



Week 21: Understanding the New Testament: The Great Commission

MV: *"Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matt 28:18-20)*

Jesus life, death, and resurrection should affect every day of our life.

He came to see God's will done on earth as it is in heaven and He will return one day to finish the task and make all things new.

"He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." (Rev 21:5)

Until that time...he has given us a mission to accomplish...

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This was the disciples "Mission Impossible"

We are to spread Christ's rule on earth by making disciples...that changes people, families, communities and ultimately nations!!!

Our King has absolute authority over every sq. in. of creation...thank about that.

ABSOLUTE. ABSOLUTE??? YES!!!

Since He has ALL authority, we are obligated to obey, but not out of duty but out of gratitude..."my pleasure."

Jesus is Savior for all peoples, places and times (even though he came at a specific place and time)

Since EVERYONE has rebelled against God, EVERYONE needs the salvation Jesus offers.

"for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God," (Rom 3:23)

Jesus is the ONLY means of salvation.

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved." (Act 4:12)

Making disciples is ultimately God's work but we have a responsibility and part in that plan
God will reach every people group on every continent and his plan to do that is through His people, the church.

Disciple = Follower

Telling other people about Jesus and calling them to follow Him as well is a life long process where we become more and more like Jesus

Making disciples, Baptizing them, Teaching them ALL

Baptism is a symbolic act of death, burial and resurrection
Baptism initiates a new believer into the body, the church
Baptism is nonnegotiable—a command

Salvation is NOT a train ticket to heaven
Salvation is a marriage—you enter into a relationship; you're part of a family, the church

It IS "Mission Impossible" for us—the world, the flesh, and the devil attack

"In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted," (2 Tim 3:12)

The pressure is relentless but so is God's presence through the Holy Spirit.

ASK: After Matt 28:18-20, what were the disciples told to do?

WAIT! For what? The Holy Spirit

"Mission Impossible" now becomes "Mission Possible" through God's Resurrection Power living inside each of us.

Salvation is complete—"It is Finished"

"But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God," (Heb 10:12)

"They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved--you and your household."" (Act 16:31)

What is unfinished is taking the message to the ends of the earth. We are co-laborers.

"For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building." (1 Cor 3:9)

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God." (2 Cor 5:20)

This is our calling, vocation, goal in life, and God's will for our life. And we will succeed!!!

"And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it." (Matt 16:18)