

LESSON ONE

The Commission of the Gospel— the Lord's Commandment

Scripture Reading: Matt 28:18-19; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:47; Acts 1:8

I. Gospel preaching is the great commission of the Lord Jesus after His resurrection and before His ascension:

- A. “And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and disciple all the nations, baptizing them into 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 all the days until the consummation of the age”—Matt. 28:18-20.
- B. “And He said to them, Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to all the creation. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved, but he who does not believe shall be condemned”—Mark 16:15-16.
- C. “And that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem”—Luke 24:47.
- D. “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth”—Acts 1:8.

II. Gospel preaching accomplishes God's eternal purpose and meets man's every need:

- A. God's eternal purpose is to gain a corporate man having His image to express Him and His authority to represent Him—Gen 1:26.
- B. Through Gospel preaching, lost sinners are turned back to God that God may accomplish His purpose through them.
- C. God can solve all the problems of man and meet all his needs.

III. Gospel preaching is the first and foremost step in the God-ordained way.

IV. The preaching of the gospel of the kingdom hastens the Lord's return and brings in the kingdom age—Matt 24:14:

- A. To end this age through gospel preaching—Matt 24:14.
- B. To hasten the Lord's return through gospel preaching—Rom 11:25-26.

V. God desires all believers to be laboring priests of the gospel—Rom 15:16:

- A. The priesthood is a universal priesthood; the way today is for the whole Body to serve—1 Pet. 2:9.
- B. In the Old Testament, due to Israelites' rebellion and failure, most of them lost the priesthood—Exo. 19:4, 6.

- C. In the New Testament, God reiterated His intention to make every one of His children a member of the priesthood—1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Tim. 4:2; 2 Pet. 2:9; Rev. 1:5-6.
- D. So today we need to recover everyone preaching the gospel and being a priest of the gospel—Rom. 15:16.

VI. Therefore we need to go and disciple all the nations for the Lord—Matt. 28:19.