

To The Ends Of The Earth

Our God has big plans. And we are part of that plan. But we are not on our own. *You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.* **Acts 1:8**

To what end, you ask? *For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.* **Habakkuk 2:14**

In Malachi 1:11, God lets us in on His intentions. *My name will be great among the nations, from the rising to the setting of the sun. In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to my name, because my name will be great among the nations," says the LORD Almighty.*

Your Name

Psalm 117

Praise the LORD, all you nations; extol him, all you peoples. For great is his love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD.

Forever

William Carey in the early 1700's argued for the sending of missionaries in a paper entitled **An Enquiry into the Obligations of Christians to Use Means for the Conversion of the Heathens In Which the Religious State of the Different Nations of the World, the Success of Former Undertakings, and the Practicability of Further Undertakings, Are Considered.** It was a call to action.

"When a trading company have obtained their charter they usually go to its utmost limits; and their stocks, their ships, their officers, and men are so chosen, and regulated, as to be likely to answer their purpose; but they do not stop here, for encouraged by the prospect of success, they use every effort, cast their bread upon the waters, cultivate friendship with every one from whose information they expect the least advantage.

They cross the widest and most tempestuous seas, and encounter the most unfavorable climates; they introduce themselves into the most barbarous nations, and sometimes undergo the most affecting hardships; their minds continue in a state of anxiety, and suspense, and a longer delay than usual in the arrival of their vessels agitates them with a thousand

changeable thoughts, and foreboding apprehensions, which continue till the rich returns are safely arrived in port.

But why these fears, these inquietudes, and this labour? (We would say, "so why do they go to all this trouble?") Is it not because their souls enter into the spirit of the project, and their happiness in a manner depends on its success?

Christians are a body whose truest interest lies in the exaltation of the Messiah's kingdom. Their charter is very extensive, their encouragements exceeding great, and the returns promised infinitely superior to all the gains of the most lucrative fellowship. Let then every one in his station consider himself as bound to act with all his might, and in every possible way for God."

And so William Carey, a shoemaker, left everything and went to India, impacting that country in astonishing ways.

Shout To The North

Listen to Carey as he finishes with a flourish.

"We are exhorted to lay up treasure in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, nor thieves break through and steal. It is also declared that whatsoever a man sows, that will he also reap. These Scriptures teach us that the enjoyments of the life to come, bear a near relation to that which now is; a relation similar to that of the harvest, and the seed.

It is true all the reward is of mere grace, but it is nevertheless encouraging; what a treasure, what an harvest must await such characters as PAUL, and ELLIOT, and BRAINERD, and others, who have given themselves wholly to the work of the Lord. What a heaven will it be to see the many myriads of poor heathens, of Britons among the rest, who by their labors have been brought to the knowledge of God. Surely a crown of rejoicing like this is worth aspiring to. Surely it is worthwhile to lay ourselves out with all our might, in promoting the cause, and kingdom of Christ."

Wholly Yours

LEADER:

Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing in the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. He came and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song:

CONGREGATION:

"You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth."

LEADER:

Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they sang:

CONGREGATION:

"Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

LEADER:

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing:

CONGREGATION:

"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!" *Revelation 5:6-13*

Jesus Shall Reign

OFFERING
Go Into The World

SERMON
Erik Thoennes

Righteous One

Benediction

LEADER:

*May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face shine upon us,
that your ways may be known on earth,
your salvation among all nations.*

CONGREGATION:

*May the peoples praise you, O God;
may all the peoples praise you.*

LEADER:

*May the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you rule the peoples justly
and guide the nations of the earth.*

CONGREGATION:

*May the peoples praise you, O God;
may all the peoples praise you.*

LEADER:

*Then the land will yield its harvest,
and God, our God, will bless us.*

CONGREGATION:

*God will bless us,
and all the ends of the earth will fear him.*