

- 2 Cor. 5:18-19
- Romans 10:14-15
- Revelation 7:9-10

So what is the mission of God?

Andreas Kostenberger/Peter O'Brian – “That his salvation would reach the utter ends of the earth: that is, his gracious movement in his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to rescue a desperately needy world that is in rebellion against him and stands under his righteous judgment.”

Jonathan Edwards - “The creation of the world seems to have been especially for this end, that the eternal Son of God might obtain a spouse toward whom he might fully exercise the infinite benevolence of his nature, and to whom he might, as it were, open and pour forth all that immense fountain of condescension, love, and grace that was in his heart, and that in this way God might be glorified.”

J.H. Bavink – “Missions is the great work of Jesus Christ, through which after his completed work as mediator, he draws all peoples to his salvation and makes them to partake of the gifts which he has obtained for them.”

This lesson was adapted from CHBC's Core Seminar curriculum:
www.capitolhillbaptist.org/resources/core-seminars

Missions: Life in light of God's glory

Week 1

What fuels God's passion for missions?

- The glory of God is the starting point of missions.

Isaiah 40:25 *“To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?” says the Holy One. Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these?*

- The global praise of God's glory is the end goal of missions.

Psalm 67:3-4...*May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations of the earth.*

- Our passion to trumpet God's greatness must be rooted in His passion for His own glory.

Isaiah 48:9-11...*For my own name's sake I delay my wrath; for the sake of my praise I hold it back from you, so as not to cut you off. See, I have refined you, though not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction. For my own sake, for my own sake, I do this. How can I let myself be defamed? I will not yield my glory to another.*

Isn't it a contradiction to say that a loving God is self-serving? No!

Reason 1: “God is not an idolater.”

Reason 2: Exalting his own glory is how He loves us!

God himself is the most excellent and glorious being in the universe, for God to be truthful He must work to exalt his own glory above all else.

🔑 God, give us holy imaginations as we discuss these things.

- God is glorious in specific ways, not just abstract ways.
- God's twin passions, justice and mercy, are made one in the cross of Christ.

Romans 15:8-9... *For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs so that the Gentiles may glorify God for his mercy, as it is written: "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing hymns to your name."*

(See also - Matthew 9:36-38 and Ephesians 1:5-14)

Because of His passion for His own glory, God exults in the joy of His people through their praise for His mercy. The real power of missions comes as God's people are caught up in this passion.

🔑 What fuels OUR passion for missions?

- A knowledge of God – not of “missions.”

His Sufficiency, His Sovereignty, His Wisdom, His Gospel

Missions is not a recruitment project for God's labor force. It is a liberation project from the heavy burdens and hard yokes of other gods. - John Piper, Let the Nations Be Glad

Ephesians 3:10...*His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms.*

A Biblical Theology of Missions

1. The Bible has the whole world in view as God's possession (Genesis 1:1, Psalm 24, Acts 17:26)
2. The Bible presents God as the only true and global deity (Jer. 10:10a and Duet. 4:39)
3. God's people called out from among the nations for God's blessing and glory among nations (Gen 12:3 and Isaiah 37:20)

- Gen. 3:15
- Gen. 12:3
- Isaiah 2:2-3
- Isaiah 19:23-25
- Zech. 8:23
- Psalm 68:31
- Psalm 45:17
- Psalm 67:1-3
- Luke 2:29-32
- Matt. 24:14
- Matt. 28:18-20
- Acts 2:33