



## 2015 Q3 Biblical Missionaries Lesson 7

### Jesus: The Master of Missions

1. Memory Text: John 20:21 “Jesus said to them again, 'Yes, peace be with you! Just as the Father sent me, so I am now going to send you.'”
2. Christ as a missionary
  - a. Who was Christ representing? Who sent Him? God
  - b. To whom was He sent?
    - i. Jews
    - ii. The World
    - iii. To the universe
  - c. And yet, Christ was truly sent to His own family.
    - i. As a human being he did not have many external evidences of who He was
      - (1) That was the point of the temptations in the Wilderness
        - (a) **If** you are the son of God, then . . .
        - (b) The idea of being an extra-terrestrial being that was God is either the ideas of a mad man or divine insight.
  - d. Luke 4:18 Christ was sent of God
  - e. Luke 4:43 Sent of God
3. “Sent” in the Bible
  - a. 120+ in gospels
  - b. A few of them about Christ
4. During Christ’s trial (Luke 23:7 - 12), Pilate sent Christ to Herod. Did it do Herod any good?
  - a. Why not?
  - b. In keeping with this question, go to **Sabbath Afternoon** lesson . . .
5. **Sabbath Afternoon**

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  - a. Read the first paragraph
  - b. It ends with the following statement: “Father, Son, and Holy Spirit will then restore this redeemed world to full unity with the divine will.”
    - i. How?
    - ii. When Christ prayed just before His crucifixion (as recorded in John 17), how did unity into God’s divine will occur?
      - (1) Read John 17:9 - 12, 17, 20 - 24 and list what has made them one and what sanctifies them (sets them apart)
        - (a) “Kept Your word” v 7



- (b) truth
  - iii. Can unity be created by creative power?
    - (1) If so, why did disunity develop in the world in the first place?
    - (2) If not created by power, how will the Godhead restore unity with the divine will?
    - (3) When will that restoration occur?
    - (4) What is the mechanism which will be used to “create or restore” unity in the world?
- c. Read second paragraph begins to describe the incarnation of Christ into human form, and then says:
  - i. “The total mission activity of God becomes coherent? (Makes sense)
    - (1) “Logical and well-organized; easy to understand” Merriam-Webster
  - ii. Is this true?
  - iii. Why?
  - iv. Why is the incarnation of Christ the thing that makes God’s missionary activity coherent?
    - v. If you make the wrong diagnosis, the wrong prescription will be written.
    - vi. If the diagnosis is wrong the treatment will be wrong.
- 6. Who was estranged at the fall of man?
- 7. Who needs to be changed by the missionary activities of Christ?
- 8. If your description of the plan of salvation does not make common sense, maybe the diagnosis of what is wrong is not correct.
- 9. In 1 John 2:1 (read verse) it says, “And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous”
  - a. What direction is he facing?
  - b. How is He with the Father?
    - i. In what way is He **with** the Father?
  - c. John 14:9 “He who has seen Me has seen the Father”
  - d. John 16:26 “In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I will request of the Father on your behalf; for the Father Himself loves you,”
  - e. Romans 8:26 The Spirit intercedes for us “according to the will of God”
    - i. If the Holy Spirit is according to the will of God, who is being changed into the will / unity of God?
    - ii. What direction is the Spirit facing and addressing His efforts
    - iii. Romans 8:31 - 39 who is interceding - being a missionary?
      - (1) To whom is He sent?
      - (2) What direction are the efforts expended?



- (3) Whose heart needs to be changed?
- iv. 2 Corinthians 5:19 “God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.”
- v. The energy of the universe, of God himself, who created and sustains the universe by his power is being directed toward His children.
  - (1) It is not inward focused
  - (2) This is not one member of the Trinity trying to convince another of the Trinity to do something.
  - (3) They are one in Mind, Purpose
  - (4) Their love, attention and yearning activities are toward US!

## **10. Sunday: Jesus in the Old Testament**

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- 11. The lesson reviews some of the Messianic prophecies of Isaiah and description of prophetic timeline for the Messiah as given by Daniel.
- 12. What is the most compelling description of Christ in the old testament? What example would you use?
- 13. Temple service
  - a. Every item of the ritual service pointed to Christ
  - b. Every emblem and piece of furniture was describing Christ
- 14. Each of the stories of the old testament were miniatures of Christ
  - a. Noah
  - b. Abraham
  - c. Joseph
    - i. Saved his own people and the entire known world
    - ii. Persecuted by his brothers
    - iii. Other:
  - d. David
    - i. Read the Messianic Psalms
    - ii. David wrote them about himself, but they prefigured Christ
  - e. Hosea: going after his wayward wife
  - f. “In every page, whether history, or precept, or prophecy, the Old Testament Scriptures are irradiated with the glory of the Son of God. So far as it was of divine institution, the entire system of Judaism was a compacted prophecy of the gospel. To Christ “give all the prophets witness.” Acts 10:43. From the promise given to Adam, down through the patriarchal line and the legal economy, heaven’s glorious light made plain the footsteps of the Redeemer. Seers beheld the Star of Bethlehem, the Shiloh to come, as future things swept before them in mysterious procession. In every sacrifice Christ’s death was shown. In every cloud of incense His righteousness ascended. By every jubilee



trumpet His name was sounded. In the awful mystery of the holy of holies His glory dwelt.” {DA 211.5}

