

✘ The church will be an eternal testimony.

↳ Ephesians 3:10, 21

Let Us Pursue This DESTINY As The Church of Jesus!

✘ Consider The Invitation of Jesus!

1. Count the Cost of following Jesus! (Luke 14:27-33)

a. Luke 14:27 ~ “And whoever does not **bear his cross and come after Me** cannot be My disciple.”

b. Luke 14:28-32 ~ Build a Tower / Go to War...

c. Luke 14:33 ~ “So likewise, whoever of you **does not forsake all that he has** cannot be My disciple.”



2. Calibrate your life around this purpose.

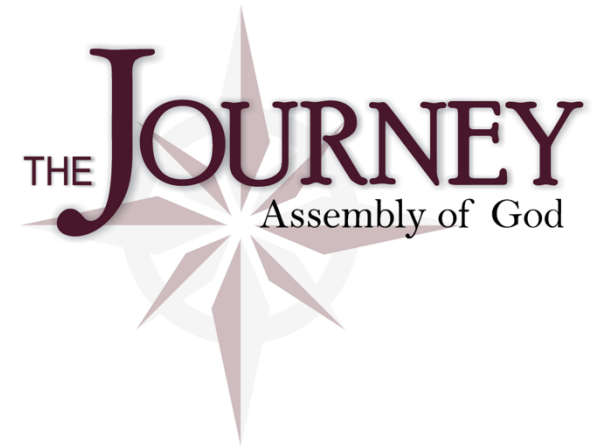
✘ Commit Yourself to The Call of Jesus!

1. Understand the mission – the power of the gospel is salvation to everyone who believes / understanding that not all will respond!

2. Answer the Call of God – Commit yourself wholeheartedly to the task – “Here am I, Lord, send me!”

✘ Response: “I Have Decided To Follow Jesus!” ⁷

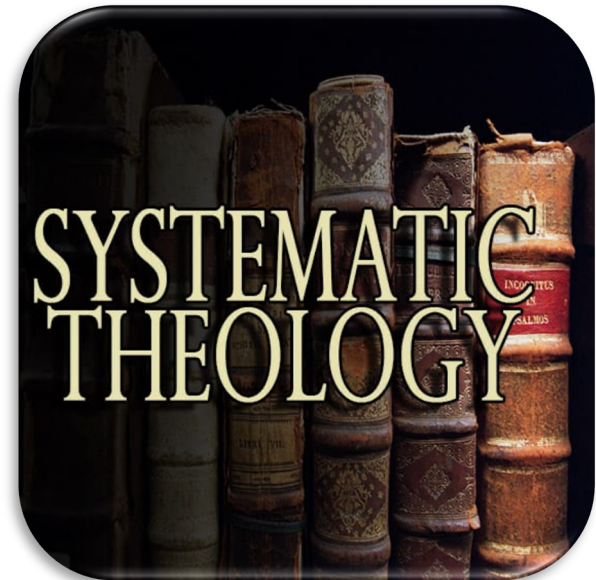
DESTINY



MESSAGE GUIDE

Speaker: Pastor Mark Geer

Sunday: April 28, 2024



Message Talk Sheet

Date: April 28, 2024

Speaker: Pastor Mark Geer

SERIES: SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY
FOR DAILY LIVING

"A Practical Look at the Study of God &
Elements of Biblical & Spiritual Truth"

Today's Message:

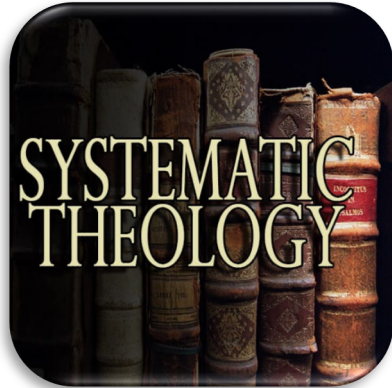
ECCLESIOLOGY (Part 12)

The Doctrine of the New Testament Church:

The Purpose of the Church

[Part C – "Its Destiny: The Church Will Not Convert the World; But Will Have a Place of Blessing & Honor in the World to Come"]

Scriptures: Matthew 9:37-38; 24:4-14; Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8;
1 Timothy 4:1-3; Revelation 1:6; 20:4-6



ECCLESIOLOGY ~ "The Doctrine of the New Testament Church"

Introduction

- ✘ The Church Will Not Convert the World... Nevertheless, we are called to be Change-Agents! Difference Makers!
- ✘ The Purpose of the Church is Tied to its Mission.
 - ↳ That Missions is All About World-Wide Global Missions.
 - ↳ Mark 16:15 ~ "Go **into all the world** and preach the gospel **to every creature.**"
- ✘ 1914 – Second General Council of the Assemblies of God:
"As a Council... we commit ourselves and the Movement to Him for **the greatest evangelism** that the world has ever seen." ¹
 - ↳ Since 1914 the Assemblies of God has...
 - a. Established 444,768 Churches!
 - b. Recognized 433,263 Ministers!
 - c. Recorded 85,393,883 Followers!
 - d. Commissioned 5,268 Missionaries! ²



The Destiny of the Church...

