

025 A New Look At Missions Part 2



A Change is Needed In Foreign Missions

Having set the scene for our missionary enterprise, let's take a look at the world of missions in the 21st century. We need to take an honest appraisal. The truth may be difficult to appreciate. As humans we do not like change. "We've always done it like this," etc.

Missions for the last century, have been more or less conducted in the same way, with the same basics, same organization, and with little real imagination.

Contemporary missionary operations are in dire need of reformation.

My personal thought is, we need the withdrawal of all missionaries who come from industrialized countries and who are presently residing in poorer countries. Their presence is generally counter-productive because it tends to identify the gospel of Christ with foreign governments or alien cultures, and also because the foreigners appear to be fabulously rich in comparison to the people among whom they are working. Their presence breeds covetousness and undermines the will of the local Christians to be self-sufficient.

There is no precedent in the New Testament for the type of missionary work that began in the 18th century and is now a multi-billion pound or dollar enterprise. There is no record anywhere in the New Testament that God ever sent a (missionary) to a foreign country where he did not know the language of the residents. The gospel spread to every area of the Roman Empire with no mission boards or foreign missionaries like those we send out today.

While paying high tribute to pioneers of the past, and expressing appreciation for their labours, I believe that a new day has come wherein traditional operations should be discontinued.

New Testament or 21st Century Church? A Ministry of Wave of Life Ministries

The facts are that indigenous missions do 90 percent of the work with less than 10 percent of the total funds given for missionary work. The time has come, when those who consume 90 percent of God's money to do 10 percent of His work should share their wealth with some of the 300,000 native missionaries who do 90 percent of the work, particularly those who are out on the fields of the world with no support at all.

Generally, with a few notable exceptions, those who go from one country to another as missionaries end up hindering rather than helping the cause of Christ. It's not that their motives are wrong. In most cases involving evangelicals, their intentions are good and objectives are noble. But the very thing we seek to accomplish is discredited by the way we operate. Like the English crusaders a millennium ago, we march off to "the field" with dreams of glory, confident that we are following "the call" of God. But many times our actions bring dishonour to His Name and prove to be a denial of the very message we are there to proclaim.

Over the years I have found Christ to be held in high esteem by Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists and, yes, even by many atheistic Communists. But His self-appointed representatives from "western" countries were often looked upon as being a travesty of what Christianity was presumed to represent. Obviously there are some things amiss in our thinking about the whole concept of "foreign missions," and the purpose of this article is to reveal what they are, what the needs are and what we should be doing with practical down to earth facts, opportunities and suggestions. Then within that framework we can pray, support, encourage, give and go.

Also, it is to present a more Biblically based picture, in view of the fact that the multi-billion pound or dollar missionary enterprise has largely missed out on that New Testament pattern. That's why a reformation is necessary. I intend to show how the foreign missionary movement of the past 100 years is simply a church tradition that has little or no basis or precedent in the New Testament. We shall see that the ways in which we conduct missions are often a denial of the most basic principles of Biblical Christianity, and it should be phased out and replaced with an entirely new approach that more closely conforms to the will of God. There are other alternatives which are much more sensible and far more effective than those being followed today by most mission organizations.

But before I discuss the faults of the system and the ways to change it, I want to express my appreciation for the deeds of the early pioneers who went out beginning over 200 years ago. Whenever I have mentioned the need for reform someone usually retorts, "Are you suggesting that great men of God like William Carey and David Livingstone were outside the will of God?"

Definitely not. But there is no point in dwelling on the heroes of the past, except to learn what we need to know for today. Of course there were great accomplishments, just as there were great mistakes and hopeless failures. While respecting the past, and learning from it, our purpose must be to deal with the present and prepare for the future. If we are going to honour God and discern His will, we must be prepared for change.

New Testament or 21st Century Church? A Ministry of Wave of Life Ministries

We must have a reformation that will cause us to replace the antiquated, unscriptural, counter-productive methods by which we seek to carry out the great commission of our Saviour, which is to plant His church in every nation.

