

# Jesus: the Master of Missions

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John 20: 21



So Jesus said to them  
again, "Peace to you! As  
the Father has sent Me,  
I also send you."  
John 20: 21



# I. Introduction

The most important aspect of our life is to accomplish the mission assigned to us by God and to do it through His own power.





"To be a Christian is to believe we are commanded and authorised to say certain things to the world; to say things that will make disciples of all nations."  
Rowan Williams



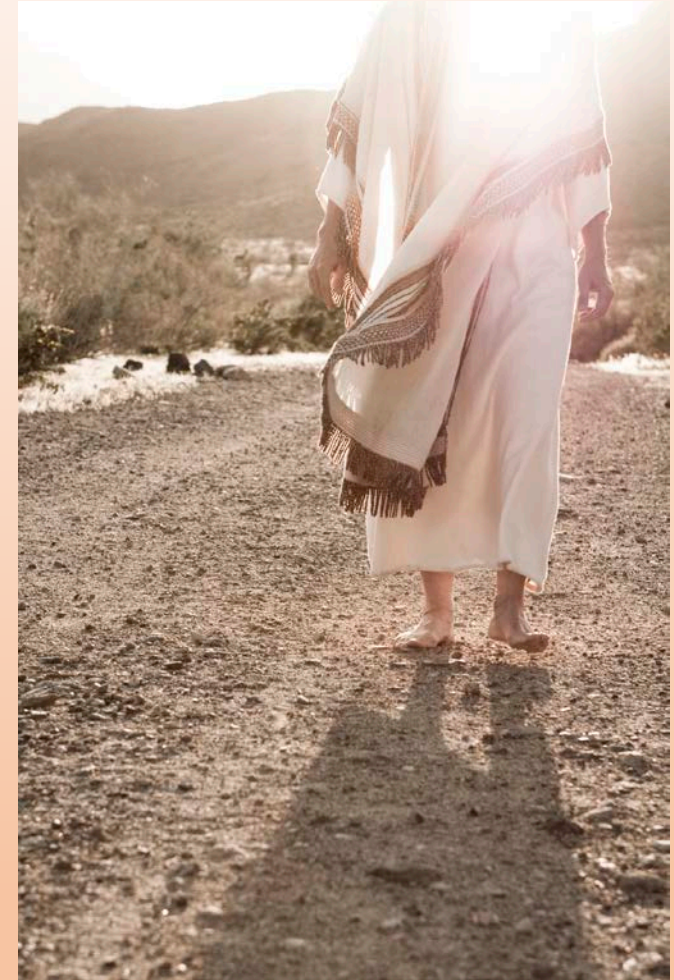
"If you really want to  
experience God, go and  
make disciples."  
Francis Chan



