



GLOBAL MISSIONS

Autumn 2006

Taking God's Word to God's People

The Great Commission

Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature ~ Mark 16:15

And Jesus' ministry had grown so great, until He was called out of the country at this time to be away on missions elsewhere, to preach the Gospel, to heal the sick, and do His earthly mission as He was ordained of the Father to do so ~ William Branham

It has been over a year since we distributed the first edition of the Global Missions Newsletter outlining the history and development of worldwide efforts to spread the Message since the 1970's.

During this past year, we have attempted to keep you updated on exciting new events unfolding in various parts of the world. It is true to say now that the Message has reached or is reaching into almost every nation, kindred and tongue on earth. The purpose of this issue of our newsletter is to present an accurate application of "the Great Commission" as it relates to our

time, the last days of the Gentile Bride.

Mission work has taken a new direction with the advent of modern technology. For example, the internet gives us access to millions of people who would otherwise be impossible to reach. We are able to quickly wire funds to Third World nations, and interact instantly through email. Digital recordings allow us to transmit large volumes of data across formerly impenetrable borders. The significance of this technology is best illustrated in how we are now able to reach nations that remain hostile to Christianity, such



Moslems pray in Uzbekistan

as predominantly Moslem nations. With satellite communication being continually improved there is literally no populated area on earth that cannot be reached. With this technology, we are now broadcasting the Message right into the homes of those who have never heard the truth. The utilization

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From the Dark Continent to the Land of the Midnight Sun, God Still Moves

Brother Rapp Crook

You know you're in a pretty unique country when you're sitting in the airport of the capital city and you hear praise and



Church service in Milepa, Malawi

Background photo: The road to Khosolo, Malawi

worship music playing over the public address system. But Malawi is just that kind of a country. The Message came to that country in the late 1970's and began spreading like wildfire in the early 1980's, and it has yet to stop. It was my privilege to travel among these dear people for three weeks in June with my Bro. David Dienhart of Lima, Ohio. The fire that has filled their hearts was rekindled in mine, and we pray that neither fire will ever abate.

During our three weeks in Malawi,

we held thirty services, traveling from south to north with our Bro. Paddington Ngwira. I never understood Paul's reference to the "foolishness of preaching" like I did in those three weeks. I witnessed the mighty God repeatedly minister through the foolishness of preaching to the needs of the people. The people come to service expecting to hear from God, placing such high value upon the Word that no sacrifice is too great to afford them the opportunity to hear It. One group of believers

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Autumn convention in Alushta, Ukraine



Bro. Anatoly, a pastor in Uzbekistan



Assembling Message books in Russia

The Great Commission *continued*

of all this technology is not only an opportunity, but a responsibility. Charles Spurgeon once said: *“Someone asked, ‘will the heathen who have never heard the Gospel be saved?’ It is more a question with me whether we - who have the Gospel and fail to give it to those who have not - can be saved.”*

Our sense of urgency increases as we see world events spiraling toward their prophesied fulfillment. To quote Henry Martin, a missionary to India (1803), *“The spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions. The nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become.”* Mission work is not the “ministry of choice” for a select few Believers but is the purpose of the church as a collective body. Missions did not end when Bro. Branham left the scene. In fact, for most of the Believers, mission efforts were just beginning. In Revelation 10:8-11, John (who represented the Bride) wrote, *“...Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth. And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book... And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.”*

The Apostolic pattern of the early Church was to find a man or small group that truly caught a revelation of the Message of their day. Once they were established in the present truth, the Apostolic role would become one of counsel and guidance, not practice. The Scripture and the Message both teach us that our role today consists of helping those overseas to bring the Message to their own people in their own language. While new Believers need some guidance, our role is not to create a dependency on Western initiatives and resources. The Holy Spirit is the one who ultimately directs the work of spreading the

Message through the five fold ministry and the Believers in local Churches. It is not sufficient (nor Scriptural) for us to assume that we all we need to do is put a Message book in the hands of people in foreign lands. The five fold ministry of Ephesians 4:11 is needed to preach, teach and instruct the Believers in righteousness. Paul encouraged Timothy that: *“...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.”* (2 Timothy 2:2) When Paul found Apollos in Acts 19, he was still preaching the baptism of John. Paul’s approach was to bring him into the light of the hour, and watch the Word begin to take hold. The real revival could now begin!

In many instances, these new Believers already feel the pull of the hour, and recognize that God has done something wonderful in our time. The Holy Spirit alone knows where the Elect are located. He knows how, and when to quicken their understanding to present Truth. Our responsibility is not necessarily to find the last Seed, but to be led by the Spirit to that last Seed wherever he or she may be. Whether it is Philip being transported to the Ethiopian Eunuch to expound on the Scripture (Acts 8), or a minister traveling to the Sakhalin Island in far eastern Russia to baptize the new deaf converts (2006), a living ministry is needed to bring the Believers into the Message light.

On the mission field today, the pattern is exactly the same but things tend to happen today at a very fast pace. For example, in order to introduce the Message to Believers in a foreign country, one of the first steps involves having an open door into the country, looking for those interested in greater Truth. If a minister or layman arise who catch a revelation of this Truth, it



Church service in United Arab Emirates



Russian Message Books



Church service in Pakistan



New church construction in Tanzania



Preaching the Message in Pakistan

is vital to begin to get the Message into their own language. A good translation requires a proficiency in English as well as the local language. Once a local ministry begins to rise up, a need for a meeting place will arise. The next crucial step is showing them how to establish and operate the translation, printing, and distribution on their own. Each culture, each language, and each location require a unique approach. What works in Tanzania may not necessarily work in China. But even though the methods may change, the big picture remains the same. The Great Commission does not specify means, but rather a specific goal.

