

Messenger of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16)

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### **The Great Commission**

"The Great Commission is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed." – J. Hudson Taylor

"The mark of a great church is not its seating capacity, but its sending capacity." – Mike Stachura

"There is no higher calling or greater privilege known to man than being involved in helping fulfill the Great Commission." – Bill Bright

"All of these terrorist attacks should inspire ALL CHRISTIANS to carry out the GREAT COMMISSION. We don't know how much time we all have left." – David Campbell

"The Great Commission is the Great Adventure of Christianity." – Ron Luce

It truly is amazing how few in the Lord's church even know what is meant by the Great Commission? And if you ask what the work of the church is, many will respond, attending worship services. Saving lost souls does not seem to even be a consideration.

Jesus said of His mission, "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). The Proverb writer stated, "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise" (Prov. 11:30).

Scripture reminds us that it is our sins that separate us from God (Isa. 59:1-2). In such a state, we turn from God and without His saving grace, we have no hope. The message of the Great Commission is cause for one to be converted and saved from a fate far worse than death.

Here is the commission, termed "great" because of its scope. "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" (Matt. 28:19-20). "And He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned'" (Mark 16:15-16). "Then He said to them, 'Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem'" (Luke 24:46-47).

The apostles set forth to carry out that mission. Every Christian even in our day has the obligation to continue with that mission. Souls needs to be saved!