

## **"AN OVERVIEW OF BIBLICAL MISSIONS"**

**LUKE 24:45-49**

**(1 KINGS 8:60,61; PSALM 96:3 ISAIAH 43:7-15; ACTS 1:8)**

**INTRO:** What comes to your mind when you hear the word "MISSION" or "MISSIONS?" Certainly, the two words are related, however, the word "MISSION" is mainly a DESCRIPTIVE word, whereas the word "MISSIONS" is more of an ACTIVE word. FROM THE BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE, **each believer in Christ has a MISSION on earth which is to GLORIFY GOD IN ALL THINGS AS HIS WITNESS. But then that MISSION is to be put into action through MISSIONS by ACTIVELY making God and His name known to the world.** MISSIONS is something that is spoken of by most churches (no matter what their ecclesiastical position may be) and is something that a lot of Christians speak of from time to time. But yet down through the history of the Church, many local churches and individual believers in Christ have **neglected, refused, hindered and even rejected missions.** PRAISE THE LORD, however, for those believers and local churches that have and continue **to embrace missions as a normal part of their lives and ministries.** **QUESTION: WHERE IS MISSIONS IN YOUR PERSONAL LIFE AND MINISTRY THIS VERY MOMENT? HERE IS ANOTHER QUESTION: WHERE IS MISSIONS IN THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF FBC?** The Lord willing, today we are going to conduct an **OVERVIEW OF BIBLICAL MISSIONS.** We will NOT be looking at BIBLICAL MISSIONS in detail BUT will lay the foundation of BIBLICAL MISSIONS as it is found in the WORD OF GOD, with the intent that each of us will **have a greater consideration of and interest in missions as a significant part of our DAILY CHRISTIAN LIVING.**

## **THE DEFINITION OF NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH MISSIONS**

**ACTS 14:20-28**

**NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH MISSIONS IS THE MINISTRY OF THE LOCAL CHURCH IN THE PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL, WITH THE GOAL OF EVANGELIZING THE LOST, EDIFYING THE CHRISTIAN, AND ESTABLISHING NEW LOCAL CHURCHES.**

- Evangelizing the Lost – Vs. 21: They preached the Gospel and taught many
- Edifying the Christian – Vs. 22: They confirmed and exhorted disciples
- Establishing Local Churches – Vs. 23: They ordained elders in new churches.

**AN EXHORTATION: THIS WAS THE PATTERN OF THE APOSTLE PAUL AND THE EARLY CHURCH. WE CAN DO NO LESS IF WE WISH TO FOLLOW A BIBLICAL MODEL FOR MISSIONS TODAY!**

**A QUESTION: ARE YOU COMMITTED TO THE BIBLICAL PATTERN OF MISSIONS?**

### **I. MISSIONS IS PROMOTED THROUGHOUT ALL OF SCRIPTURE**

- A. In the Old Testament – Isaiah 45:22
- B. In the Gospels – Mark 16:15
- C. In the Acts – Acts 1:8
- D. In the Epistles – Philippians 1:7,12,17,27
- E. In the Revelation – Revelation 22:17

### **II. MISSIONS IS PROCLAIMED BY GOD'S WITNESSES IN BOTH TESTAMENTS**

- In the Old Testament Hebrew "Witness" means **"one with a testimony or one who records accurate facts."**
- In the New Testament Greek "Witness" means **"one who bears record, one who gives a testimony, one who affirms, one who declares truth, or one who gives his life."**

- A. In the Old Testament – Isaiah 43:10
- B. In the New Testament – Acts 1:8

### **III. MISSIONS IS PRODUCED THROUGH THE PRAYER OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

- A. Praying that God will send forth Laborers into the Harvest – Matthew 9:37,38
- B. Praying that God will protect other Missionaries – 2 Thessalonians 3:1,2

### **IV. MISSIONS IS TO PREACH REPENTANCE AND REMISSIONS OF SINS**

- A. Preaching Repentance – Luke 24:47a
  - Turning **TO GOD FROM SIN** for salvation (Cp. 1 Thessalonians 1:9)
- B. Preaching Remission of Sin – Luke 24:27b
  - Experiencing forgiveness through faith in Christ alone

***V. MISSIONS IS TO PROCLAIM GOD'S GLORY TO THE WORLD***

-To Declare God's Glory to the Heathen – Psalm 96:3

***VI. MISSIONS IS TO PREACH THE FULL WORK OF CHRIST***

-To Preach the **SUFFERING AND RESURRECTION OF CHRIST** – Luke 24:47

***VII. MISSIONS IS TO BE PERFORMED BY ALL TRUE DISCIPLES***

-To be Witnesses to the whole world - Acts 1:8

- A. A Witness in Life
- B. A Witness in Persecution
- C. A Witness in Death

**LESSON AND APPLICATION**

According to God's Standards, each Local Church and each Christian is to be involved in PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL, PERFECTING THE CHRISTIANS AND PLANTING NEW LOCAL CHURCHES.

**WHAT ARE YOU DOING RIGHT NOW IN THIS PERIOD OF YOUR LIFE REGARDING MISSIONS?**

- Are you Praying?
- Are you Giving?
- Are you Going?