In the nation of Uzbekistan, for example, one member of a Pentecostal Church discovered a second hand copy of "Anointed Ones" and listened to it intently. She was convinced it was true, and immediately handed it over to her Pastor, who played it before the whole Church. The entire Church received the Message and were baptized according to Acts 2:38. Soon after, ministers came to the country to bring the Church into the fullness of the Message for our day, and today, Pastor Anatoly has fully embraced this end time Truth.

This revelation we have comes with a great responsibility. There are young ministers in Tanzania that spend months at a time away from their families to go into the jungles of East Africa to visit cave dwellers who have received this Message. In Pakistan, we have supplied brothers with motor scooters to reach Believers in remote villages. In Russia, some Believers must cross ten time zones to attend special meetings. Yet with all of these obstacles, the work continues to go on. While it's easy within our modern societies to remain unaware in what happens overseas, David Livingston challenged each of us by saying, "If a commission by an earthly king

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Bro. Barry & Bro. Pavel Stepanenko



Praying for Believers in Pakistan

Mission Documentaries

This generation has been truly blessed to have unlimited electronic access to the sermons of a Prophet, that they might be preserved, transmitted and translated for all Believers. We have the opportunity to make good use of this technology, to edify the Bride of Christ worldwide.

In September of this year, Bro. Joe Coffey from Canada joined Bro. Barry Coffey for a four month season of travel to document and edit footage of the spread of the Message worldwide. Thus far they have already traveled to the Ukraine in September, and in October Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates and Lahore, Pakistan for a convention



Shooting on location in Dubai



Sharing a meal and fellowship in Pakistan



Interviewing Russian language interpreters in Ukraine

and minister's meeting. Following that trip, they will travel to Israel, and Arusha, Tanzania for meetings with the Believers of East Africa.

Once these trips are complete the footage will be edited into a concise and very informative documentary that contains footage of the actual meetings, as well as interviews and testimonies with local Believers, along with information on how the Message

arrived to their part of the world and some very interesting interviews with translators. These documentaries will be made available to Churches and individuals to communicate what the Lord is doing in various parts of the world. Due to the vastness of the work taking place overseas, it is impossible to cover each location. However, we hope that this documentary will at the very least, lend some general insight into the marvelous efforts underway to get the Message to those living abroad.

You may contact Sis. Charity at BCF (e-mail documentary@bcfellowship.org) to obtain these documentaries free of charge and see first hand what God is doing around the world.

...*God Still Moves* continued

walked twelve hours from the peaks of the mountains in the north to attend services for one day. Another sister, who is lame, now rides on a tricycle, peddled by hand, the eight kilometers she once crawled to attend her church's weekly meetings. Seeing such lived sermons, I repeatedly felt that they preached far more to me than I ever could to them.



Sis. Eneless rides to church instead of crawling

My favorite parts of the trip were the meetings we held outdoors. It's wonderful to speak the Word to Believers, but it's an even more precious

thing to see unbelievers stop as they're walking along the road and listen to the preaching of the Word. The Gospel story never grows old! It was such a joy to witness people responding to the Word and through It finding freedom.



Dedicating a mortorcycle to the Lord's service

Our time in Africa too quickly came to its close, and it was soon time to board the plane and head off to my next destination, Lithuania, a small country nestled by the Baltic Sea

between Latvia to the north and communist Belarus to the south. I greatly anticipated the coming youth camp that I would be attending the next week with my friends, where the Lord desired to work a greater transformation in our lives.

The Lord spoke many things through Bros. Pavel Stepanenko and Sergey Volkov to the approximately forty youth gathered in Ventspils, Latvia. The camp was



Brother Pavel speaks to the youth

a great testimony to the power of prayer. For several weeks prior to the camp, the youth in Vilnius, Lithuania, had been holding weekly prayer services, where they prayed for revival, for the return of backslidden friends, healing of the sick, and other needs. How quickly the Lord began to respond to their prayers of faith! I am a witness that the revival prayed for was given, and that the Lord is drawing our wayward friends back to Himself. Leaving the camp, we didn't feel any of the post-camp blues, because each knew that the revival given us wasn't restricted to a certain location. It was in us and would only keep on burning, and setting on fire those around us.



Youth camp service in Latvia

Even when I visited communist Belarus, where there is little religious liberty, I saw believers gathering and growing in the Word. Desiring more fellowship with their brethren in other countries, they pray for more visitors to come encourage them in the faith. And here in the United States, a land where no Gospel music plays in airports but where we may attend church at ease, we pray that



Sisters at an outdoor meeting

the Lord would ignite the flame in our hearts. The midnight cry has gone forth, and we desire to trim our lamps, preparing ourselves and others for the Bridegroom's soon return.

The Great Commission continued

is considered an honor, how can a commission by a Heavenly King be considered a sacrifice?" The call is great, the time is short, and the laborers are few. There is much yet to be done, and while our labors may not be fully noticed or praised here on earth, there could

be no greater treasure than to contribute to the work of laboring for the Kingdom on this side of eternity. The Great Commission is far too sacred to be left to someone else. We must continue the work until that final one has been reached.

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