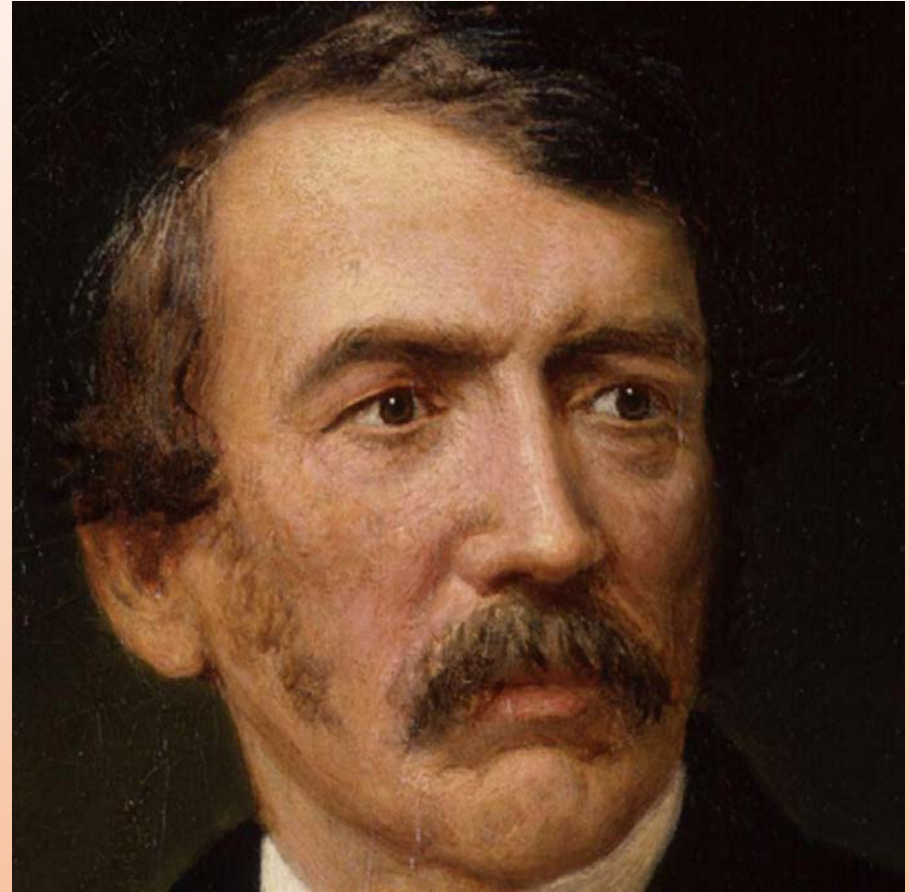


"It is impossible for any rational creature to be happy without acting all for God. God Himself could not make him happy any other way... There is nothing in the world worth living for but doing good and finishing God's work, doing the work that Christ did. I see nothing else in the world that can yield any satisfaction besides living to God, pleasing Him, and doing his whole will."

David Brainerd, (1718-1747), missionary to the American Indians. He died of tuberculosis at 29.



"It is my desire to show my attachment to the cause of Him who died for me by devoting my life to His service."  
David Livingstone



“People who do not know the Lord ask why in the world we waste our lives as missionaries. They forget that they too are expending their lives...and when the bubble has burst they will have nothing of eternal significance to show for the years they have wasted.”

Nate Saint





“We are all missionaries...  
Wherever we go, we either  
bring people nearer to Christ,  
or we repel them from Christ.”  
Eric Liddell



“Then why is it that there is such a lack of the missionary spirit in our churches? It is because there is a neglect of home piety.”  
Ellen G. White,  
Adventist Home, p. 33.



# II. Context





There is an evidence of parallelism between the first and the last week of the ministry of Jesus (see the following slide). This parallelism confirms the desire of John to help every actor of his Gospel to take position regarding Jesus himself.



# Structure of the Gospel of John

INTRO- DUCTION	First Week	1  Feast of Passover	2  After the Feast	3  Jewish Feast	4  Feast of Passover	5  Feast of Taber- nacles	6  Feast of Dedi- cation	7  Feast of Passover	Last Week	CONCU- SION
With God and with Us	Bethany and Galilee	Jerusalem	Judea Samaria Galilee	Jerusalem	Galilee	Jerusalem	Jerusalem	Beyond the Jordan	Jerusalem	Galilee
1: 1 - 1:18	1: 19 - 2:12	2: 13 - 3:21	3: 22 - 4:54	5: 1 - 5:47	6: 1 - 6:71	7: 1 - 10:21	10: 22 - 10:42	11: 1 - 11:54	11: 55 - 20:31	21: 1 - 21:25
WORD Was God  WORD became Flesh	LAMB and the Sins of the world	Destroy this TEMPLE, and in 3 days ...	He would have given you LIVING WATER	You search the Bible and the BIBLE testifies of ME.	I am the BREAD OF LIFE.	I'm the GOOD SHEPHERD	I'm the SON OF GOD.	I'm the RESUR- RECTION AND THE LIFE.	LAMB sacrificed during the PASSOVER	The SHEPHERD calls for other shepherds

# Some connections between the first and the last week of the Ministry of Jesus

## John 1: 35 - 51

Two disciples hear that Jesus  
is the Lamb of God  
and start to follow Him

"Jesus turned"  
"What do you seek?"  
"Rabbi" Where are you staying?

Andrew to Peter  
"We have found Messiah"  
Philippe/Nathanael "We have found"

Statement of doubt  
Statement of belief  
Declaration of seeing and believing

## John 20: 1 - 29

Two disciples hear that Jesus'  
body is missing and start  
to verify everything

"She turned"  
"Whom are you seeking"  
"Rabbonni" Where you have laid Him

Mary to Disciples  
"I have seen the Lord"  
Disciples "We have seen the Lord"

Statement of doubt  
Statement of belief  
Declaration of seeing and believing



## Structure of John 20: 19 - 29

<b>A</b>	Disciples assembled behind closed door	Disciples again assembled with Thomas	<b>A'</b>
<b>B</b>	Jesus appearing in the midst of disciples	Jesus appearing in the midst of disciples	<b>B'</b>
<b>C</b>	Jesus shows His hands and His side to His disciples	Jesus allows Thomas to see His hands and His side	<b>C'</b>
<b>D</b>	Disciples were glad to see Jesus	Thomas' statement of worship after seeing Jesus	<b>D'</b>
<b>E</b>	MISSION AND OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WITH THE POWER OF FORGIVENESS		<b>E'</b>
<b>F</b>	Thomas doesn't want to believe without seeing	Blessing for the faith without seeing	<b>F'</b>

The essential aspect of Jesus' call is in the qualification accompanying the call. He gave the abundance of the Holy Spirit to His disciples and confirmed their authority to forgive, to proclaim the liberty to the captives. Therefore, it is the ability for the mission, conferred by Jesus that qualifies the disciple for his ministry.