A key to the problem may be found in the way we use the word, MISSION. Generally it denotes the expansionist objectives of our respective organizations and denominations, just as "crusade" did a thousand years ago. Like colonial era military conquerors, we are bent on ruthlessly expanding our territory to include foreign countries. We want maps on the wall and graphics in our yearbooks showing places all over the globe where we have affiliated branches. The tragedy today is that we so often accomplish our objective by running roughshod over our fellow believers who are already there. The whole situation is completely different from the way it was 200 years ago.

When William Carey went to India in 1792 he found no indigenous evangelical churches or missionary teams. So he did not appear on the scene as a competitive threat to fellow believers. One of our great mistakes is our failure to recognize that our Sovereign Lord is the Head of His whole church. If He were truly leading us, He would cause us to respect the fellow members of His body (meaning all true believers) in every nation, and to strengthen their hands rather than competing with them and causing divisions among them. Instead, we go all over the world hiring away the workers of indigenous missions and devastating their ministries. We send comparatively rich "missionaries" to live in large houses and drive around in expensive cars among the poorest people of this world. Their presence brings discredit and suspicion upon local believers who are generally poor.

If we believe God wants us to do something for His kingdom in poorer countries, we should send financial help to our fellow believers who bear witness for Him in their respective locations. Sending a rich foreigner to live among them tends to misrepresent our Saviour. It also breeds covetousness among local Christians who may envy the foreigners' wealth and thus be tempted to want some of it. And in many cases our presence identifies God's kingdom with foreign governments and destroys its credibility in the eyes of local citizens. I am not saying every missionary works in such an environment. Many missionaries are very sacrificial and work endlessly and with great unselfish fervour.

However the present system of sending out (British, American, Canadian, Australian, Koreans and Europeans and others from industrialized countries) is a tradition left over from the 19th Century that should have been phased out 50 years ago. And, as I will discuss later, it has no precedent in the Word of God. Here is a sampling of some problems related to its continuation.

1. Economic Disparity. When we send British, American and others from affluent countries abroad as resident missionaries in poorer countries, they appear fabulously rich in comparison to the people they hope to reach. How then can they represent our Saviour "*who though He was rich yet for our sakes became poor?*" They misrepresent Him, and their presence is generally a hindrance to His cause.

2. Political Implications. When comparatively affluent foreign missionaries move into countries like Pakistan, Cuba, China or Vietnam they are often thought to be spies sent by M15 or the CIA or its equivalent, otherwise, where would they get all that money they appear to have?

New Testament or 21st Century Church? A Ministry of Wave of Life Ministries

By thus identifying the Christian faith with foreign governments we stigmatize it and bring irreparable harm to our fellow believers who are citizens of the countries to which we go.

3. Cultural Offences. When a missionary from an industrialized country invades a people group of diverse culture, he identifies the gospel of Christ with aliens who appear weird to those people. By so doing he erects artificial barriers of prejudice against the gospel and hinders its acceptance. Often it takes one or two whole generations before those artificial barriers can be overcome and the Christian faith can become acceptable to an un-reached people group that has been so invaded

4. Sending the Wrong Message. Colonial-type mission boards generally assume an attitude of superiority toward our fellow believers in poorer countries, taking the position: "We are superior, they are inferior; therefore we have to go over there and train them." But most missionaries usually go with a personal support package greater than the entire budget of the school where he is teaching, or the local ministry with which he works. No way, then, can he teach "*Love your neighbour as yourself*" when he is rich and they are poor. It would be laughable for him to say, "*Deny yourself, take up your cross and be crucified with Christ.*" The foreigner's presence is likely to breed covetousness and destroy any sense of self-sacrifice, which may already exist among Bible school students or native workers in poorer countries.

