



“The Great Commission”

Matthew 28:16–20

The Resurrection of the King

Matthew 28:16–20

¹⁶ But the eleven disciples proceed to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated. ¹⁷ When they saw Him, they worshiped Him, but some were doubtful. ¹⁸ And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Intro: The “FOUR ALL’S” in (vv.18–20) ...

- 1) ALL authority (v.18)
- 2) ALL Nations (v.19)
- 3) Obey ALL I have commanded you (v.20a)
- 4) I am with you ALL-ways (v.20b)

1. Jesus’ Authority (vv.16–18)

“But the eleven disciples proceed to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated. ¹⁷ When they saw Him, they worshiped Him, but some were doubtful.” (vv.16–17)

Matthew 28:7 – “Go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going ahead of you into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold, I have told you.”

Matthew 28:10 – “then Jesus said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; go and take word to My brethren to leave for Galilee, and there they will see Me.’”

1 Corinthians 15:6 – “After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep.”

“And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.’” (v.18)

John 19:10–11 – “So Pilate said to Him, ‘You do not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You, and I have the authority to crucify You?’ ¹¹ Jesus answered, ‘You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above; for this reason he who delivered Me to you has the greater sin.’”

Matthew’s gospel repeats the theme over and over again...

- Jesus has all authority in teaching (Matthew 7:29)
- Jesus has all authority in healing (Matthew 8:1–13)
- Jesus has all authority in forgiving sins (Matthew 9:6)
- Jesus has all authority over Satan and demons (Luke 4:36)
- ...and He delegates that authority to the disciples (Matthew 10:1)

Matthew 10:1 – “Jesus summoned His twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.”

Hebrews 9:27 – “...it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment.”

Ezekiel 18:20 – “The person who sins will die.”

2. Our Commission (v.19–20a)

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you,”

Mark 16:15 – “And He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.’”

Mark 16:14 – “Afterward He appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at the table; and He reproached them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who had seen Him after He had risen.”

Psalm 51:5 – “Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me.”

Mark 16:15–16 – “And He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.’”

Mark 10:5-6 – “These twelve Jesus sent out after instructing them: ‘Do not go in the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter any city of the Samaritans; ⁶ but rather go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.’”

What did Jesus tell us?

- “Don’t lay up treasure on the earth.” (Matthew 6:19)
- “Don’t lean on your own understanding.” (Proverbs 3:5)
- “Don’t let your heart be troubled.” (John 14).
- “Don’t look at those things which are seen.” (2 Corinthians 4:18).
- “Do not lose what we have accomplished.” (2 John 8).
- “Do not love this world.” (1 John 2:15)
- “Do not lie to one another.” (Colossians 3:9)

3. Jesus’ presence (v.20b)

(v.20) “Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Several Assurances:

- 1) Jesus will help you.
- 2) You will recognize Him.
- 3) You will speak His message with authority.
- 4) And you will have His presence.

Discussion Questions

1. How should Christians view the Great Commission—as a joy or a burden? Why?
2. What does it look like to be a disciple of Jesus?
3. How can believers make disciples in their daily lives?
4. How can you be more intentional about using your abilities to fulfill the Great Commission?
5. What does it mean to “teach them to obey all that Jesus has commanded you”?