

## MISSION TEAM COMMISSIONING

Matthew 28:18-20

Mark 16:15

This passage is the climax and major focal point not only of Matthew's Gospel...but of the entire New Testament. It would not be an exaggeration to say that it is the focal point of all Scripture.

This *central message* of Scripture pertains to the *central mission* of the people of God...a mission, tragically, many Christians either do not understand...or, are unwilling to fulfill.

**There is a two-fold purpose why we have been created...**

- We were created by God *to experience and enjoy His grace*.
- So that we might then *extend His extravagant glory to all the peoples on the earth*.

God blesses His people by extending His *extravagant grace* so they might in turn, extend His *extravagant glory* to all the peoples on the earth. **Experience His grace...Extend His glory!**

### I. THE AUTHORITY: (vs. 18)

**Authority**...Gk. *exousia*, literally means *power to do something, dominion, official right, or liberty*. It combines *two key ideas*... *right* and *might*. Implicitly it refers to *the freedom and right to speak under the sovereign authority of Jesus Christ*.

### II. THE ASSUMPTION: (vs. 19a)

**Go**...*Aorist passive participle*...this form refers to an *assumption* that *an act of outward obedience* will take place. Literally means *"as you are going."*

This assumption makes clear that the church is not to wait for the world to come to its doors...but that it *will go* to the world. This goes directly against the *seeker-sensitive* church movement.

### III. THE ASSIGNMENT: (vs. 19b-20a)

- **Make disciples**...*of all the nations*...not just **Israel**. This is where the command lies in this passage...an *aorist imperative active*!

**Disciples**...Gk. *matheteuo*, a unique and pointed word...literally means to *instruct or teach one to be a follower of one's doctrine and conduct*. The uniqueness of the word used here is

the *direct attachment* to a teacher. It not only means to *learn*... but to become *attached* to one's teacher and to become their follower in *doctrine* and *conduct* of life.

The specific requirements Jesus gave for **making disciples** involve **three participles**...**going, baptizing, and teaching**.

- **Baptize**...*Baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit*. This would identify and associate a believer with the person of Jesus Christ and with the Triune God.

**Three reasons we are to be baptized:**

1. To be *obedient*...fulfill the **Great Commission**.
2. To *fulfill all righteousness*.
3. To *identify* with Christ.

- **Teach**...*Teaching them to observe* (discern...obey...do it) *all that I commanded you*. Means to *instruct by word of mouth*. Teach the truths Jesus specifically communicated.

### IV. THE ASSURANCE: (vs. 20b)

**I am with you always**...the omnipresence of God through the Holy Spirit.

**Even to the end of the age**...means until the Lord returns bodily to judge the world and to rule His earthly kingdom. The phrase **end of the age** is used three (3) times by Christ to designate His second coming.

We will only accomplish the **Great Commission** through living the **Great Commandment**...

*"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another."*

~John 13:34

**WHAT CAN WE LEARN TODAY:**