

COMMANDMENT; COMMISSION; CONCLUSION

MATTHEW 22; MATTHEW 28; JOHN 14

(THE MANDATE OF MISSIONS)

Text:

Introduction:

Jesus gave us three great things to believers. These three great things and our reaction to them will make a difference in our lives.

1. THE GREAT COMMANDMENT (MATT 22:36-40)

Matthew 22:36-40

³⁶ Master, which *is* the great commandment in the law? ³⁷ Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. ³⁸ This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹ And the second *is* like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

A. To love God first.

Without this love, we have no ability to love others in the way this verse commands us to love.

B. To love others as ourselves.

1. When we love God and understand his love for us, we are able to have a healthy, unselfish love for ourselves.

This is not a self-centered love but an understanding that God loves us although we in no way deserve it.

2. When we understand that God's love is, unconditional, we can see that to love others with that same love comes from a spiritual growth and strength in our lives.

It is not a natural ability from birth but a supernatural ability from the new birth.

It can accomplish unbelievable things merely because it is so void of self-interest.

Some time ago, a teenager, Arthur Hinkley, lifted a 3,000-pound tractor with bare hands.

He wasn't a weight lifter, but his friend, Lloyd Bachelder, 18, was pinned under a tractor on a farm near Rome, Maine.

Hearing Lloyd scream, Arthur somehow lifted the tractor enough for Lloyd to wriggle out. Love was the real motivation.

If we don't love the Lord in this way we will not be able to fulfill these other great things.

2. THE GREAT COMMISSION (MATT 28:18-20)

Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. ¹⁹ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: ²⁰ Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

- A. A commandment given to the church.
- B. A commandment backed with power
- C. A commandment to evangelize
- D. A commandment to baptize
- E. A commandment to disciple—Jesus said to teach the things that he had taught the early church. We must learn to be able to teach others.

3. THE GREAT CONCLUSION (JOHN 14:1-3)

- A. Jesus promised that he would come again and take us home. It is a promise that gives us hope.

B. We are to watch for his coming. Mark 13:33-37

Mark 13:33-37

³³ Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. ³⁴ *For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.* ³⁵ Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: ³⁶ Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. ³⁷ And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.

C. We are to work till he comes.

- 1) Living a life that honors and pleases the Lord.
- 2) Telling others of his coming.