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The Great Commission!

To All of You!

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Dear Ministry Friends,

HE IS NOT HERE! HE IS RISEN! Easter is over, but Christ remained on Earth 40 days after the Resurrection. What were the major events during that time? The Bible tells us of some of the first encounters He had with His followers after He arose, and He appeared to as many as 500 at one time (1 Corinthians 15:6). Just before He ascended back to His Father in Heaven, Jesus gave specific instructions and mandates regarding the "MISSION STATEMENT" for His Church.

All four of the Gospel writers refer to the "GREAT COMMISSION," because "The Mission of the Church is Missions." **Matthew** wrote, "Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. [19](#) Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20](#) teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age."

Mark 16: 15,16 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. [16](#) He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

Luke records that Jesus told the disciples "that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. [48](#) And you are witnesses of these things. [49](#) Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."

John told that Jesus appeared to them and said, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." [22](#) And when He had said this, He breathed on *them*, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. [23](#) If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they are retained."

When we think of Missions, or missionaries, we usually think of certain people that go to a foreign land to preach, teach, train people, and do humanitarian work. Certainly many missionaries do all these things, and much more.

Let's think of some other types of mission work that are going on all around the world.

Inter-city Missions are very vital in the present world. When Crystal and I were first married, and even before, we were involved in voluntary type mission work, first in the inter-city of Cincinnati. In the past couple years we have reconnected with a little girl that we used to take to the Mission more than 50 years ago. She's now a grandmother in Kentucky, and serving the Lord.

Home Missions. When I was about 12, we knew a woman named Josephine Patterson who worked with the American Sunday School Union. She was not a preacher, but went into rural mountain communities without Sunday Schools, and tried to start them. Some times my Dad would go into those same places, and preach in the Union Halls of little mining towns.

Educational Missions. Fifty-one years ago Crystal and I started Liberty Christian School in Greenbrier County, when there were no other Christian Schools here. Across the Nation and around the World educational missionaries are working daily and sacrificially to train the next generation according to the mandates of God's Word. Teaching young people to "see all of life from God's point of view."

American Indian Missions. As I grew up we knew people who had been involved as missionaries to the American Indians. Some of these were the most passionate and compassionate I have ever known, and their lives continue to bear fruit. Our daughter, Victoria, has been involved in this work almost all her adult life.

Of course, I don't have space to continue to expound on all kinds of Missions, but I will mention one more that we are involved in. That is **Media Missions**. We are constantly reminded of the misuse of modern technology, but it is also a whitened harvest field. Facebook, YouTube, and other Social Media are impacting the World, for better, or for worse. The Church has received the Great Commission, and the Church has the Message of the Gospel. The World population is about 8.3 billion, and our generation has the best tools ever with which to reach them.

You Can Help by praying daily for the outreach of the Gospel around the World. Every Christian should also be a faithful financial supporter of the mandates Jesus Christ gave to the Church. Tarry Ye! Go Ye!

I am going to be distributing more frequent missions-oriented newsletters. We will send through postal mail to those who desire. But more and more, email, and even text attachments, have become the most efficient ways to communicate, to send documents, or to receive contributions. Postal mail has become very inefficient, costly, and slow. So we are going to have to move into the 21st century.

Our goal is to Return to Papua New Guinea about the end of November. So be praying about the world's political and economic situation. Love in Christ Jesus. ☺

In the Harvest,

David and Crystal Hersman