## 15. Monday: The Desire of Ages

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### a. Read the Preface to the Desire of Ages

In the hearts of all mankind, of whatever race or station in life, there are inexpressible longings for something they do not now possess. This longing is implanted in the very constitution of man by a merciful God, that man may not be satisfied with his present conditions or attainments, whether bad, or good, or better. God desires that the human shall seek the best, and find it to the eternal blessing of his soul.

Satan, by wily scheme and craft, has perverted these longings of the human heart. He makes men believe that this desire may be satisfied by pleasure, by wealth, by ease, by fame, by power; but those who have been thus deceived by him (and they number myriads) find all these things pall upon the sense, leaving the soul as barren and unsatisfied as before.

It is God’s design that this longing of the human heart should lead to the one who alone is able to satisfy it. The desire is *of* Him that it may lead *to* Him, the fullness and fulfillment of that desire. That fullness is found in Jesus the Christ, the Son of the Eternal God. “For it was the good pleasure of the Father that in Him should all the fullness dwell;” “For in Him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.” And it is also true that “In Him ye are made full” with respect to every desire divinely implanted and normally followed.

Haggai calls him “The Desire of all nations,” and we may well call him “The Desire of all ages,” even as He is “The King of ages.”

1. The desire of everyone everywhere
2. It was also the desire of the universe: Other angels and other worlds “desire to look” into the mysteries of God’s love. (See **1 Peter 1:12**)

## 2. Tuesday: Mission to the Jews

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3. “Multitudes who were not interested in the harangues of the rabbis were attracted by His teaching. They could understand His words, and their hearts were warmed and comforted. He spoke of God, not as an avenging judge, but as a tender father, and He revealed the image of God as mirrored in Himself. His words were like balm to the wounded spirit. Both by His words and by His works of mercy He was breaking the oppressive power of the old traditions and man-made commandments, and presenting the love of God in its exhaustless fullness.” {DA 204.4}

4. Why was Christ sent “only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel”

5. Why did Christ send the 12 disciples to the Jews only, and then in the great commission send them to the world?

1. Why were they sent to the Jews first?



1. The prejudice of the Jews would have kept them from hearing the message if it was given in a different order
  2. God gives us what we need. That may not be the eventual best, but “we might not be able to stand it”
  3. The sequence of Acts 1:8 was due to the hardness of their hearts. The compassionate heart of God was yearning for all to hear his message of love.
6. They were the only people that had a religious language that would enable them to understand.
1. John 3:3 “Unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God”
    1. One meaning of this is that unless you have ‘ears to hear’ God’s word, you cannot comprehend what God is saying
    2. The children of Israel did have an advantage in being prepped for Christ’s coming
    3. Few took advantage of that blessing
    4. The leaders were blinded to the message by their hardened hearts and minds
    5. It is a warning to us about the difficulty of comprehending what we are hardened against.
7. At the bottom paragraph: the concept of a established center for a foundation for missions.
1. Is this valid?
  2. Is this the only way of working?
  3. Is this the best way of working?
  4. Read 2 Kings 5:1 - 6
    1. How far apart were these two cities? 135 - 150 mi
    2. He was sent with 750 pounds of silver, 150 pounds of gold, and ten changes of clothes as a gift.
    3. Tell me again about the center of evangelism that prompted this result.
  5. Where was the center of evangelism for Elijah?
  6. Abraham
  7. How was the news of the gospel spread during the first century?
    1. Was the center of Jerusalem the organized force that planned and spread the good news?
    2. Read Acts 8:1 - 5, 12, 25

**The Place of Visitation Evangelism in Finishing God’s Work on Earth**—How can the great work of the third angel’s message be accomplished? It must be largely accomplished by persevering, individual effort, by visiting the people in their homes.—Historical Sketches, 150. {WM 97.1}

1. One of the most effective ways in which light can be communicated is by private, personal effort. In the home circle, at your neighbor’s fireside, at the bedside of the sick, in a quiet way you may read the Scriptures and speak a word for Jesus and the truth. Thus you may sow precious seed that will spring up and bring forth fruit.—Testimonies for the Church 6:428, 429.

**Repaid a Thousand Times**—Wake up, brethren and sisters. Don’t be afraid of good works. Be not



weary in well-doing, for you shall reap in due time if you faint not.... Encourage in yourselves a love of hospitality, a love to help those who need help.