5. Misuse of Resources. It makes no sense to spend £25,000 (\$40,000) of God's money annually sending a missionary with his family to live as a missionary in a poor country where hundreds of local citizens have been called of God to reach their own people, and have no personal support. Any one of them, already knowing the local languages, would be ten times more effective than the foreigner. And is likely to be very eager to serve with support of £500 (\$800) or less annually, because he lives on the same economic level as those being reached with the gospel. In many countries the support package of one missionary could supply the support and ministry needs of 50 native missionaries. By what unreasonable stretching of our imaginations have we come to the point of arrogant pride by which we conclude that one missionary is more valuable to the cause of Christ in a poor country than 50 resident citizens of that country who have lived there and know the culture and language from childhood?

6. Carnal, Sectarian, Denominational Mission Board Expansionism. Every foreign missionary agency is doing its own thing, often ruthlessly competing with indigenous Christian witness in poorer countries. Ambitious to expand their territory, mission executives go overseas and hire away the workers of indigenous ministries. Excellent works of God are virtually wiped out by this carnal practice. Hundreds of indigenous Bible institutes and other schools operated by native missions have been damaged or destroyed by "rich foreigners" coming along and setting up competing schools nearby, then hiring away teachers and luring away students from schools operated by local Christians. Small indigenous churches in pioneer areas are often split and demoralized by zealous foreigners who move into their neighbourhoods and start competing ministries, usually with a peculiarity of doctrine or the use of material bait to attract members from the struggling churches that were already there

Many other aspects of foreign missions need reformation. Change must come if we expect to know God's will and receive His blessings. I am well aware that church people tend to resist change because we are more comfortable with our past traditions. Opposition is sure to be strong, but I believe that those who are willing to pay the price and speak of reform, will be the ones who contribute the most toward the fulfillment of our Lord's eternal purpose.

New Testament or 21st Century Church? A Ministry of Wave of Life Ministries

A New Era In Foreign Missions

Before 1940, missionaries from Western Europe and North America carried out the majority of foreign missions work. Since 1945 the pendulum has swung in a new direction. The torch has passed to indigenous missions. They have taken over virtually all the tasks that were formerly carried out by Missionaries from different countries worldwide. Today, fully 90% of pioneer missionary work among un-reached peoples is being done by native missionaries who are near neighbours of those being reached with the gospel. They serve with mission boards based within those regions.

Leading The Way in Expanding the Kingdom

The Church's primary goal is to plant Bible-believing church congregations of born-again Christians among those people and in those places where hereto our Lord has had no people for His name. They also carry out all of the diverse ministries that were formerly the province of foreign missionaries from industrialized countries including aid in food supply, teaching, training, schools and medical services.

Greater Works Shall You Do

Indigenous missions also operate primary and secondary schools for thousands of children who otherwise would have no chance to learn, plus medical clinics, orphanages, leprosarium's and ministries to the deaf, maimed and blind.

They provide food, clothing and shelter for impoverished families in famine areas, and also for victims of fires, floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, typhoons, wars and persecution.

Indigenous missions print and distribute Bibles and Christian literature in the languages of the people they reach. They make Bible translations into languages which have never had the Bible before, and often reduce to writing newly discovered languages spoken by tribes that have never before had a written language.

Where facilities are available, native missionaries broadcast the gospel by radio and TV. They conduct open-air evangelistic meetings to audiences from 50 to 50,000. And, always, the object of every ministry is to establish self-supporting church congregations that bring the believers to maturity of faith in Christ.

Providing Support

Even though the local churches may be self-sufficient, most are located in lands of extreme poverty, or where unfriendly governments restrict religious freedom. So most of them have nothing extra that can be given for the support of missionary operations. Local churches can hardly meet their own needs in poorer countries. So native missionaries can only pray, and believe God to miraculously meet their needs.

New Testament or 21st Century Church?
A Ministry of Wave of Life Ministries

That's where you and I come in. We MUST seek out and evaluate native missionary operations to make sure . . . they love the Lord and believe His Word . . . That He is using them in effective ways . . . that they are honest and accountable in handling finances.

