



Go for God!

“REACHING THE WORLD FOR CHRIST!”

Acts Chapter 11

(v1) Let us RECEIVE the Word of God!

- Why should we receive the Word of God?

(1) Because the Word of God testifies of the Messiah - John 5:39-40 - *You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.*

(2) Because the words of our Messiah (Jesus Christ) offers us “eternal life” - John 6:66-69 - *From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. Then Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?" But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."*

(3) Because the Word of God multiplies soul winning and brings obedience - Acts 6:7 - *Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.*

(4) Because the Word of God will yield much fruit in the believer’s life & our prayers will be answered- John 15:7-8 - *If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.*

(5) Because we are called to “keep His Word” & in turn He will keep us from the Great Tribulation - Revelation 3:8, 10-11 - *I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name. . . Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.*

(v2-18) Let us have REPENTANCE to Life!

(v2-3) Prejudicial contention - Who is Jesus? He was Jewish. He is the Son of God. What was the color of his skin, his eyes, and his hair? The Bible is silent, without description. However, we do have a description of Him in heaven after His resurrection – Revelation 1:14-16 - *His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.*

- Paul writes about humanity in Acts 17:26 - *And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth,*

(v4-18) Review Cornelius salvation, two key points:

#1- The Holy Spirit came upon these gentiles & they began to speak in various languages magnifying God! (Acts 10:46)

#2 - *What is repentance to life?* “Repent” is the translation of a Greek verb *metanoeo*, meaning to have another mind, to change the mind, and is used in the NT to indicate a change of mind in respect to sin, God, and self. The son in Mt. 21:28-32 illustrates true repentance. Repentance is not an act separate from faith, but saving faith includes and implies that change of mind, which is called repentance (C.I. Scofield).

- Observe 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 regarding the old sinful life - *Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.*

- This change of mind may, especially in the case of Christians who have fallen into sin, be preceded by sorrow; but sorrow for sin, though it may cause repentance, is not repentance.

- *Notice the traits of true repentance in 2 Corinthians 7:8-11 - For even if I made you sorry with my letter, I do not regret it; though I did regret it. For I perceive that the same epistle made you sorry, though only for a while. Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death. For observe this very thing, that you sorrowed in a godly manner: What diligence it produced in you, what clearing of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what vehement desire, what zeal, what vindication! In all things you proved yourselves to be clear in this matter.*

- (1) diligence (earnestness)
- (2) clearing (clearing of self)
- (3) indignation (a hating of sin)
- (4) fear (reverence for God)
- (5) desire (to know God)
- (6) zeal (to live for God)
- (7) vindication (testimony to the life changing power of Christ.)

(v19-29) Let us REACH the World for Christ!

(v19-21) Once again the Word is preached, and the Lord Jesus is preached!

Results: Many are SAVED!

(v22-26) Barnabas School of Discipleship:

(1) See the grace & be glad!

(2) Encourage others in the Lord!

(3) Be a good person, be full of the Holy Spirit!

- Ephesians 5:18-21- *And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another in the fear of God.*

- Be full of faith! – Hebrews 11:6- *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him;*

(4) Be a Soul-winner!

(5) Christian discipleship (teach the people).

(v27-30) “Relief” work- Winston Churchill once said, “We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give.”

- Jesus said, “*It is more blessed to give, than to receive.*”

- Paul writes to us in 2 Corinthians 9:6-8- *But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.*