



THE GREATNESS OF THE GREAT COMMISSION

Mt. 28:16-20

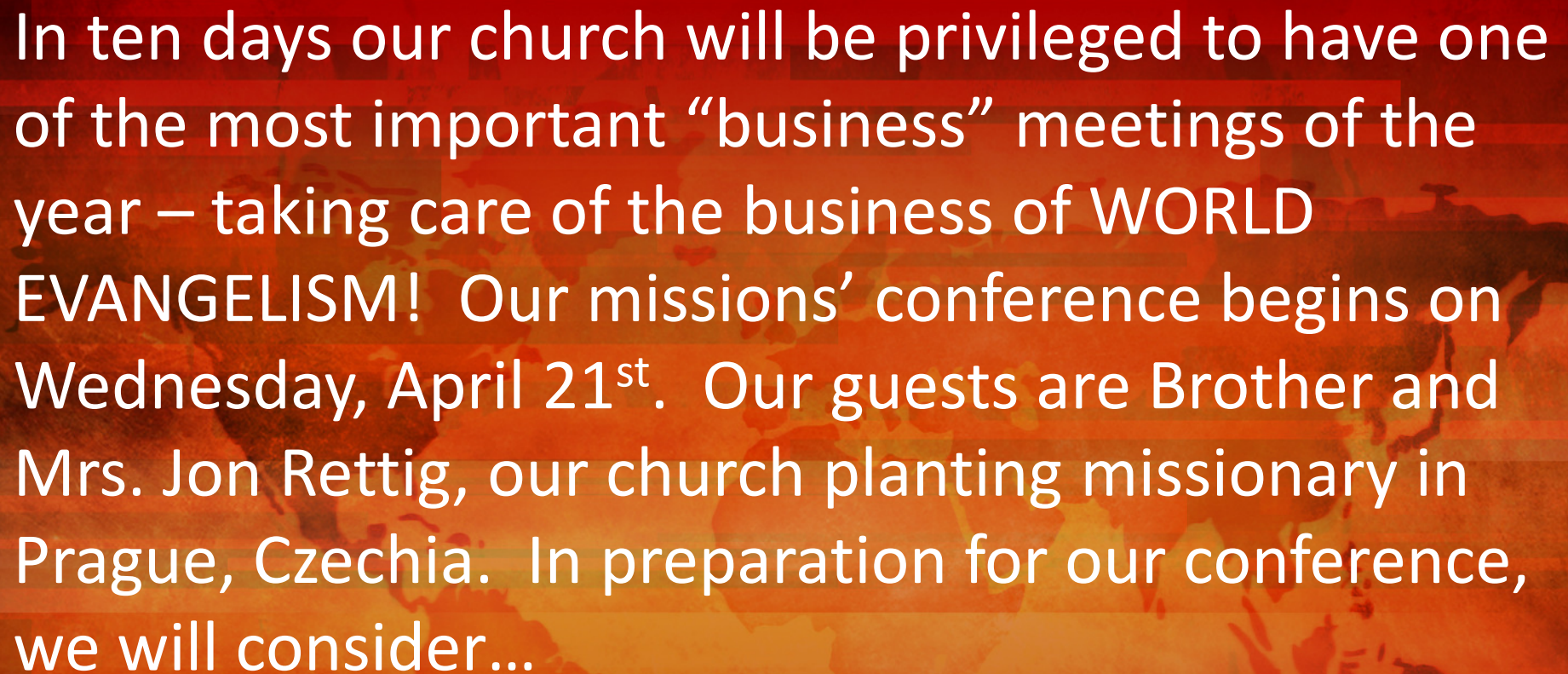
Mt. 28:16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them.

17 And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted.

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

19 **Go ye therefore, and teach all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.



In ten days our church will be privileged to have one of the most important “business” meetings of the year – taking care of the business of WORLD EVANGELISM! Our missions’ conference begins on Wednesday, April 21st. Our guests are Brother and Mrs. Jon Rettig, our church planting missionary in Prague, Czechia. In preparation for our conference, we will consider...

