

# The Great Commission

Jesus gave us the great commission right before he ascended into heaven. In Matthew 28, Jesus told His followers to do something that, as far as they were concerned, was impossible. Going into the entire world? Without Jesus? None of them understood the magnitude of the command then and unfortunately, most people today don't understand the significance of it either. The disciples did enter into a lot of the command, but only after great persecution sent the church into hiding and going other places to avoid persecution and death. Following Jesus came with a high cost then, and in the last days in which we live, there will be a cost associated with following Jesus once again. Those of you living in Muslim countries know exactly what I am talking about. Christians are routinely beaten and murdered for the sake of the Lord in those countries. Those of us in "western countries," seem to forget that other parts of the world are a lot different than where we live.

"And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen."(Matthew 28: 18-20) As you can see, Jesus wasn't asking for much, just that His disciples multiply themselves and evangelize the world. They didn't do a bad job of it during their day but the next generations dropped the ball and we started backwards and have never been able to catch up again. Notice what Jesus commanded them and us to do. Did he say go into all the world and establish a religion? Did he say go and make converts? Did he say go and ask everyone you see for money? NO!!!! That's where the problems started. Those who came after the original disciples decided to stop and build a religion based upon what they had seen and heard. It wasn't long before the whole thing became just a form of religion and all the truth was lost to the Church. The Church of Rome began to preach that salvation came by works and not by grace. It wasn't until Martin Luther received the truth back from God in the middle of the dark ages before something as simple as the salvation message began to be restored to the Church. Even today, the siren call is to "come join our religion". This is a serious problem. Christianity is not a religion. Religion is a set of man-made rules attempting to find God. Christianity is God reaching out to man and saying "come to me", "I will be a Father to you". That is Christianity. All of the trappings of religion only serve to hinder that actual message of the Gospel. The good news is that Jesus loves you and wants to have a relationship with you. Now that is a message worth preaching! Jesus Christ said to "make disciples of all nations." What then is a disciple? That becomes the question of the hour. A disciple literally means a "disciplined one." The Apostle Paul declared that if God doesn't discipline you as a father does his son, then you are not His! We are to go into all the world and declare the good news, when people receive the Gospel, then we are to teach them and train them how to live in the new life that God has given them through His Son. This is where I wish it were possible to come and visit everyone who finds the Lord through this ministry and sit down with you and "disciple" you in Christ Jesus. Of course that isn't

possible in this type of ministry. In my local ministry, that is possible and is the way we are supposed to take care of the flock of God.

Here is the problem. If the population of this earth were to stop where it is right now, using the conventional methods of evangelism that we have been using the last few hundred years or so, it is estimated that it would take 1000 years to evangelize the earth. We don't have a thousand years and the population of the earth is not going to stand still. This means that our methods we use now are not going to do the job. God is calling out to us in this day, to look up to him, see our position that we have in Him, and begin to move in new ways. God is pouring out his Spirit on this earth right now in a revival of proportions that has never before been seen on the face of the earth. This is only the beginning. It is time to take God at his word and rise up and begin working for Him with everything that we have. He will anoint us with power from on high to perform His work. We are not alone! Ever! Now is the time, forget what religion has told you, move out in Christ and do great things in Him. Just ask him for this Spirit, begin to clean out your life of the junk that the devil stuck you with and you will see things that you have never even thought possible. How you ask? First, Read the bible, believe what it says, as it is written. Then ask God to teach you the truth of His word, ask for the Holy Spirit to guide you into all truth. Then ask for the power of God to come into your life to change the world. Don't give up! God will answer you!

Go!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Father in the name of Jesus, touch each one who reads this message. Open their eyes to the truth of Your Word. Father free them from the bondage that Satan has placed into their lives to hinder them. Free them Oh God! Satan, in the name of Jesus Christ, take your hands off of these children of God. They are not yours, you have no authority over them. Jesus, help each one to surrender themselves wholly to you to be used of you in your service. Bless them Holy Father and anoint them with a double portion, the Elijah anointing, oh God. Make them a mighty army reaching out to a lost and dying world and freeing Satan's captives everywhere that they may go. Show them Lord, things that the mind of man can only imagine, show them your power. Touch them now, in the mighty Name of Jesus I ask. Amen.