

- We have a **Great Commander!** We also have a **Great Commission!**
- Jesus said: “I was dead & I am alive forevermore” (Rev 1.18).

**\*\*This resurrection gives us:**

- A Living hope (1 Pet 1:3)
- Confidence that Christ will return with deceased saints (1 Thess 4:14)
- Portrait of God's power at work within us (Eph 1:19-22)
- The first fruits [template] of all believers who will rise again (1 Cor 15:3-20)
- Proof that Jesus is Messiah and Lord (Acts 17:30-32)
- Assurance of our justification (Rom 4.25).
- An evangelistic centerpoint of proclamation & invitation (Act 26:21-24)

**Matthew 28 in summary:**

- The Unrivaled Resurrection (1-7)
- The Unhindered Proclamation (8-10)
- The Unbelieving Opposition (11-15)
- The Unstoppable Commission (16-20)

➔The Great **Commission** (*Mandate*)

➔Flows out of the Great **Commandment** (*Motivation*)

➔Sourced in our Great **COMMANDER** (*Master*)

Missions = 5 simple axioms:

1. Christ has given you all the authority you need to go and speak His gospel! [we don't need permission; Christ, our Lord & King has given us the *call/commission*]
2. Every Christian IS a disciple of Christ and a disciple-maker for Christ
3. True Missions is Ecclesiological — it centers around, is fueled by & it promotes the local CHURCH (local assemblies); faithful missionaries are equipped, affirmed, sent, supported by & accountable to a local church/assembly.
  - The responsibility for sending missionaries belongs squarely with the local church.
4. Missions is about Truth — teaching the faith once for all delivered to saints (*theological* at its foundation); it's not so much about spanning Continents as much as it is about speaking of Christ & His gospel!
5. Every Christian should be concerned about missions because missions is the HEART OF GOD.

**THESIS — From Matt 28:16-20, 4 AMAZING TRUTHS about this great Commission text that calls you to proclaim the salvation of your resurrected Savior!:**

1. Jesus is the Sovereign **Authority** (WHO gives it)
2. Jesus gives the Specific **Agenda** (WHAT is it)
3. Jesus Promises Supernatural **Assistance** (HOW will I do it)
4. Jesus Calls for Sustained **Advancement** (WHERE shall I do it)

## **I. JESUS IS THE SOVEREIGN AUTHORITY**

“Had I cared for the comments of people, I should never have been a missionary.” (CT Studd)

## **II. JESUS GIVES THE SPECIFIC AGENDA**

**\*\*Make Disciples! —**

1. **Go!**

2. **Baptize!**

3. **Teach!**

"If sinners be dammed, at least let them leap to Hell over our bodies. If they will perish, let them perish with our arms about their knees. Let no one go there unwarned and unprayed for." (Charles Spurgeon)

“Your God says to you as much as to anyone, ‘Go into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature.’ There is neither ‘male nor female’ in the eye of your Creator, your King, your Saviour, your Judge. Will you obey Him? It may cost you all your friends, your reputation, your comfort in life, your home, your fortune, your life, your all; but, ‘He freely gave himself up for us all,’ for women as well as for men.” There is much work to be done; the issue is not men or women, black or white, rich or poor, literate or illiterate, educated or uneducated; the issue is who will go?” (William Booth)

### **III. JESUS PROMISES SUPERNATURAL ASSISTANCE!**

"Brother, if you would enter that Province, you must go forward on your knees." (Hudson Taylor)

- **I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS**
  1. The Person (“I” — Jesus)
  2. The Promise (I **am with** you)
  3. The Presence (**with** you)
  4. The Permanence (**always to the end** of the age)

### **IV. JESUS CALLS FOR SUSTAINED ADVANCEMENT**

**It’s the great COMMISSION; let it not be the GREAT OMISSION.**

- Let us be FAITHFUL not negligent.
- Let’s be FOCUSED
- Let’s be FERVENT
- Let’s be FIERY
- Let’s be FUELED
- Let’s be FILLED

Facing a task unfinished  
That drives us to our knees  
A need that, undiminished  
Rebukes our slothful ease  
We, who rejoice to know Thee  
Renew before Thy throne  
The solemn pledge we owe Thee  
To go and make Thee known

We go to all the world  
With kingdom hope unfurled     [*“Unfurled” means: to unroll / spread something out far & wide*]  
No other name has power to save  
But Jesus Christ The Lord