Then we make their work known to churches and individual Christians the world over to encourage financial and prayer support. **THAT IS WHERE PRAYER, SUPPORT, ENCOURAGEMENT, FINANCIAL GIVING AND CAREFUL WELL-PLANNED 'GOING' CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE.**



Okay, our diagnosis of “missions today” is complete. Now we have to look at some overall practicalities.

In the olden days it was easy. The church sent missionaries out to "preach the Good News and convert the heathen." But, in a modern world of increasing cross-cultural interaction, declaring missionary status on a visa application can guarantee the individual another year of Bible College. So how do today's missionaries brand themselves and the work of God?

Modern “missionaries” tend to fall into two distinct camps: those that focus on evangelism and those that emphasise aid and development. Support of religious freedom requires that we do not proselytize,” “Respecting the dignity of those with whom we work. We must not exploit vulnerability or use the power of development and humanitarian programs to coerce conversion. Christian love is free and is not practiced as a way of achieving other ends.”

In fact, the vast majority of workers in the field are local people and have no Christian background or faith. However, our work must be founded on Christian principles. “Inspired by Christ, we are empowered to love our neighbours. Generous love is the best witness to the God in whom we believe.” However, Christian religiosity, as part of the help we are to provide to socially and economically marginalized communities and funding such efforts as Bible camps and supporting local pastors, must go hand in hand with any aid and development organization.

We must however remember that the desire to tackle the plight of the world's poor stems from a Christian response to God's love. Whenever we begin work in a new country, we mustn't seek to hide our Christian identity. We must clearly identify ourselves, in all formal agreements and in normal communication with governments, international, multilateral, non-governmental and civil society organizations, as a Christian humanitarian organization concerned for the physical, social, and spiritual needs of people.”

New Testament or 21st Century Church?
A Ministry of Wave of Life Ministries

So, at what point does branding a humanitarian organization and promoting religious beliefs intersect? Or should efforts to brand an organization steer clear of religious convictions, similar to the separation of church and state? Officially, many countries won't let missionaries in, but they do let in foreigners for work purposes. For many Christian missionaries, evangelism works in foreign countries much the same way as it would in their home countries, that is building relationships, talking with friends and leading an attractive life

If the missionaries meet their professional duties to the full, the promise holds true. The local people benefit from the foreigner's skills—with some bonus Christianity on the side. Given the widespread resistance and scepticism towards Christianity in many Western nations, any Christian-based organization working overseas—whether an aid agency or more evangelistic—must ensure they are open and honest in their communications. They have to clearly show that it is Christian faith and love for one's neighbour that motivates people to reach out to those in need.

“Why would a doctor and his family go and work in a hospital in Bangladesh or even a country where Christianity is outlawed?” Their Christian faith gives them a servant heart.

"I have but one candle of life to burn, and I would rather burn it out in a land filled with darkness than in a land flooded with light" -- [John Keith Falconer](#)

"[The Great Commission](#)¹ is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed" – [Hudson Taylor](#)

"We talk of the Second Coming; half the world has never heard of the first." – [Oswald J Smith](#)

"The gospel is only good news if it gets there in time" -- [Carl F. H. Henry](#)

"You have one business on Earth - to save souls." -- [John Wesley](#)

**"Christ alone can save the world, but Christ cannot save the world alone."
[David Livingstone](#)**

"God isn't looking for people of great faith, but for individuals ready to follow Him." [Hudson Taylor](#)

"This generation of Christians is responsible for this generation of souls on earth!" [Keith Green](#)

"The church that does not evangelize will fossilize." [Oswald J Smith](#)

WHY HAVE MISSIONS CHANGED?

Some things will never change about missions:

- The pathetic condition of an un-reached person searching for meaning and hope without finding it.
- God's love for the lost.
- His determination to reach them with His offer of adoption and forgiveness.
- Our clear marching orders from Jesus that reaching and the discipline of the lost is to be the primary focus of the church and of all individual believers.

Being a Bible-believing Christian means committing ourselves-- time, talent and money-- to all of this.

