

November 28, 2010
The Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastor Paul S. Brown
Selected Scriptures

“The Local Church Part Fourteen: The Mission of the Church, Part One”

I. **Mission** _____ – Webster’s = a sending; a charge to go and perform a specific service or duty. A delegation so sent. An organized effort for the spread of religion in a foreign land. Bible = “the act of being *sent* with a commission to carry out the will of a superior.”

II. Mission _____ in the Old Testament

A. Genesis 1-11

1. The Fall (Gen. 3)

2. The Flood (Gen. 6-9)

3. The Flop (Gen. 11)

B. Gen. 12:1-3

C. Exodus 9:14, 16 (cf. 7:5, 17; 8:22; 14:4, 18)

D. Exodus 19:4-6

1. Own possession (v. 5)

2. Kingdom of priests (v. 6)

3. Holy Nation = _____ set apart

E. 2 Samuel 7

III. Mission _____ in the Old Testament

A. 2 Kings 5

B. Jonah

C. Joel 2

D. Amos 9:11-12

E. Micah 4:1-5

F. Isaiah 11; 19; 39; 40-48; 56-66

G. Jeremiah 3:17; 33:9

H. Zechariah 2:11; 8:20-23; 14:16-19

IV. Mission _____ in the Old Testament

Isaiah 5:

v. 8-10 = Greed / Covetousness

v. 11-17 = Drunkenness / Pleasure

v. 18-19 = Carelessness / Flagrant Sin

v. 20 = Deception / Reversing Standards of Morality (new definitions of sin – Amos 5:7)

v. 21 = Pride / Self-Sufficiency (cf. Rom. 1:22; 1 Cor. 1:18-25; Prov. 3:7)

v. 22-25 = Injustice

V. Mission in the New Testament _____ on the Old Testament

A. Galatians 3:13-16

B. Acts 13:46-47

C. Rom. 11:25-27

APPLICATION: Learn from Israel's failure!

- Prayer
- Get Training
- Send others to the ends of the earth
- Go! Mexico weekend trips. Short-term trips. Long-term.

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you think of when you hear the word "Missions?" Who usually has primary responsibility for "missions" in the local church? What if you change the word to "mission?" Now who has the responsibility for it in the local church?
2. Many people believe the "God of the Old Testament" is a harsh, mean-spirited God while the "God of the New Testament" is a God of love and grace. Based on our study of the Old Testament would you agree or disagree with that perspective? (Read also Exodus 34:6-7 – God describes Himself this way 10 times in the Scriptures)
3. What was Israel's mission in the Old Testament? Was it clear? Was it centripetal or centrifugal? What kept them from fulfilling it? What similarities do you see in the reasons for their failures (Is. 5) and the failures in the American church?
4. What is the mission of the church? Is it based on Israel's mission? Has it changed? What information do we have that they did not have? How should this impact our motivation to carry out the mission?
5. Read Acts 8. What happened when persecution came to the early church? As the people were spread out what did they do? If the persecution did not come what would have been the easy thing for the people to do? What do you think might happen to the American church if severe persecution became the norm? What would happen to you?
6. How are you carrying out the "mission" in your family? Your neighborhood? Your workplace? Your school? Your city? Your state? Your country? Your world? What training do you need to be more effective in carrying out your mission? What keeps you from getting that training?
7. God has blessed Americans with a lot of things and requires us to be stewards. How might you be a better steward of your time, talents, and treasures to help carry out the Mission of the Church? What specific things will you do in each of those areas to improve as a steward?

[Answer to blanks: Defined; Described; wholly; Illustrated; Failed; Based]