BELIEVERS ON A MISSION By: Danny McGaughey 9/2/25

As believers (disciples) of Jesus Christ, we must now fulfill the mission Jesus gave us. "Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw Him, they worshiped Him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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 observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:16-20) This is known as the Great Commission.

Commission is defined as "the act of granting authority to undertake a specific function, a formal statement of a command or injunction to do something, and a special assignment given to a person or group." Since Jesus has all authority and tells His disciples to go 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 observe all that I have commanded you, then as believers in Christ, we have our marching orders. No, you don't have to be a missionary to a foreign country to tell others about Jesus. The mission field is all around you. Just look at the decline in the U.S. of people attending church or even believing in God. "Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest." (John 4:35) The thought comes to mind, do Christians even care about the commission Jesus gave us? Do we care about people who die and go to hell? Jesus sure did. "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." (Luke 19:10) If Christians are followers of Jesus and His commands, why do we not care about our fellow man?

Jesus came to earth with several missions to complete. He came to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10). He came to serve (Mark 10:45). He came so we could have an abundant life (John 10:10). He came to reveal the Father (Matthew 11:27), to preach (Luke 4:43), and to destroy the works of the devil (I John 3:8). One more mission was to fulfill a promise made centuries ago to Abraham in Genesis 12.

Jesus told His disciples this, "So when they had come together, they asked Him, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:6-8)

It is plain to see that Jesus expects us to share His good news with others. It can be a co-worker, a neighbor, a family member, or a stranger. Don't be afraid; pray for God to help you, and He will as you witness to someone. Like most things, it gets easier the more you do it.

"The Lord is not slow to fulfill His promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance." (II Peter 3:9) He doesn't want any to perish. How is that going to happen? "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. (Romans 10:17) So how are the lost going to hear? Someone must care enough about being obedient to the Great Commission to tell others about Jesus. "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey His commandments." (1 John 5:2)

It would be fantastic if all Christians practiced this: "If I say, 'I will not mention Him, or speak any more in His name,' there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot." (Jeremiah 20:9) Just imagine what a difference there would be in this

world if all Christians could not be silent and shared their faith in Jesus. Spiritual growth leads to the sharing of your faith. One's love for and faith in Jesus, the salvation He made possible, should give the Christian an attitude of gratitude.

It is difficult to understand just how awful hell is. Humans cannot relate to anything so awful. God created hell for the devil, his demons, and all who are not obedient to His word. It is a place of extreme heat, darkness (because there is no Light of the World to expose the darkness), and fire and brimstone. Have you ever had a drink of sulfur water? It tastes awful and smells like rotten eggs or worse. Brimstone is another name for sulfur. Why in the world would anyone let their friends, neighbors, or relatives go to a place like that without trying to tell them about Jesus and His saving grace?

Bottom line is this. As Christians, we are to tell others about Jesus. Christians are to be obedient to God's Word, work out their own salvation, and bring as many as they can to the saving knowledge of the truth. If someone had the cure for all forms of cancer and did not make it available, that would be terrible. Might even be a crime. What would you think of them if they kept the cure to themselves? How many lives could be saved? Christians have the cure for the soul-killing sin in people's lives. "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear Him who can destroy both soul and body in hell." (Matthew 10:28). Just maybe Christians don't fear God enough.

"I made known to them Your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which You have loved Me may be in them, and I in them." (John 17:26) This is the last verse of Jesus' prayer before leaving the upper room. God loves us so much that He made a way for us to be with Him forever. We have been given the ministry of reconciliation and are ambassadors who represent Him. When is the last time you told someone about Jesus? It is not too late to start. Have a blessed week.

What We Sow:

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