

The Great Commission Part Two

The work of the church is what we are going to study today and that's the Great Commission.

There were two commissions that Jesus gave to His disciples The Great Commission and the Lesser or minor commission.

The Great Commission was given by the Lord to His disciples. The minor commission was to the Jews only, and it preached "The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. The Great Commission is for everyone and it preaches "The Kingdom of Heaven is here" and the Gospel is the way to it. The Command is to preach the Gospel. We must obey the gospel, and baptism is a part of obeying the Gospel.

The commands of God are to be obeyed. The laws of God are to be adhered to. We should not reject the counsel of God.

Lu 7:30 But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him.

Proverbs 28:9 He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.

**John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.
*Don't think you can be a Christian and still live a sinful life, it doesn't work that way. It's not "once saved always saved". And right now we have the hope of eternal salvation. We are not secure in heaven yet. We can still fall from grace.***

One time I was teaching a class and I spoke against fornication. I said "If you want to fornicate you must get married first." you're not supposed to fornicate until you get married.

A response I got was "How will we know if they are a good lover if we don't?"

This person claimed to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

There are people that believe that in order to be filled with the Holy Spirit you have to feel good. If it doesn't feel good, it's not the Holy

Spirit.

Does the Scripture say “The just shall live by feeling good?” No. It says the Just shall live by faith. Rom 1:17 Faith doesn’t feel good all the time. Just because something feels good doesn’t mean it is good.

Quite the opposite;

If it feels good to the flesh, then chances are it is sin. And if we do these things to satisfy our own lusts, then we are living carnal lives when we ought to be living spiritual lives. The carnal mind is enmity against God Rom 8:7. Don’t be sold under sin Rom 7:14, because the wages of sin is death. Rom 6:23. You can lose your salvation. So, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. Php 2:12.

If you know that God doesn’t want you to fornicate anymore, and you continue fornicating, don’t be praying to God and expecting some sort of miracle in your life. Or for God to be involved in your life until you take care of the sin that you have in your life. I’m talking about major sin. God always hears the prayer of a sinner (the prayer of a repentant sinner) who says “God be merciful unto me a sinner” Lu 18:13. “forgive me, help me.” God will always hear those prayers. But don’t be expecting for God to give you some great blessing, if you’re going to live a sinful life, and live contrary to what the Lord teaches in the Holy Scriptures, the New Testament.

Now, we see the great Commission spoken of in the four accounts of the Gospel (Matthew; Mark; Luke and John) and Luke refers to it again in the book of Acts.

Let us begin with the John chapter 20 starting with verse 19.

John 20:19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

John 20:20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.

John 20:21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my

Father hath sent me, even so send I you. Jesus sent His Apostles as God, His Father sent Him. In Heb 3:1 ¶ Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;

Jesus was the only eyeball witness of His Father:

Joh 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

John 20:22 And when he had said this, he breathed *emphusao* to blow at or on:--breathe on.

The breath of God gives life:

Ge 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Eze 37:9 Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophecy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live. {wind: or, breath}

It is also said that kings in those days would breathe on their ambassadors before they sent them out with a message, as if what would come out of their mouths were of the same breath as that king. It was as if the king were speaking to the hearers himself. The ambassadors, represented the king. With that breath he would expect that to go take the kings word to other people.

on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: *hagios pneuma* (Holy Spirit)

4151. *Pneuma* - a current of air, i.e. breath (blast) or a breeze; by analogy or figuratively, a spirit, i.e. (human) the rational soul, (by implication) vital principle, mental disposition, etc., or (superhuman) an angel, or (divine) God, Christ's spirit, the Holy Spirit:--ghost, life, spirit(-ual, -ually), mind.

The Word of God gives life:

2Ti 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, (Theo-pneustos) and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

***2315. theopneustos, From Theos-God and Pneustos which is a presumed derivative of Pneuma Spirit wind or breath
This could be interpreted GodBreathedSpirit.***

In John 3:8 the word "Pneuma" is used for wind and the Holy spirit.

Joh 3:8 The wind (pneuma) bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit (pneuma).

John 20:23 Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.

This does not mean that the apostles or any preacher could forgive or retain your sins.

It is foolish of some to say that the apostles, or anyone else for that matter, had the power to forgive sins. This is not what this is saying.

Now, we can forgive those who sin against us. We're supposed to do this if we want god to forgive us.

Mt 6:14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

We remit your sins by preaching the gospel and teaching one to obey the gospel. But if you reject the gospel and don't obey, then you'll die in your sins. Your sins will be retained. But if you receive the gospel and obey it, then there will be remission of your sins and you will be saved. If you don't fall away.

Drop down to John 20 verse 30

Joh 20:30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:

31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

Matthews account of the great Commission:

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power *this is the greek word exousia which means authority* is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach *mathetheuo- meaning to disciple* all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Matthew 28:20 Teaching *this is didasko- to teach* them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world *not cosmos, but aeon - age*. Amen.

Marks account:

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

Mark 16:16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. *If baptism isn't necessary, why is it written here, and in many other passages of the New Testament? There is no such thing as an unbaptized Christian.*

Mark 16:20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

Luke's account:

This is shortly after Jesus arose from the dead and showed Himself to the two on the road to Emmaus. Luke 24:13-35.

Luke 24:36 And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

Luke 24:37 But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.

Luke 24:38 And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?

Luke 24:39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

Luke 24:40 And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet.

Luke 24:41 And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat?

Luke 24:42 And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb.

Luke 24:43 And he took it, and did eat before them.

Luke 24:44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

Luke 24:45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

Gospel:

Luke 24:46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

Great Commission:

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

Luke 24:48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

Luke 24:49 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.

Luke 24:50 And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them.

Luke 24:51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.

In the book of Acts, Luke is reviewing the things he told Theophilus In his first book. Luke wrote Acts also. Acts, is a continuation of the book of Luke.

Acts 1:1-9 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

Acts 1:2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

Acts 1:3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

Acts 1:4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

Acts 1:5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

Acts 1:6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

Acts 1:7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

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.

Acts 1:9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

In a nutshell, the Great Commission is to preach the Gospel, to everyone. But the gospel must be obeyed if one is to obtain eternal life. Jesus makes a crucial statement concerning Kingdom and how to enter in.

John 3:3-5 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. *The kingdom of God; the Kingdom of Heaven; and the Church is one and the same. The Church is the Kingdom of Christ on earth. Is Christ not your King right now?*

3:4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, *(this is very, very important)* I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

How does one obey the Gospel?

Ac 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

What is the gospel?

1Co 15:1 ¶ Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

If the Gospel is the death, burial and resurrection of Christ, how does one obey death, burial and resurrection?

Romans 6:1-4 shows what these three things represent.

Lets begin with Romans 5:19:

Ro 5:19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Ro 6:1 ¶ What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.

8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:

Colossians 3:1-3 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

3:2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

3:3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

Colossians 3:17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him

Ac 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

42 ¶ And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

The great commission is a continual work to be passed on from generation to generation in the Christian age.

2Ti 2:1 ¶ Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.