

Ambassador: Mastering the Art of Biblical Persuasion

6 - The Goal of the Ambassador

February 25, 2018
Sunday Evening Bible Study

1. The Task of the Ambassador
 - 1.1. The Great Commission
 - Matthew 28:18-20 - And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and ***make disciples of all nations***, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
 - 1.2. Does this line up with 2 Corinthians 5:20?
 - 1.3. 2 Corinthians 5:11 - What is Paul talking about here?
 - The Judgement Seat of Christ
 - Argument from the Lesser to the Greater
 - Persuading the Nations through Two Locations (Acts 17:2-4; 18:4; 19:8; 28:23-24)

2. The Goal of the Ambassador
 - 2.1. “Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exist because worship doesn’t. Worship is ultimate, not missions, because God is ultimate, not man. When this age is over, and the countless millions of the redeemed fall on their faces before the throne of God, missions will be no more. It is a temporary necessity. But worship abides forever.” (John Piper, Let the Nations be Glad, p. 35)
 - 2.2. “The goal of missions is the gladness of the people in the greatness of God.” (p. 35) (Psalm 97:1; 67:3-4)
 - 2.3. Does this connect with Pauls message in 2 Corinthians? (2 Corinthians 4:15)

3. The Glory of God
 - 3.1. What do the scriptures say about God’s glory?
 - God will not give his glory to another - Isaiah 48:9-11
 - God created his people for his glory - Isaiah 43:6-7
 - God raised up Pharaoh to show his power and glorify his name - Romans 9:17
 - God did not cast away his people for the glory of his name - 1 Samuel 12:20, 22
 - God restored Israel from exile for the glory of his name - Ezekiel 36:22-23, 32
 - Jesus told us to do good works so that God gets glory - Matthew 5:16
 - Jesus endured his final hours of suffering for God’s glory - John 12:27-28
 - God forgives our sins for his own sake - Isaiah 43:25
 - Even in God’s wrath, God makes known his glory - Romans 9:22-23
 - God’s plan is to fill the earth with the knowledge of his glory - Habakkuk 2:14
 - God instructs us to do everything for his glory - 1 Corinthians 10:31
 - In the new Jerusalem, the glory of God replaces the sun - Revelation 21:23
 - God is glorified as his grace extends to more people - 2 Corinthians 4:15

“The great end of God’s works, which is so variously expressed in Scripture, is indeed but ONE; and this one end is most properly and comprehensively called, THE GLORY OF GOD” (Jonathan Edwards, The Dissertation Concerning the End for Which God Created the World, Chapter 2, Section VII)

- 3.2. Westminster Shorter Catechism - What is the chief end of man? To glorify God.....
- 3.3. The Mission of First Bible Church - "To glorify God....."
- 3.4. Missions and God's glory - Romans 15:8-12 (2 Sam 22:50; Ps 18:49; Deut 32:43, Ps 117:1; Isa 11:10)

4. Worship

- 4.1. Definition of worship - "Worship is essentially an inner stirring of the heart to treasure God above all the treasures of the world.....worship is right affections in the heart towards God, rooted in right thoughts in the head about God, becoming visible in the right actions of the body reflecting God..... worship is seeing, savoring and showing the glory of God" (Let the Nations be Glad, p. 231-232)
 - Right Affection - Matthew 15:8-9
 - Right Thinking - John 4:23
 - Right Actions - Matthew 5:16

"And as in worldly things, worldly affections are very much the spring of men's motion and action; so in religious matters, the spring of their actions is very much religious affection: he that has doctrinal knowledge and speculation only, without affection, never is engaged in the business of religion." Jonathan Edwards, Religious Affections (p 13)

- Heart of Worship = being satisfied with God in Christ
 - Example of Paul - Philippians 1:21 — 4:11-13 — 3:20-4:1 — 3:12-14
 - Westminster Confession Q1 - A1 To glorify God and enjoy him forever. (Ps 34:8; 37:4, Matt 22:37, Phil 4:4)
- 4.2. Worship in Spirit and Truth (John 4:23)
 - Focus is not outward and physical but rather inward spiritual experience of the heart
 - Old Testament vs New Testament
 - A Change in vocabulary
 - Not bound by localized place or outward form
- 4.3. Style of Worship
 - Little is said of style of worship in the New Testament
 - Orderly, Decent and Edifying (1 Corinthians 14:26-40)
 - The Value of Mission Trips - You really get to experience a wide array of styles
- 4.4. The Hope of the Nations
 - Declare his glory among the nations (Ps. 96:3, 18:49, 57:9, 108:3, 105:1, Isa. 12:4)
 - The nations are called to worship God (Psalm 117:1)
 - The nations shall come to God's light (Isaiah 60:3, Ps. 45:17, 86:9, Isa. 11:10, 66:18)
 - Expectant hope that the nations will praise God (Psalm 67:1-5, 72:17)
 - Paul's view of the missionary task fulfilling these promises (Acts 13:46-49)
- 4.5. Hypocrisy in Worship - Matthew 15:8
 - Do people get a proper perspective of God through watching you worship? Both in corporate worship and in your daily life?