

## Missions – Lecture 2

# Jesus:

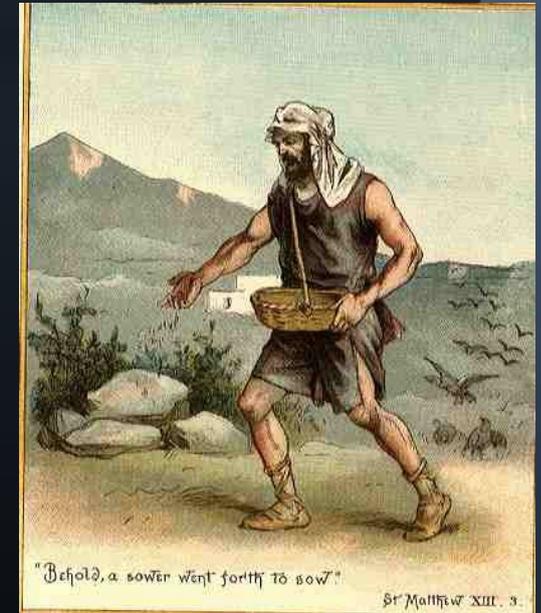
## The Apostle Of Our High Calling

Being Sent From God  
Incarnational Ministry  
Focus On the Inner Man  
The Initiatives Of Heaven  
The Kingdom Of God  
Power Ministry  
Redemptive Sacrifice



# Jesus: Apostle, Sent-Out One

- Apostle: from Gk. Apostolos, one sent out as an ambassador, a delegate with orders...
- Hebrews 3:1
- Luke 4:43
- John 3:31-36, 5:30, 5:36, 6:37-40, 6:44-46, 6:54-58, 8:16-18,29,42, 12:44-50, 14:24, 17:3,20-26
- **John 20:21-23 MKJV** *Then Jesus said to them again, Peace to you. As My Father has sent Me, even so I send you. (22) And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit*



# The Mission Of God = The Mission of Jesus

- God had a mission: The reconciliation of all things to Himself – Colossians 1:13-20
- Christ was sent on God's mission (John 3:16)
- Jesus did 'nothing of himself'.  
John 5:19,30; 8:28
- We do not go out on our own mission or vision or initiative, or on the 'mission statement' of an organization – but on God's eternal mission
- 2 Corinthians 5:17-21, John 3:27



# Self Emptying - Renunciation

- Jesus let go of the privileges of Heaven in order to bring salvation to others, and those on God's mission will also have to do this!
- Philippians 2:5-11
- 2 Corinthians 8:9
- 2 Corinthians 3:6-10
- 1 Corinthians 4:9-16
- Matthew 19:27-30
- Luke 5:11, 14:33



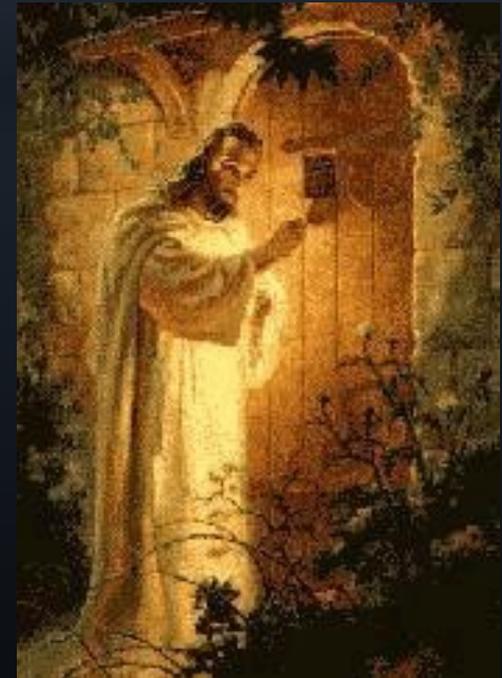
# Incarnational Ministry: Adopting & Transcending Culture

- Jesus lived as a Jew, under the Law, so that He might put an end to the Law and bring in the age of the promised Holy Spirit: *Galatians 4:4-7, Romans 7:4-6*
- The missionary adopts a culture so that the culture may be transcended by God's gospel revolution within that people group
- Jesus did not conform to the culture at all points – only at its good or neutral points such as legal requirements and matters of food or dress
- Jesus lived at an ordinary level – that of a carpenter, Rabbi or teacher



# Focus On The Inner Man

- Jesus put the focus squarely on 'internals' rather than externals: Matthew 15:7-20, 23:23-28, Mark 7:1-23
- Jesus emphasized mercy and compassion rather than ritualistic worship: Matthew 5:7, 9:11-13, 12:1-8, Luke 6:27-38, 18:9-13
- The inner man: Eph 3:14-21, 2 Cor. 4:11-8
- Missions focuses on the inner man, not on cultural conformity. On having people born-again, Spirit-filled, empowered and transformed – holy, sanctified & glorious!!!



# The Initiatives of Heaven -1

- The 'initiatives of Heaven' are the leadings and guidance of the Holy Spirit, the teaching and revelation from God who shows us how to carry out our ministry: Acts 2:17,18; Rom 8:14, Gal 5:18, 1 John 2:20,27, 1 Cor. 2:9-16, John 6:45; 1 Thess 4:9, Hebrews 8:10-11, 10:16
- We have already seen that Jesus 'did nothing' of Himself - but rather what He saw the Father doing: John 5:19,20,30; 8:28
- The apostles seem to have also followed this pattern: Acts 8:26-40, 10:9-20, 16:6-10
- We are to 'abide in the vine' and let God set the agenda – so we will bear much fruit! John 15:1-8



# The Initiatives of Heaven - 2

- The initiatives of heaven may involve specific instructions such as 'go up to that chariot' or general orders for a particular time and mission e.g **Luke 10:9** *And heal the sick that are in it, and say to them, The kingdom of God has come near you!*
- They rely on a spiritual sense of what God is doing in that place at that time – sowing, reaping, chastising, instructing, comforting, saving.. e.g Paul aboard ship Acts 27:21-35
- Programs have a place – but only as a subset of what God is doing and not as a replacement for it!



# The Kingdom Of God - 1

- The gospel of the Kingdom:  
Matthew 4:23-25, 9:35-38, 24:14; Mark 1:14,15;  
Luke 4:43, 8:1; Acts 8:12
- Kingdom of God = Kingdom of Heaven = place where God rules and is obeyed and where His powers to heal, bless, and save are clearly manifested (Matthew 5:3,10; 6:10, 10:7,8)
- Reconnection of Heaven & Earth through Christ
- Presence of God in power (Matthew 12:28)
- Jesus 'filling all things' – Ephesians 4:10



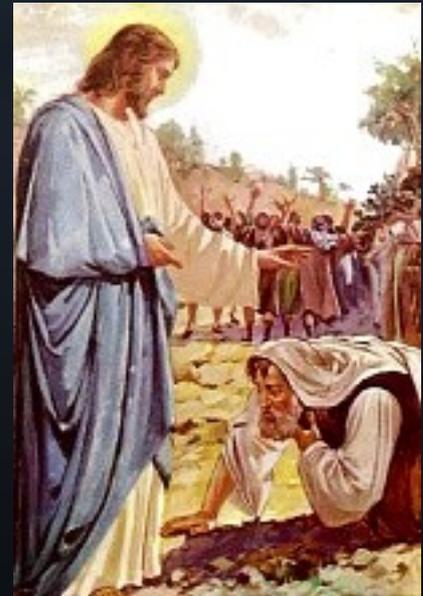
# The Kingdom Of God - 2

- Not our Kingdom- God's Kingdom!
- Preaching of repentance: Matthew 3:2, 4:17
- Bringing people into obedience to Kingdom values: Matthew 28:18-20, 2 Corinthians 10:3-6
- Rulership of Christ: 1 Corinthians 15:22-28
- A Spiritual Kingdom: John 18:36, Revelation 11:15
- Where people are filled w. joy and w. the Holy Spirit: Ephesians 4:10, 5:18, Acts 13:52
- Eventually involves the renewal of Creation: Romans 8:18-21, Isaiah 11:1-10



# Power Ministry

- We live in 'this present evil age':  
Galatians 1:4, 1 John 5:18,19; Ephesians 5:15,16
- The world is dominated by demonic powers:  
Ephesians 2:1-3, 6:12
- Thus those who preach the gospel will always have to deal with demonic opposition e.g.  
Acts 13:6-12, 16:16-18
- Casting out of demons was part of Jesus' discipleship training: Matthew 10:8
- And is part of Christian missionary witness:  
Acts 1:8, Mark 16:17-20



# Redemptive Sacrifice

- Jesus went to the Cross for our salvation
- We are called to take up our Cross and to follow Him: Mathew 10:32-42, 16:24-28
- The Christ-like missionary may have to engage in what is termed 'redemptive suffering' whereby he or she suffers for the sake of the lost and of the gospel: Philippians 3:8-15
- We also suffer on behalf of the Church and its mission: Colossians 1:24,25
- It is part of our glory and our reward: Romans 8:17, 1 Peter 2:21, 4:12-14; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