THE GREATNESS OF THE GREAT COMMISSION

The “Great Commission” is found in our text, plus four other places in the Word of God:

Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.**

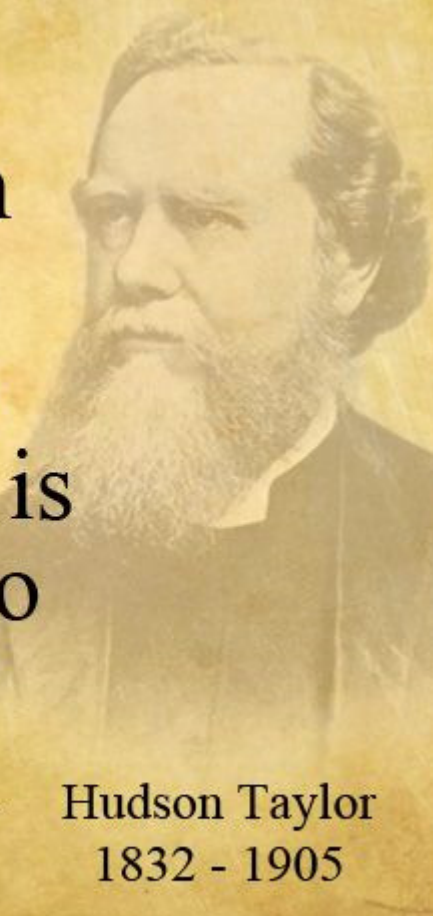
Luke 24:47 And that **repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.**

48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but **tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.**

Acts 1:8 But **ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:** and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Jn. 20:21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace *be* unto you: **as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.**



“The Great
Commission
is not an
option to be
considered; it is
a command to
be obeyed.”

J. Hudson Taylor

Hudson Taylor
1832 - 1905

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<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/554927985306339613/?autologin=true>

If the “Great Commission” was only found in one Scripture, of course that would be enough, but being in several Scriptures indicates that the Lord emphasizes the greatness of its value.

There are several reasons that reveal the greatness of the great commission:

I. THE GREATNESS OF THE COMMISSIONER

Mt. 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

A. The Authority – “...All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.”

Original Word: ἐξουσία

Transliteration: exousia

Definition: power to act, authority

In the NT, *eksousía* ("delegated power") refers to the *authority* God gives to His saints – *authorizing them to act to the extent they are guided by faith (His revealed word)*.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/1849.htm>

1. The Preeminence of Christ

Col. 1:18 And **he is the head of the body, the church:** who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; **that in all *things* he might have the preeminence.**

1 Tim. 1:17 Now unto **the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God,** *be* honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

