
THE MISSION OF GOD

Talk 3: The Mission of God on Earth

“Christ’s cosmic victory erupts in visible expression in the local meetings of Christians”
Chris Green

INTRODUCTION

Matthew 16:18 “I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”

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1. THE ONLY CHURCH THAT MATTERS IS THE CHURCH THAT JESUS IS BUILDING

Ephesians 1:9-10

2. WHAT IS THE CHURCH THAT JESUS IS BUILDING?

Ephesians 2:19-22

The importance of Biblical theology

Luke 24:24-26 “How foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

Old Testament Church

Temple

Mountain

- **Result of: salvation**
- **Essential activity: word of God**

Deuteronomy 4

- **Purpose: gathering the nations**

New Testament Church

Ephesians 2

- **Result of: salvation**

John 11: 51.. Jesus would die for the Jewish nation, 52 and not only for that nation but also for the scattered children of God, to bring them together and make them one.

- **Essential activity: word of God**

1 Peter 2:2-5 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him— you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

- **Purpose: gathering the nations**

1 Peter 2

3. WHERE IS THE CHURCH THAT JESUS IS BUILDING?

Heavenly

Earthly / Local

Hebrews 12

OT Church: 12:18-21

NT Church: 12:22-24

*“The wonderful thing about the local church assembly, is that it is the one place on earth where men and women can now have access to God as they gather in the name of Jesus and trust in his death for them.”
- Christopher Ash*

Implications

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4. WHAT IS THE CHURCH THAT JESUS IS BUILDING FOR?

- **Doing?**

- **Being?**

The manifold wisdom of God made known

Ephesians 3

The purpose of church

1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

1 Corinthians 14: 23 So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and some who do not understand or some unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind? 24 But if an unbeliever or someone who does not understand comes in while everybody is prophesying, he will be convinced by all that he is a sinner and will be judged by all, 25 and the secrets of his heart will be laid bare. So he will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, "God is really among you!"

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

Implications

- **Bring your non-Christian friends to church**
- **Make sure church is accessible to unbelievers**
- **Sing up**
- ***Actually* welcome**
- **Build**

RESPONSE

Something I've been reminded of:

Something new I've learned:

Something I need to do or change as a result: