**The Mission Heart of God – For His Glory**

**(Romans 10:11-15)**

***Pastor Kelvin Yong***

As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” (Romans 10:11-15)

# Introduction

People are indeed saved by the global declaration of God’s salvation, but the ultimate value of their salvation is not to be seen in what they are saved from, it is what they are saved for that really matters. People are saved to serve God in worship. In this respect, we can say that world evangelisation is for God. – Steven C. Hawthorne, Way Makers

What Hawthorne is saying is that missions is really for God and His glory. Missions is not just about saving souls; it is about glorifying God. It is about why Jesus came 2000 years ago. He came to reveal God’s glory to the whole world.



**BIG IDEA**

**Missions is about the pursuit of God’s glory among the nations**

The book of Romans is a fundraising letter to solicit support so that the Gospel can reach the Western part of the Roman empire. Paul’s end goal is to delight God’s heart in worship, and that should also be our end goal.

THREE THINGS THAT WILL MARK THE FULFILMENT OF THIS INTENT:

# Christ’s Name exalted in all the earth

The problem is that we sometimes exalt our evangelistic efforts more than we exalt the name of Jesus Christ.

…for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”(Romans 10:13)

God has filled our hearts with His compassion, but compassion alone is not enough to sustain our passion for mission. We need to know why we are doing what we are doing. We need to have the big picture of God in mind, the centrality of Christ in all that we do.

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:9-11)

Jesus’ name is to be exalted for God’s glory. Jesus has liberated us to love Him, serve Him and worship Him. We are to worship God not only with our songs but with our lives.

All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, Lord; they will bring glory to your name. (Psalm 86:9)

The name of Jesus will be exalted, and nations will come to worship Him and glorify Him.

# Christ’s Good News preached to all the nations

Before the name of Jesus can be exalted and the nations come to worship and glorify Him, Christ’s Good News has to be preached to all the nations. The Good News of Jesus Christ is the best news ever. However, the Good News is not just for us to receive, but it is for the nations. Paul understood that, and that became his mission, to preach the Gospel where Christ is not known, for the Good News of Jesus Christ is a message of hope for all who believe.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. (Romans 1:16)

The Gospel has the power to save, first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.

For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him… (Romans 10:12)

The Jew and Gentile mentioned in the scripture above represents the nations of the world. The word “Gentile” comes from the Greek word Helien, which refers to all Greek speaking non-Jews such as Aeolians, Dorians, Achaeans, and Ionians. That also includes all the Cantonese, Hokkien, Hainanese, Ibans, Jakuns and every people group. God loves all of them and wants to redeem them all. Everything Jesus did and said while He was on earth was for this purpose.

Before Jesus ascended to heaven, He gave us instructions to continue the work that He had started, and that is to preach the Good News to all the nations.

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. (Matthew 24:14)

The heart and passion of God is for every people group, every tribe and nation and tongue, to be represented in heaven one day.

# Christ’s Mandate obeyed by His followers

It is crucial that Christ’s mandate is obeyed by His followers. As followers of Jesus Christ, we have all been given a mandate, and that mandate is in the form of the Great Commission. Our call is to obey the Great Commission, which is about following the footsteps of Jesus Christ.

# Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” (John 20:21)

Jesus was sent by the Father as a missionary to us, and now Jesus is sending us as missionaries to the world. God wants to involve us and He wants us to partner with Him on a global mission. When we say yes to Jesus, He has promised not to leave us or forsake us. He will be with us to the end. He will be like a pillar of cloud and a pillar of fire to go with us.

How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” (Romans 10:14-15)

There are many people who are waiting for someone to tell them about Jesus, so that they may call on Him and be saved. When God touches our heart, we respond willingly, but very few of us will obey Him when He calls us.

We need to partner not only with God, but with each other in missions. All of us have a call from God, which is the Great Commission. That is the general call of God. However, each of us has a specific call from God, depending on the gifts and talents He has given us.

Besides going on mission trips, here is what we can do in support of missions and God’s work:

1. **GIVE** – Give towards missions, to invest in specific projects and specific needs.
2. **GET** – Get information and updates about the people and missions we are contributing towards
3. **GO** – Go to God with the updates and information we have received and pray about it.

Pray for missionaries and let them know that we are praying for them, because they need the encouragement.

Join a short-term mission trip. If you think you cannot teach or preach, you can share your testimony. Your testimony is a powerful story of what God has done for you in your life, in which you can share to encourage others. Also, you can just be there. This is called the ministry of presence. Our presence can be a great encouragement to fellow Christians in those nations, to know that we are taking time out to be with them and to connect with them. There are so many things that we can do. We can serve the people around us, the migrants, the refugees, the international students, the indigenous people.

# Conclusion

Missions is for God, and missions is for His glory.

God has revealed His glory to the world through Jesus Christ so that nations will love Him, serve Him and glorify Him.

Praise be to his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen and Amen. (Psalm 72:19)

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. (Revelation 7:9)

This scriptural illustration is the glorious picture we will one day see in heaven. This will become a reality when the name of Jesus Christ is exalted in all the nations, when the Good News is preached to all the world, and the mandate is obeyed by all followers of Jesus Christ, and that includes you and me.



Sermon summary by Anthea Tan.