Destiny

- ✘ The Church has been commissioned to go into all the world and make disciples of all nations!
 - ↳ Matthew 28:19-20; Luke 24:46-49; Acts 1:8
 - ↳ "The Scriptures do not direct us to convert the world, but to evangelize it." ³
- ✘ "Evangelization begins in a study of needs (John 4:28-38; c. Matt. 9:36-38), and so every church should study missions."
 - ↳ It finds expression in...
 - 1) Missionary Intercession (Matt. 9:38).
 - 2) Missionary Contributions (Phil. 4:15-18).
 - 3) The Sending of Missionaries (Acts 13:1-3; 14:26; Rom. 10:15).
 - 4) Going Forth into the Mission Fields (Romans 1:13-15; 15:20) ⁴

The Church Will Not Convert the World...

- ✘ It's clear according to the Scriptures that the church is not going to win the whole world to Christ. ⁵
 - ↳ Scriptures: Matthew 24:4-14; 1 Timothy 4:1; cf. 2 Timothy 3:1-9; Luke 17:26f.
 - ↳ This truth is taught by the parable of the tares (Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43) and the parable of the dragnet (Matt. 13:47-50).



The Church Will Occupy A Place of *BLESSING* and *HONOR* in the World to Come. ⁶

- ✘ The church will be united to Christ.
 - ↳ As the bride of Christ (2 Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:27) at the marriage of the Lamb is foretold (Revelation 19:7).
- ✘ The church will be reign with Christ.
 - ↳ 1 Corinthians 6:2; Revelation 1:6; 2:26-27; 3:21; 20:4-6; 22:5
 - ↳ 1 Corinthians 6:3; 2 Timothy 2:11-13; Romans 8:17



✘ MY NEXT STEP TODAY IS TO...

- ❑ Determine to Share My Faith in Jesus ~ There is a lost world waiting to hear.
- ❑ Pray to the Lord of the Harvest ~ To send forth workers into the fields.
- ❑ Consider The Invitation of Jesus ~ Count the Cost of following Jesus!
- ❑ Commit Yourself to The Call of Jesus ~ Understand the Mission / Answer the Call!
- ❑ Decide to Follow Jesus ~ Make a faith decision by prayerfully placing my **faith** in Jesus Christ, God's Son, and by **recognizing Him** as my personal Lord and Savior – asking and receiving the forgiveness of my sins.



ENDNOTES:

- ¹ AG News, *This Week In AG History* – Nov. 14, 1914, <https://news.ag.org/en/article-repository/news/2020/11/this-week-in-ag-history-nov-14-1914#:~:text=%E2%80%9CA%20a%20Council%2C%20we%20hereby,the%20world%20has%20ever%20seen>. Online Resource (Accessed 4-25-2024).
- ² AG Statistics, *Statistics on the Assemblies of God USA [and worldwide]*, <https://ag.org/About/Statistics>. Online Resource (Accessed 4-25-2024).
- ³ Thiessen, Henry C., Revised by Vernon D. Doerksen, *Lectures in Systematic Theology* (Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1949 – Revised in 1979, Reprinted February 1989), 332.
- ⁴ Ibid.
- ⁵ Thiessen, Henry C., 333.
- ⁶ Ibid.
- ⁷ *Renewal Journal – A Chronicle of Renewal and Revival, The true story behind the song 'I have decided to follow Jesus'* <https://renewaljournal.com/2017/11/29/the-true-story-behind-the-song-i-have-decided-to-follow-jesus/>, 29 November 2017. Online Resource (Accessed 4-23-24)



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- ⁴ Ibid.
- ⁵ Thiessen, Henry C., 333.
- ⁶ Ibid.
- ⁷ *Renewal Journal – A Chronicle of Renewal and Revival, The true story behind the song 'I have decided to follow Jesus'* <https://renewaljournal.com/2017/11/29/the-true-story-behind-the-song-i-have-decided-to-follow-jesus/>, 29 November 2017. Online Resource (Accessed 4-23-24)