You may say you have been deceived, bestowing your means upon those unworthy of your charity, and therefore have become discouraged in trying to help the needy. I present Jesus before you.... One soul wrenched from Satan's grasp; one soul you have benefited; one soul encouraged! This will a thousand times pay you for all your efforts. To you Jesus will say, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me." Should we not ladly do all we can to imitate the life of our divine Lord?—The Review and Herald, April 20, 1886.

**Vital to Our Own Eternal Destiny**—As you engage in this work you have companions unseen by human eyes. Angels of heaven were beside the Samaritan who cared for the wounded stranger. Angels from the heavenly courts stand by all who do God's service in ministering to their fellow-men. And you have the cooperation of Christ Himself. He is the Restorer, and as you work under His supervision you will see great results. Upon your faithfulness in this work, not only the well-being of others, but your own eternal destiny depends.—Christ's Object Lessons, 388.

**Christ Enters the Homes With Them**—The Lord desires that the truth shall come close to the people, and this can be accomplished only by personal labor. Much is comprehended in the command, "Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that My house may be filled." There is a work to be done in this line that has not yet been done. Let God's workers teach the truth in families, drawing close to those for whom they labor. If they thus cooperate with God, He will clothe them with spiritual power. Christ will guide them in their work, entering the houses of the people with them and giving them words to speak that will sink deep into the hearts of the listeners. The Holy Spirit will open hearts and minds to receive the rays coming from the Source of all light.—The Review and Herald, December 29, 1904.

**Bring Hope to the People**—It is impossible for the man who believes in Christ to see the work that needs to be done and yet do nothing. Daily we are to receive from Heaven the healing balm of God's grace to impart to the needy and suffering. Christ's followers are to learn of the woes of the poor in their immediate vicinity and seek to bring them relief. Those who have a dark and disagreeable life are the very ones whom we should bid to hope because Christ is their Saviour. Are there not those who can go from house to house, from family to family, and repeat the A B C of true Christian experience?—The Review and Herald, April 11, 1912.

**E. G. White's Experience in Visitation**—I remember when the converting power of God came upon me in my childhood I wanted everyone else to get the blessing that I had, and I could not rest till I had told them of it. I began to visit with my young companions and went to their houses to talk with them and tell them my experience, how precious the Saviour was to me, and how I wanted to serve Him, and how I wanted them to serve Him also. So I would talk of the preciousness of Christ, and I would say, "Won't you kneel down and pray with me?" Some would kneel and some would sit in their chairs, but before we gave up, everyone would be on her knees and we would pray together for hours, till the last one would say, "I believe that Jesus has forgiven me my sins." Sometimes the sun would begin to make its appearance in the heavens before I would give up the struggle. There is a great power in Jesus.—Manuscript 10, 1888.

**The "First Works" Bring Results**—The reason so many fail to have success is that they trust in themselves altogether too much, and do not feel the positive necessity of abiding in Christ, as they go





forth to seek and save that which is lost. Until they have the mind of Christ and teach the truth as it is in Jesus, they will not accomplish much....

The atmosphere of the church is so frigid, its spirit is of such an order, that men and women cannot sustain or endure the example of primitive and heaven-born piety. The warmth of their first love is frozen up, and unless they are watered over by the baptism of the Holy Spirit, their candlestick will be removed out of its place, except they repent and do their first works. The first works of the church were seen when the believers sought out friends, relatives, and acquaintances, and with hearts overflowing with love, told the story of what Jesus was to them and what they were to Jesus.—Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers, 167, 168.

**You Are a Letter; Deliver It!**—The apostle Paul says to the disciples of Jesus, “Ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ,” “known and read of all men.” In every one of His children Jesus sends a letter to the world. If you are Christ’s follower, He sends in you a letter to the family, the village, the street, where you live. Jesus, dwelling in you, desires to speak to the hearts of those who are not acquainted with Him. Perhaps they do not read the Bible or do not hear the voice that speaks to them in its pages; they do not see the love of God through His works. But if you are a true representative of Jesus, it may be that through you they will be led to understand something of His goodness, and be won to love and serve Him.—Steps to Christ, 119.

## **2. Wednesday: Mission to the Gentiles**

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## **3. Thursday: The Great Commission**

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## **4. Friday:**

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## **5. Teachers Comments:**

6. Read the Step 4 description of Legates within the Roman government. Is this a good job or a bad job?

7. In the teachers quarterly notes, one of the final activities is:

1. Invite class members to imagine that they are “drawing up the terms” for someone to become a Christian – a member of the family of God. What would the list look like? Discuss one another’s ideas.
2. Is this not what every religious creed does?
  1. Builds wall of separation between the ins and the outs?
  2. At this point in my life, this is not a good exercise. I already am too willing and able to devise human restrictions on God’s love and acceptance.
  3. I need to be more willing to see God’s love to all
  4. “Man looks on the outward appearance, God looks on the heart”
  5. I do not need any encouragement to build walls of definition to separate me from God’s love.