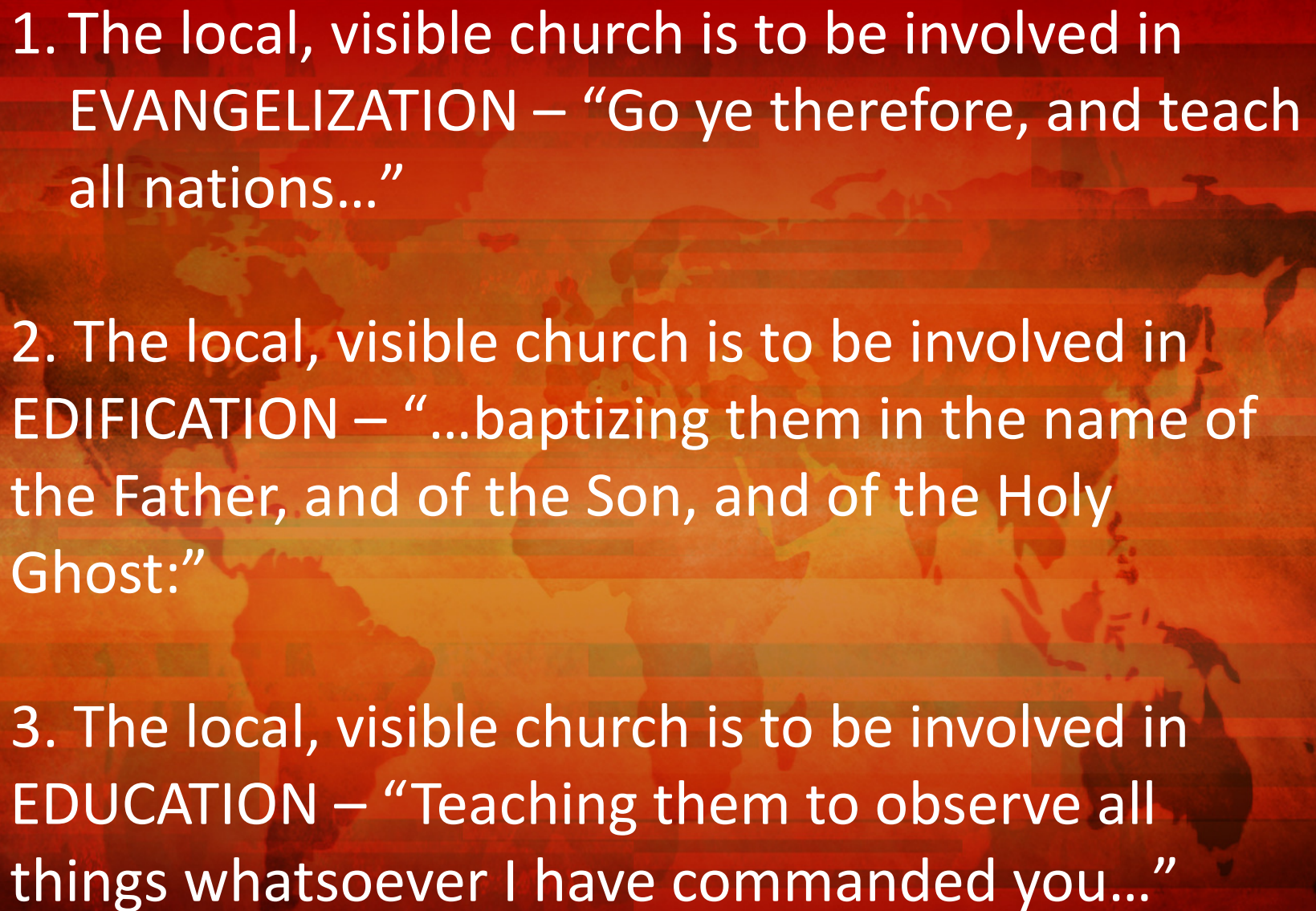
2. The Purpose of the Commission

Jn. 17:23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and **that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.**

Jn. 20:21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace *be* unto you: **as *my* Father hath sent me, even so send I you.**

B. The Authorization

Mt. 28:19 **Go ye therefore, and teach all nations,** baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

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1. The local, visible church is to be involved in **EVANGELIZATION** – “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations...”
 2. The local, visible church is to be involved in **EDIFICATION** – “...baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:”
 3. The local, visible church is to be involved in **EDUCATION** – “Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you...”

II. THE GREATNESS OF THE CHALLENGE

Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.**

A. The Intention of the Plan – “...Go ye into **all the world and preach the gospel...**”

B. The Immensity of the Population

**On April 8, 2021, the USA population was 330,192,700
(5:11 p.m.)**

**The World population on April 8, 2021 = 7,754,765,450
(5:15 p.m.)**

<https://www.census.gov/popclock/>

- If there were no births nor deaths, and 1,000,000 Americans were saved each year, it would take over 330 years to win the USA to the Lord.
- If there were no births nor deaths, and 1,000,000 souls around the world were saved each year, it would take about 7,755 years to win the world to the Lord.

- According to *Carto Mission*, “evangelical Christians” constitute 7% of the world’s population.
<https://cartomission.com/2016/06/23/evangelical-population/>
- The Lord’s plan for world evangelism is to start churches that start churches that start churches!

III. THE GREATNESS OF THE CALLING

A. The Calling

Acts 13:1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for **the work whereunto I have called them.**

3 And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid *their* hands on them, they sent *them* away.

Acts 16:10 And after he had seen the vision,
immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia,
**assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to
preach the gospel unto them.**

B. The Caller

1 Tim. 1:12 And **I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath
enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting
me into the ministry;**

Phil. 3:14 I press toward the mark for **the prize of the
high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**

2 Thess. 1:11 Wherefore also we pray always for you,
that our God would count you worthy of *this* calling,
and fulfil all the good pleasure of *his* goodness, and the
work of faith with power:

12 **That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be
glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace
of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.**

- The challenge is great, but, the One Who is calling is the greatest!
- The Caller sees the harvest better than anyone:

Jn. 4:34 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to **do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.**

35 Say not ye, There are yet four months, and *then* cometh harvest? **behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.**

IV. THE GREATNESS OF THE CONSEQUENCES

A. The Appraisal

Joel 3:14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision:
for the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

Deut. 30:19 I call heaven and earth to record this day
against you, that I have set before you life and death,
blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou
and thy seed may live:

Josh. 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD,
choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods
which your fathers served that were on the other side of
the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye
dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

B. The Accountability

Mat 7:21 **Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven;** but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, **Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?**

23 And then will I profess unto them, **I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.**

Rom. 11:22 **Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God:** on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in *his* goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.

2 Cor. 5:10 For **we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ;** that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.

Psa. 9:17 **The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.**

Conclusion

Luke 10:2 Therefore said he unto them, **The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.**

Jn. 14:1 **Let not your heart be troubled:** ye believe in God, believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. **I go to prepare a place for you.**

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, **I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.**