Lord in order to harvest souls for our Lord. In **Luke 10:2** our Lord declared, “The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth labourers into His harvest.” Then in the very next verse, our Lord added, “Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves.” There truly is a great work of spiritual harvest that needs to be accomplished. Yet there are never enough faithful laborers who will go forth to labor at the harvest. So then, what of us? First, our Lord instructed us to pray for the Lord God to send forth more faithful laborers. Then immediately after this instruction to pray for more laborers, our Lord instructed us to go forth, informing us that He as the Lord of the harvest was sending us forth that we ourselves should be faithful laborers in His harvest. Even so, the need for more faithful laborers must first be met by us ourselves. The harvest work is a great work, yet it is also a hard work. It is a work of spiritual labor. It is a work that is never

complete as long as we are in this world. It is a work that requires faithful laborers. Yea, it is a work that requires, not those who will only reap for a moment, but those who will reap for a lifetime, not those who will only reap when it is easy, but those who will continue in the harvest when it is most difficult. Will we be faithful to the task?

Furthermore, we must go forth with a fervent plea for lost souls to receive the gospel in order that our Lord God's heavenly home might be filled. Already we have considered our Lord's parable from **Luke 14:16-24**. In **verses 22-23** our Lord Jesus Christ moved the parable unto its conclusion, saying, "And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled." We must compel lost souls to come unto our Lord Jesus Christ through faith for eternal salvation and eternal life. We must put forth every personal effort to reach the lost with the gospel, and we must earnestly and fervently plead with them to receive Christ as personal Savior.

We are to be as if God the Father and Christ the Savior Themselves were beseeching those lost souls through our mouths. (See **2 Corinthians 5:20**) They are "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." (**2 Peter 3:9**) They "will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." (**1 Timothy 2:4**) Even so, we should have the same fervency and compassion in our gospel ministry toward the lost souls of this world. In **Matthew 9:36** God's Word informs us that when our Lord Jesus Christ saw the multitudes, "he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd." Even so, in **Jude 1:22-23** God's Word instructs us, "And of some have compassion, making a difference: and others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh." The effort of our gospel ministry is not to be a half-hearted effort, but a whole-hearted effort. The effort of our gospel proclamation is not to be a cold-hearted effort, but a compassionate-hearted effort.

#### IV. Go into All the World

Indeed, the effort of our gospel mission and ministry must be directed unto all who have a spiritual need for the gospel of eternal salvation and eternal life. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ came into the world as the Savior for the whole world. By God's abundant grace He died on the cross for every human individual. (See **Hebrews 2:9**) He "gave himself a ransom for all." (**1 Timothy 2:6**) He laid down His life in sacrifice "for the sins of the whole world." (**1 John 2:2**) Therefore, our gospel ministry must be directed unto every individual among every nation in the whole world.

In **Mark 16:15** our Lord delivered the instruction, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Herein He indicated that we are to preach His gospel unto "every creature," with the word "creature" being in the singular. As such, it refers unto individual souls. Even so, we must have a conscious burden for every single individual soul around us. We must seek to reach each individual one of them with the gospel as an individual soul in spiritual need of eternal salvation through Christ. Yet in **Mark 16:15** our Lord also indicated that we should have a burden for "all the world;" for He instructed us to "go into all the world." Although we ourselves as individuals will not likely travel over the entire world, spreading the gospel of Christ, we must maintain a gospel burden for "all the world." As we go forth

to present the gospel of Christ and to reach lost souls with the gospel in the place to which our Lord has called us, we must ever maintain a burden for the progress of the gospel ministry throughout the entire world. Therefore, we must ever be willing to go at any time unto any mission field of harvest wherein our Lord might choose to call us. Furthermore, we must ever be willing to support with prayers, encouragement, and material help all those whom our Lord would call forth from us unto other mission fields of harvest. Finally, we must ever be willing to send forth our own children as our Lord might choose to call them into His mission field of harvest.

Furthermore, in the opening portion of **Matthew 28:19**, our Lord indicated that we should “go and teach all nations.” Herein the word “nations” refers to different people groups. Even so, we must ever maintain a gospel burden for all kinds of souls. There is no national group that should be excluded from our efforts in gospel ministry. There is no social class that should be excluded from our efforts in gospel ministry. There is no political category that should be excluded from our efforts in gospel ministry. As we go forth with the gospel, we must carry the burden to reach every individual from all nations in all the world. Our burden should begin at home with our own family and friends, even as in **Mark 5:19** our Lord Jesus Christ instructed the demon possessed man of Gadaria after his conversion, saying, “Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee.” Then our burden should extend unto our home city, then unto our home territory, then unto neighboring territories, then unto the “uttermost part of the earth,” including the remotest of lands and people groups. Thus our Lord informed His disciples in **Acts 1:8**, saying, “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

#### V. Pray Ye Therefore

Indeed, in the opening portion of **Matthew 28:19**, our Lord gave the instruction, “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations.” Then in the closing portion of **verse 20**, our Lord gave the promise, “And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” No matter what we must face as we go forth with the gospel, we may have full assurance of faith that we are not alone. Our Lord Himself is with us. No matter how difficult the prospects may be, we may face those prospects without fear or dismay, but with full assurance of faith in our Lord. He will never leave us, nor forsake us. He will ever be with us to strengthen us, to help us, and to uphold us. Yea, His own Holy Spirit ever indwells us and ever seeks to fill us with the power of the Lord’s own might, in order that we might be faithful witnesses for Christ unto the lost world. In **Acts 1:8** our Lord proclaimed, “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

Even so, let us ever continue in prayer as we go forth for the empowerment of the Holy Spirit and for the help of our faithful Lord. Furthermore, let us pray for more laborers to join with us, even as our Lord instructed us in Luke 10:2, saying, “The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.” Indeed, go ye therefore; and pray ye therefore.