But the world has greatly changed in the past 50-100 years. This demands a re-designing of the church's mission to the nations. Here are a few of the changes we must address:

Where the un-reached live.

We have very clear sociological data today and we know that 95 percent of the world's un-reached people live in Asia and the surrounding nations. Still, we continue the 100-year-old habit of sending no more than five percent of missionaries and money to this region.

Churches, mission agencies, and individuals need to prioritize the un-reached above those who have abundant access to the gospel

(In America 85 percent of all missions work is done in nations *four hours from the USA due to convenience and long-term relational ties. The simple fact is that these nations as a whole have 300 years of Christian witness while much of Asia has never seen one missionary).*

New Testament or 21st Century Church?
A Ministry of Wave of Life Ministries

How young the un-reached are.

The average age in many Asian nations is less than 25 years. The harvest is young. Seventy percent of all conversions occur by age 14, and ninety percent by age 25. Does your church or mission spend the majority of its funds, staff and energies reaching those under 25? All over the world we need to make a serious commitment to younger forms of communication and community.

Where cultural influence now originates.

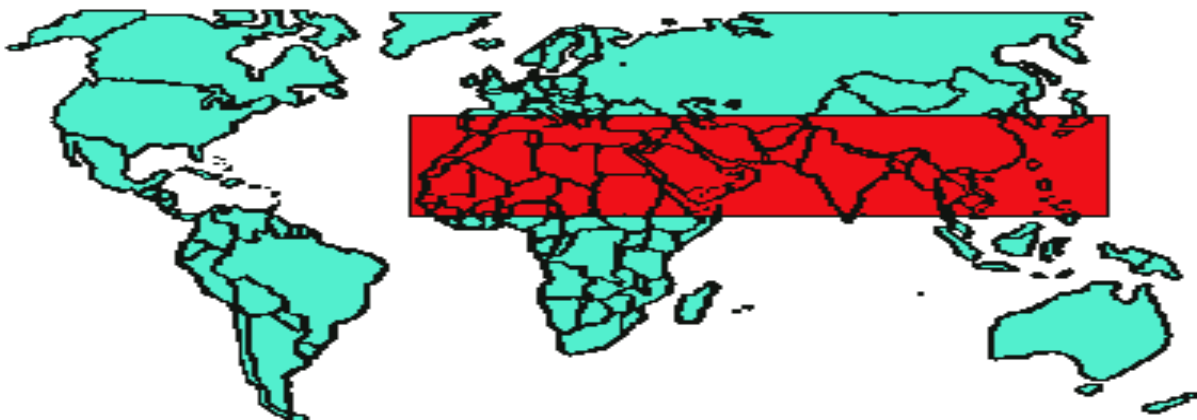
Question, "What is the most powerful force in shaping the lives of even the people of God?" Answer: Secular media. Even in the church, a pastor gets 45 minutes once a week. Then we all tune into media for hours every day. It teaches us our values, feeds us our opinion and influences our beliefs about politics, marriage, work, money, power, sex-you name it! This is even more apparent in those who are un-reached. For them, media is the only voice they are hearing. The church has to get in on the conversation that is taking place all over this world on TV, radio, books, and film and in the most important place of all-the Internet.

How urban and poor the harvest is.

Today for the first time in human history, more people live in urban centers than in the countryside (up from only 10 percent in 1900). As Sherry and I travel through even the most remote places we find youth dressing and acting as urbanites despite being from tribal societies. Urban areas are places of great opportunity and great poverty, disease, crime and oppressive labor practices. Many of Asia's great mega-cities have hardly any Christian witness.

Most of the people groups still unreached by the gospel live in places stretching across the maps of northern Africa and Asia. Christian missions strategist Luis Bush started calling this rectangular area or band: "**the 10/40 window.**" He used that easy-to-remember name because it lies across Africa and Asia from 10 degrees latitude north of the equator to 40 degrees latitude north of the equator

Half of the world's least evangelized cities are in this window



New Testament or 21st Century Church?
A Ministry of Wave of Life Ministries

World evangelism statistics: Of the 55 least evangelized countries, 97% of their population lives within the Ten - Forty Window.

Unless something changes soon, most of these un-reached people will never hear the Gospel. Why? Well, Bryant Myers of World Vision has estimated that only about one and a quarter percent (1.25%) of Christian mission giving is going to missions work in the 10/40 Window. Open evangelism is difficult and even impossible because of governmental restrictions in many 10/40 Window countries.

What will you do that will move the Church toward reaching people in the 10/40 window with the gospel?

Here are some facts to use.

Missions statistics from the places of the 10/40 Window:

Centre of population: Two-thirds of the world's populations --more than 3.2 billion people -- live in the 10/40 Window.

Un-reached and un-evangelized: 95% of the people living in the 10/40 Window are un-evangelized. Many have never heard the Gospel message even once. There are either no Christians or not enough of a Christian movement in many cultures of the 10/40 Window to carry out vibrant near neighbour evangelism. If those groups are to be evangelized, believers will need to leave their own culture to enter another where they will seek to plant the gospel. Such cross-cultural evangelism is required because there are people groups with no church movements that are understandable or relevant to them.

Good news: There's a difference between un-reached and unreachable. In 1989 there were only four known Christians living in Mongolia. That country now has an estimated 10,000 indigenous believers. Also, Christian television programming can now be received in many closed 10/40 Window nations.

Least evangelized cities: Half of the world's least evangelized cities are in this window. Statistical data on un-reached people groups / prayer points:

The statistics of the numbers of non-Christians can be staggering.

865 million unreached Muslims or Islamic followers in 3330 cultural sub-groupings

550 million unreached Hindus in 1660 cultural sub-groups

150 million unreached Chinese in 830 groups

275 million unreached Buddhists in 900 groups

2550 unreached tribal groups (which are mainly animistic) with a total population of 140 million

Forming a smaller -- though important -- unreached group are the 17 million Jews scattered across 134 countries

Good news: Missions researcher David Barrett says the country with the most rapid Christian expansion ever is China where there are 10,000 new Christian converts per day.

"Some wish to live within the sound of a chapel bell; I wish to run a rescue mission within a yard of hell." -- [C.T. Studd](#)

"If you take missions out of the Bible, you won't have anything left but the covers because Missions is not the 'ministry of choice' for a few hyperactive Christians in the church. Missions is the purpose of the church and the best remedy for a sick church is to put it on a missionary diet." -- Unknown



To sum up!.....

A New Approach to Foreign Missions

1. Financial Support for Indigenous Missions

We can support and help many 1000's of evangelistic ministries based in lands of great poverty or where evangelical Christians are a persecuted minority. Priority is given to supporting those that work among un-reached peoples where hitherto our Lord has had no people for His name. These missions:

- Are training 10's of 1000's of new workers in hundreds of Bible institutes.
- Sending out native missionaries -- over 100,000 plus now on the field.
- Conduct evangelistic campaigns, broadcast on radio & TV, and distribute literature.
- Plant new churches -- over 100,000 each year -- 1000 every week.

2. Assistance to Victims of Persecution, Diseases & Disasters

The 1000's native missions are located mainly in the poorest places on earth and are continually surrounded by human suffering, which they cannot ignore. We must send funds to help them:

- Care for homeless children -- an estimated ten million orphans face starvation in Africa alone, millions more in Asia.
- Provide for the blind, disabled, widows, infirm, handicapped and helpless.
- Rescue victims of persecution, wars, famines, epidemics, leprosy, slavery, prostitution and natural disasters such as fires, floods, drought, typhoons, tsunamis, cyclones and earthquakes.

3. Leading a Reformation in the Way Foreign Missionary Work is Done

Foreign missionary programs by Protestant churches evolved during the colonial era of the 19th century and became a cherished tradition during the 20th century.

Most denominations and many independent churches tended to follow a standardized formula of "going and sending," believing that God ordained their activities.

Most political colonialism ended after World War II, but missionary colonialism was greatly increased, especially by evangelicals and fundamentalists, doing some good but also causing great harm to Christian witness in many parts of the world. We need to carry out a ministry of missionary education, teaching Christians that:

- There is no Biblical basis for colonial missions, no record in the New Testament of God sending any missionary where he did not know the language.
- While traditional missionaries have done much good, as well as much harm, most should have been recalled 50 years ago.
- God has raised up native missionaries in every country where Missionaries are allowed to go. They are ten times more effective in reaching their people than foreigners could ever be, at a fraction of the cost.
- Most missionaries appear to be fabulously wealthy in poor countries. Their presence misrepresents our suffering Saviour, and breed's covetousness among local believers.
- Sending out missionaries at a cost of £25,000, or more per family is a tragic misuse of God's money. If sent to an indigenous mission instead, that amount would provide full support for 50 or more native missionaries who are already there. Any one of them is likely to be more fruitful for the cause of Christ than a dozen "rich foreigners."
- ***THIS I BELIEVE IS THE WAY FORWARD FOR MISSIONS.***

Well we could go on and on and on, dissecting Missions. The truth is, ***THE CLOCK IS TICKING***, and it really is time for action.

Remember, ***PRAYER... SUPPORT & ENCOURAGEMENT... FINANCIAL GIVING... GOING...***

What will YOU do with your ONE and Only LIFE?

It is a command for ALL Christians to "GO" OR "SEND" "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature...(Mark 16:15) or "How shall they preach unless they are sent? (Rom10: 15)

Are YOU willing to make an eternal and invaluable investment with your life? The Bible says,

"The Lord is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance."
(2 Peter 3:9)

THE CLOCK IS TICKING

- **40 percent of the world's population has never heard the Gospel**
- **28 percent of countries have a minority Christian population**
- **2,250 languages still do not have any of the Bible translated**

So having been reminded ourselves in the strongest possible terms of our obligation to carry out the Lord's great command in the previous article, what can we do in practical terms? There are four areas of possibility...

PRAYER...SUPPORT & ENCOURAGEMENT...FINANCIAL GIVING...GOING.

*There is a saying. "By their deeds you shall know them." Carrying out God's purposes and instructions to "Go into all the world and preach the gospel" actually means **ACTION**.*

Let's therefore look closely at what is required in these 4 sections, as individual ministries.

PRAYER. *Under normal conditions I would say we all know what it is and how to pray. And it is not my place either to lecture or teach about prayer. If you are Christian reading this you will know all about prayer. However in the context of carrying out Jesus' great commandment and commission, we have to remind ourselves that 'action' and 'doing' are the important words.*

*Forgive me for saying this, but it is so very easy to say "We'll support you in prayer" or "We are prayer warriors". It does not take much action and very little sacrifice unless done strongly and openly. Jesus does want people of **ACTION**. He wants "**DOERS**". He wants people who love Him so much, and love the lost of this world so much that **THEY MUST BECOME DOERS**.*

Oh, dear, "how dare you say prayer is not important." I did not say that. I just want to remind the Christian Church it must not hide behind the easy option, "we'll pray about it."

*Everybody can pray, but not everybody can encourage, give and go. Therefore the **PRAYER** section is an ideal platform for those who are infirm and poor. Got it?*

SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT. *Again although all believers can give support and encouragement, it really is an opportunity for poor and infirm Christians to actually “DO SOMETHING” in a very practical way. This is a wonderful way of combining your prayers with action.*

Simple but effective support by writing letters of encouragement, or sending ‘news items’ etc. Sorting and packing items to send to missions. Making handicraft items, jewelry, toys, crafts etc. Encouraging and helping the local Church and other Christians realise their mission dream.