# III. Our Mission explained by Jesus





1. Jesus is not asking  
something to His disciples that  
He is not ready to do Himself  
“As the Father has sent Me”



“As God sent me to preach, to be persecuted, and to suffer; to make known his will, and to offer pardon to men, so I send you. This is the design and the extent of the commission of the ministers of the Lord Jesus. He is their model; and they will be successful only as they study his character and imitate his example. This commission he proceeds to confirm by endowing them all with the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Barnes' Notes of the Bible



“Jesus was sent by His Father to accomplish the mission in favor of humanity. When He finish His work, He returned back to His Father. This is the same with us. At the end of our ministry, we will be back to the house of our Father. (John 14: 1 – 3).”  
(DS)





“As the Father sent Jesus to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, so He sent them into all the world. He had a power to send them equal to that which the Father had to send him. “By the same authority that the Father sent me do I send you.” This proves the Godhead of Christ the commissions he gave were of equal authority with those which the Father gave, and as valid and effectual to all intents and purposes, equal with those he gave to the Old-Testament prophets in visions. The commissions of Peter and John, by the plain word of Christ, are as good as those of Isaiah and Ezekiel, by the Lord sitting on his throne nay, equal with that which was given to the Mediator himself for his work. Had he an incontestable authority, and an irresistible ability, for his work? So had they for theirs.”

Matthew Henry

2. Our authority  
comes from God  
who sends us to do  
His will  
"I also send you."



“Holiness does not consist in doing extraordinary things. It consists in accepting, with a smile, what Jesus sends us. It consists in accepting and following the will of God.”

Mother Teresa





“When Jesus left this earth and went to heaven, He put all his work, “his business”, into our hands. He gave us full authority to use his name, so that we might be able to draw from his ‘bank account’ all the reaches and blessings of heaven. Servants of Christ! Learn to use his name properly. Let his name rule in your life. Concentrate on the work he has given you. Jesus says to us: “I have appointed you to go and bear fruit. I have appointed you to be my witnesses to the ends of the earth. I have appointed you to be streams of living water. I have appointed you to pour out upon a parched and suffering world all the reaches and blessings of heaven.”

Thomas Hale, Stephen Thorson, The Applied New Testament Commentary, p. 410.

The world says... “when you grow old you will be able to make your own decisions, go your own way, and control you own destiny.” But Jesus has a different vision of maturity: It is the ability and willingness to be led where you would not rather go... The servant leader is the leader who is being led to unknown, undesirable, and painful places. The way of the Christian leader is not the way of upward mobility in which our world has invested so much, but the way of downward mobility ending on the cross... It is not a leadership of power and control, but a leadership of powerlessness and humility in which the suffering servant of God, Jesus Christ, is made manifest. Jesus sends us out to be shepherds, and Jesus promises a life in which we increasingly have to stretch our hands and be led to places where we would rather not go.”

Henri Nouwen, from *In the Name of Jesus*

3. The call for the mission is  
given in a context of peace  
"Peace to you"





“When our lives are filled with peace,  
faith and joy, people will want to  
know what we have.”

David Jeremiah



"Saying *shalom* (peace) purposefully means to offer a peace treaty, a pledge to live for the other's well-being, a covenant to desire and seek the good life of God's favor together. So *peace*, as translated from the biblical *shalom*, is not merely an absence of civil disturbances but an active pursuit of the well-being of others. It finds its expression in a sharing and caring community. It involves compassion for the needs of others and it extends to the second concept in the title of this paper, justice." James Metzler



The great Teacher explained that his mission upon earth was not to set up a temporal kingdom, emulating the pomp and display of the world, but to establish the reign of peace and love, to bring men to the Father through the mediatorial agency of his Son... "And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh; and they shall be my people, and I will be their God."

There must be a new birth, a new mind through the operation of the Spirit of God, which purifies the life and ennobles the character... No human invention can ever find a remedy for the sinning soul. Only by repentance and humiliation, a submission to the divine requirements, can the work of grace be performed."

Ellen G. White, Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 2. P. 132. 133.



# V. Conclusion



“Without mission, the organization is not truly a church but is simply a group of people intrigued by religion.”  
George Barna, *Evangelism that works*, p. 129.



"The spirit of Christ is a missionary spirit. The very first impulse of the renewed heart is to bring others also to the Saviour."

Ellen G. White,  
The Great Controversy, p. 70.





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John 20: 21

