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# THE MISSION OF GOD

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## Talk 1: The Mission of God

*"If I had only one hour to save the world, I would spend fifty-five minutes defining the problem, and only five minutes finding the solution."*

Albert Einstein

### INTRODUCTION

- **"Mission"**

- **Narrow**

- **Broad**

### The three stage mission of God

*Luke 24:45-48*

1.

2.

3.

### Implications

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# 1. THE GOD OF MISSION

## The Creator Creates Creation: Gen 1:1

- **Worship**

Colossians 1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

Revelation 4:11 “You are worthy, our Lord and God,  
to receive glory and honor and power,  
for you created all things,  
and by your will they were created  
and have their being.”

- **Idolatry**

Psalms 19:1-2 The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.  
Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they display knowledge.

Romans 1:19 ... what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 20 For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

Exodus 20:2 “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 3 “You shall have no other gods before me. 4 You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. 5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God.”

Isaiah 45: 20 Ignorant are those who carry about idols of wood,  
who pray to gods that cannot save.

Romans 1:25 They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

- **Conquest**

Genesis 3:15      “And I will put enmity  
between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;  
he will crush your head,  
and you will strike his heel.”

Psalms 22:27-28      All the ends of the earth  
will remember and turn to the LORD,  
and all the families of the nations  
will bow down before him,  
for dominion belongs to the LORD  
and he rules over the nations.

### **The Creator Blesses Creation: Gen 1:2 – 2:25**

- **God blesses creation**

- **God blesses man in order to bless creation**

- **God blesses the future**

## **2. THE MISSION OF GOD**

**The “creation” or “cultural” mandate?**

**The creature subverts creation: Genesis 3 - 11**

**Five kinds of disorder:**

- **Cosmic**
- **Relational**
- **Natural**
- **Moral**
- **Societal**

### **Implications**

Ephesians 1:10 to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment—to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ. 11 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, 12 in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.

## **The creator re-creates creation**

- **Re-creation**

Romans 4:13 It was not through law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith.

- **Promise**

Genesis 28:14 “Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring.”

- **Faith**

Romans 4:20-25 Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.” The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

## **3. THE GOSPEL MANDATE**

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2 Corinthians 5:17...if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

2 Corinthians 5:19 God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, not counting men’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.

John 6:29 Jesus answered, “The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.”

Colossians 1:6 All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God’s grace in all its truth.

2 Corinthians 4:15 All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

## **RESPONSE**

Something I've been reminded of:

Something new I've learned:

Something I need to do or change as a result: