

So what is the mission of God?

Andreas Kostenberger/Peter O'Brian – "That his salvation would reach the utter ends of the earth: that is, his gracious movement in his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to rescue a desperately needy world that is in rebellion against him and stands under his righteous judgment."

Jonathan Edwards - "The creation of the world seems to have been especially for this end, that the eternal Son of God might obtain a spouse toward whom he might fully exercise the infinite benevolence of his nature, and to whom he might, as it were, open and pour forth all that immense fountain of condescension, love, and grace that was in his heart, and that in this way God might be glorified."

J.H. Bavink – "Missions is the great work of Jesus Christ, through which after his completed work as mediator, he draws all peoples to his salvation and makes them to partake of the gifts which he has obtained for them."

Missionary Implications:

Jesus is the missionary –

The mission is to all the peoples God may choose to save –

God is Sovereign in all things, including missions–

The centrality of the local church –

Central concern of all Christians –

Next week: The role of suffering and prayer in missions

Core Seminars – Christian Growth

Missions: Why Missions? A Biblical Theology

Week 2 – December 6, 2009

Introduction:

How does "missions" fit with God's passion for his glory?

What is Biblical Theology?

What is God's "mission?"

Basic Biblical Framework:

1. The Bible has the whole world in view as God's possession
(Genesis 1:1, Psalm 24, Acts 17:26)
2. The Bible presents God as the only true and global deity
(Jer. 10:10a and Duet. 4:39)
3. God's people called out from among the nations for God's blessing and glory among nations
(Gen 12:3 and Isaiah 37:20)

- **Old Testament**

- Genesis

- Gen. 3:15 and Gen 12:3

- Abrahamic covenant

- The Exodus

- Prophets and the concern for the nations in the last days

- Isaiah 2: 2-3 –

- Isaiah 19:23-25 –

- Zech 8:23 –

- Psalms

- Psalm 68:31

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- Psalm 45:17

- Psalm 67:1-3 -

- Notes: Comments on Inter-testamental Judaism (not so much our concern since we are looking for Biblical theology)

- **New Testament:**

- Gospels

- Luke 2:29-32 –

- Matt 24:14 –

- Matt 28:18-20 –

- Acts

- Acts 2:33 –

- Success of God – Israel had accomplished its purpose to draw in the nations so they could hear of the Messiah. God's plans never fail!

- Epistles

- 2 Cor 5:18-19 –

- Romans 10:14-15 –

- Revelation

- Revelation 7:9-10 - ⁹After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰And they cried out in a loud voice:

"Salvation belongs to our God,
who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb."