

Our heavenly commission

Achieving the fullness of the Gentiles

Matthew 6:31-33 ESV

³¹Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³²For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

1. On Earth as it is in Heaven

- **Matthew 6:10**
¹⁰Your kingdom come,
your will be done,^[a]
on earth as it is in heaven.

2. Working in concert

- **Signs and wonders**
Mark 16:17-18
¹⁷And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; ¹⁸they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."
- **By the Holy Spirit**
Zechariah 4:6
⁶Then he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts.
- **To glorify God**
Psalm 91:11-12
¹¹For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.
¹²On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.

- **Love for God first!**

Mark 12:30-31

³⁰ And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ **The second is this:** 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

3. God wants his family

- **Ephesians 1:5**

⁵ he predestined us^(a) for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

- **2 Kings 6:16-18**

¹⁶ He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." ¹⁷ Then Elisha prayed and said, "O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see." So the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. ¹⁸ And when the Syrians came down against him, Elisha prayed to the LORD and said, "Please strike this people with blindness." So he struck them with blindness in accordance with the prayer of Elisha.

- **His sheep know his voice**

John 10:15-16

¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

4. Our purpose: Fullness of the Gentiles

- **Blessings to the gentiles will bring fullness to Israel**

Romans 11:12

¹² Now if their ^(a)fall is riches for the world, and their failure riches for the Gentiles, how much more their fullness!

- **Our purpose**

Romans 11:25

²⁵ For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own ^(a)opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.

- **Until that time**

Luke 21:24

²⁴ And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

- **Faith that overcomes the world, even our faith!**

1 John 5:4

⁴ For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—^{the}our faith.

5. What challenges we face

- **Blindness, a veil on their hearts**

2 Corinthians 3:14

¹⁴ But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the *veil* is taken away in Christ.

- **The god of this age has blinded them**

2 Corinthians 4:4

⁴ whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

- **Hardened hearts**

Matthew 13:15,

¹⁵ For the hearts of this people have grown dull.

Their ears are hard of hearing,

And their eyes they have closed,

Lest they should see with *their* eyes and hear with *their* ears,

Lest they should understand with *their* hearts and turn,

So that I ^{the}should heal them.'

Ezekiel 36:26

²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

- **Hearts and minds**

Luke 6:45

⁴⁵ A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil ^{the}treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks

Proverbs 23:7,

⁷ For as he thinks in his heart, so *is* he.

"Eat and drink!" he says to you,

But his heart is not with you.

Ephesians 6:12

¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of ^{the}the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

- **The power for Salvation**

Romans 1:16

The Just Live by Faith

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel [a]of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

- **They must repent and come to the end of themselves**

Psalm 51:3-6

³ For I acknowledge my transgressions,
And my sin *is* always before me.

⁴ Against You, You only, have I sinned,
And done *this* evil in Your sight—
That You may be found just ^{the}when You speak,
And blameless when You judge.

⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
And in sin my mother conceived me.

⁶ Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts,
And in the hidden *part* You will make me to know wisdom.

- **They must fall on the Mercy of God**

2 Samuel 24:14,

¹⁴ And David said to Gad, "I am in great distress. Please let us fall into the hand of the LORD, for His mercies *are* great; but do not let me fall into the hand of man."

Proverbs 28:13

¹³ He who covers his sins will not prosper,
But whoever confesses and forsakes *them* will have mercy.

6. What does fullness look like for us and Israel?

- Daniel 9:24

The Seventy Weeks

²⁴ "Seventy weeks^[a] are decreed about your people and your holy city, to **finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place.**^[b]

1. Finish transgression / Put God first and Love God.

Mark 12:30-31

³⁰ And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

2. Make and end to sin / Repent.

2 Corinthians 7:9-11

⁹ As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were grieved into repenting. For you felt a godly grief, so that you suffered no loss through us.

¹⁰ For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death. ¹¹ For see what earnestness this godly grief has produced in you, but also what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what punishment! At every point you have proved yourselves innocent in the matter.

3. Make reconciliation for iniquity / testify and sacrifice.

Acts 10:42-43,

⁴² And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Romans 12:1-2

A Living Sacrifice

12 I appeal to you therefore, brothers,^[a] by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.^[b] **2** Do not be conformed to this world,^[c] but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.^[d]

- 4. Bring everlasting Righteousness / Share the Gospel when prompted.**
Revelations 14:6-7

The Messages of the Three Angels

6 Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. **7** And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

- 5. Seal up Vision and Prophecy / verify and honor Spiritual gifts.**
1 Corinthians 14:1

Prophecy and Tongues

14 Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.

- 6. Anoint the Most Holy Place / Honor God and Worship Jesus.**
Hebrews 1:8-9

8 But of the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom.

9 You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."