

## THE DOCTRINE OF THE GREAT COMMISSION

TEXT: (Matthew 28:18-20, NIV)

<sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

### I. JESUS' COMMAND

#### A. Go and Teach

1. "The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life" (Revelation 22:17, NIV).

#### B. Baptize

1. "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned" (Mark 16:16, NIV).
2. "God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God" (1 Peter 3:20-21, NIV).
3. "We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life" (Romans 6:4, NIV).
4. "Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him" (Acts 8:38, NIV).
5. "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12, NIV).
6. "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38, NIV).
7. "The Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 8:16, NIV).
8. "So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ" (Acts 10:48).

#### C. Disciple Them

1. "What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—because anyone who has died has been freed from sin" (Romans 6:1-7, NIV).

### II. JESUS' EXPECTATIONS

1. "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18, KJV).

#### A. To Love One Another and to Love the Lost

1. "By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John

13:35, NIV).

2. "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:3, NIV).

#### B. To Be Fruitful

1. "And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light" (Colossians 1:10-12, NIV).
2. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit" (John 15:5, NIV).

#### C. To Be Holy

1. "But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy" (1 Peter 1:15-16, NIV).
2. "The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7, NIV).
3. "You are the **light** of the **world**. A city on a hill cannot be hidden" (Matthew 5:14).

### III. THE DISCIPLES' RESPONSE

#### A. Waited on God to Prepare Them

1. "I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high" (Luke 24:49, NIV).
2. "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8, NIV).
3. "When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them" (Acts 2:1-4, NIV).

#### B. Performing His Will

1. "After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and he sat at the right hand of God. Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it" (Mark 16:19-20, NIV).
2. "These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also" (Acts 17:6, KJV).
3. "Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day" (Acts 2:41, NIV).
4. "And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47, NIV).
5. "But many who heard the message believed, and the number of men grew to about five thousand" (Acts 4:4, NIV).
6. "Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number" (Acts 5:14, NIV).

### CONCLUSION

1. "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:20).