FINANCIAL GIVING. *In the first place you have to have something, before you can give. If you are not poor and infirm, then you have something to give. Let’s remind ourselves of our affluent society. Just think of the nice things in your home and blessings in life. 3,000,000 go to hell every minute. Does that not stir you into financial action? Could you manage the cost of just one meal a week? A newspaper per day? Just think of how much money we waste and yet a little from all Christians could make a difference to the world.*

Now, you may say, I am doing my bit. Good, that’s great and thank you for that. The Lord’s pleased and he will bless you. Is it possible you could do just a little more? Just a little? Think about how much the Lord put Himself out for you, His very life.

GO....GO....GO. *Wait a minute I can’t be a missionary. I have a job and family to support. Yes, I know that, but how about your annual holiday? How much do you spend on that? Why not spend the same amount of money and go on a short-term mission? 1/2/3/4 weeks. You decide. Take your family if you want. Just imagine the blessings you can give and share. Just think of the blessings you will receive.*

Well we could go on and on and on, dissecting Missions. The truth is, ***THE CLOCK IS TICKING***, and it really is time for action.

Remember, ***PRAYER.... SUPPORT & ENCOURAGEMENT.... FINANCIAL GIVING.... GOING....***

DON'T TRY TO SAVE THE WORLD ON YOUR OWN!!



New Testament or 21st Century Church?
A Ministry of Wave of Life Ministries

When we are pushing our trolley around the supermarket let us remember how fortunate we are! Do you really need that extra packet of biscuits? A few pence saved here and there could mount up and help save the world for Jesus!!

Do we know what it means to sacrifice? Read this statement by a young African pastor.
Found among his papers in Zimbabwe after he was martyred

I'm a part of the fellowship of the unashamed. The die has been cast. I have stepped over the line. The decision has been made. I'm a disciple of His and I won't look back, let up, slow down, back away, or be still.

My past is redeemed. My present makes sense. My future is secure. I'm done and finished with low living, sight walking, small planning, smooth knees, colourless dreams, tamed visions, mundane talking, cheap living, and dwarfed goals.

I no longer need preeminence, prosperity, position, promotions, plaudits, or popularity. I don't have to be right, or first, or tops, or recognized, or praised, or rewarded. I live by faith, lean on His presence, walk by patience, lift by prayer, and labour by Holy Spirit power.

My face is set. My gait is fast. My goal is heaven. My road may be narrow, my way rough, my companions few, but my guide is reliable and my mission is clear. I will not be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, deluded or delayed.

I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice or hesitate in the presence of the adversary. I will not negotiate at the table of the enemy, ponder at the pool of popularity, or meander in the maze of mediocrity.

I won't give up, shut up, or let up until I have stayed up, stored up, prayed up, paid up, and preached up for the cause of Christ.

I am a disciple of Jesus. I must give until I drop, preach until all know, and work until He comes. And when He does come for His own, He'll have no problems recognizing me. My colours will be clear!

Although God is omnipotent, He has placed the world into human hands. You hold the world in your hands. How are you handling it? Let's face it, politicians are useless, the United Nations is ineffective and in general humans really are not handling the world very well. We cannot make any big changes to the world situation, but we can make an effort. Remember it is God's command that we go into the world, preach the gospel, help the sick and hungry and do our bit to make it a better world.

**GOD HAS GENTLY RESTED THE WORLD AND Its PEOPLE IN YOUR AND MY
HANDS, TO CARE FOR IT, FOR HIM**

*The whole world is in your
or hell is determined by your
I love this old world! Let's
That's why He died, to Save*



*hands. Life or death, heaven
real action now!!
win it back for Jesus
the World*

*Thank you for reading this article. I hope you found something of interest.
More importantly I hope you found a way of expressing your love for Jesus
in a practical and fruitful way.
My thanks to Bob Holdstock for including my 'mission' articles on this super
website. If you would like to know more about Carmel Overseas Missionary
Enterprise, please email:*

come@sky.com.

Thank you again, and God richly bless you. Mansel.

***Please join me in praying together for our
world. For missions and the workers that
they be blessed with a rich harvest of souls.
In the name of Jesus, Amen.***