

## Go Ye Therefore

Text: Matt. 28:16-20

Date: 5-17-20 Drive-In Service

### I. The \_\_\_\_\_ of our Mission (Matt. 28:16-17).

Jesus was indeed God in the flesh, their Lord, and now their Savior as well. **A \_\_\_\_\_ Savior is worthy of worship.** The risen Savior not only breathed new life into the disciples, it became the catalyst for the first century church and the propagation of the Gospel. As we are about to see, the mission has not nor will not change in the church age in 2020.

### II. The \_\_\_\_\_ for our Mission (Matt. 28:18).

Jesus now speaks with His disciples and what He is about to say is life-changing, world-changing, and impacts every single believer. This is a powerful vision and a vision of power.

“The NT concept rests on three foundations. First, the power indicated is the power to decide. Second, this decision takes place in ordered relationships, all of which reflect God’s lordship. Third, as a divinely given authority to act, *exousía* implies freedom for the community. In relation to Christ’s person and work *exousía* denotes the divinely given right and power to act along with the related freedom (Mt. 28:18; Rev. 12:10).<sup>1</sup> **The word power here includes both the right of absolute power and the resources of that power to act and carry out the authority.**

Jesus has both sovereign power and sovereign authority in Heaven. He is over all angelic beings. Principalities and powers are under His control and His authority. The devil himself is under the same power and authority. Cherubim and seraphim are under Him. Col. 1:16ff tells us that Christ created all things in heaven, whether they are thrones, dominions, principalities, or powers. He is before all things and by Him all things consist (*held together in unity*). Jesus holds all of these under His power and authority. Nothing goes past Him without His allowance. Heaven is under His control.

Jesus also has absolute power and authority over the earth. Every single king and peasant and everyone in between are under His divinely appointed control and authority. They all come and go, but He remains. Nothing happens on this earth without first going through Him. Nothing sneaks past Jesus. Nothing gets around Jesus. Nothing is unknown to Jesus.

This sovereign power over everyone and everything, this power to act and carry out His authority, and the resources to carry this out is based and absolutely connected to His Resurrection.

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<sup>1</sup> Kittel, G., Friedrich, G., & Bromiley, G. W. (1985). *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament* (p. 239). Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans.

A dead person doesn't have this power. A dead person still in the grave is powerless. Christ rose from the dead and is exalted at the right hand of the Father. John 17, Phil. 2; Heb. 1:1-3; Rev. 1.

Jesus has all the rights and authority because He has proven who He is and who He was throughout the Gospel of Matthew. It is all true. Therefore the risen Lord, who is always present with us, can and will tell us what we are to do. He commands obedience because His position and power give Him the authority to do that.

The commission that Christ gave in the next 2 verses is then based on this sovereign power and authority.

### III. \_\_\_\_\_ on the Mission (Matt. 28:19-20a).

A person cannot do the imperative of teaching the nations without going. The force of the participle here would be *while you are going*. You cannot teach by not doing something. You have opportunity and by the command that follows to be going and doing what Christ commissions.

*Going* implies action and it also implies authority. This word *therefore* links our authority to do this task with the divine authority of Jesus Christ. There is no other higher or other authority needed for the task.

**How do believers make disciples?** By proclaiming the truth of who Jesus Christ is. By proclaiming the truth that is contained in God's Word regarding Christ. This is a call to evangelism and discipleship. We must preach, teach, and train followers of Christ. We must teach them the truth and not water down or change the gospel.

### IV. \_\_\_\_\_ for the Mission (Matt. 28:20b).

## CONCLUSION

**So** Mission impossible has turned into Mission obtainable. The mission to tell the nations would be pointless without the risen Savior. Who wants to tell the world that their sins can be forgiven by a dead man? While all other major world religions have a dead leader, Jesus is alive. He has the authority to command this mission to those who truly follow Him.

The final words of Jesus as recorded in Matthew are cemented in church history. This task that Jesus commended to His followers that day is much more than the words written here on the final page of Matthew chapter 28. All of the Gospel of Matthew is the basis for this commission. In fact all the words of Scripture are the foundation for this mandate.